

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

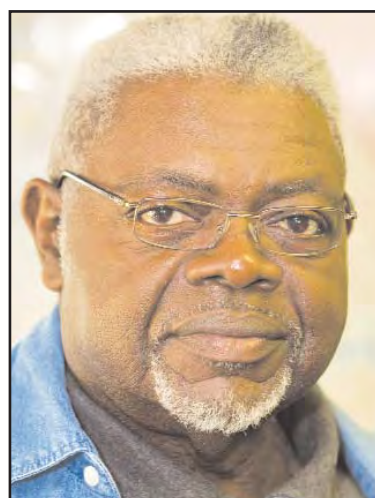
OUR VOICE



HENRY BROWN

GUEST EDITORIAL "HENRY 'HANK' BROWN" BY JAMES HANKINS SEE PAGE 4

BRUNSWICK COUNTY



BERNEST HEWETT

IT'S YOUR CHOICE

BY BERNEST HEWETT CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The refusal to take the COVID shot is a personal decision. The refusal to wear a mask or shield is your decision, but, if you make that decision and I take the shots and wear a mask for my safety, you need to stay away from those of us who do wear the masks and take the shots! It is my right to choose to live at all cost, and, if you don't, it's your right to kill yourself, not me! Think about your choices, but don't get angry if people don't agree with you! It's your choice to live or die! This COVID virus doesn't kill poli-

Please see BRUNSWICK/ Page 2

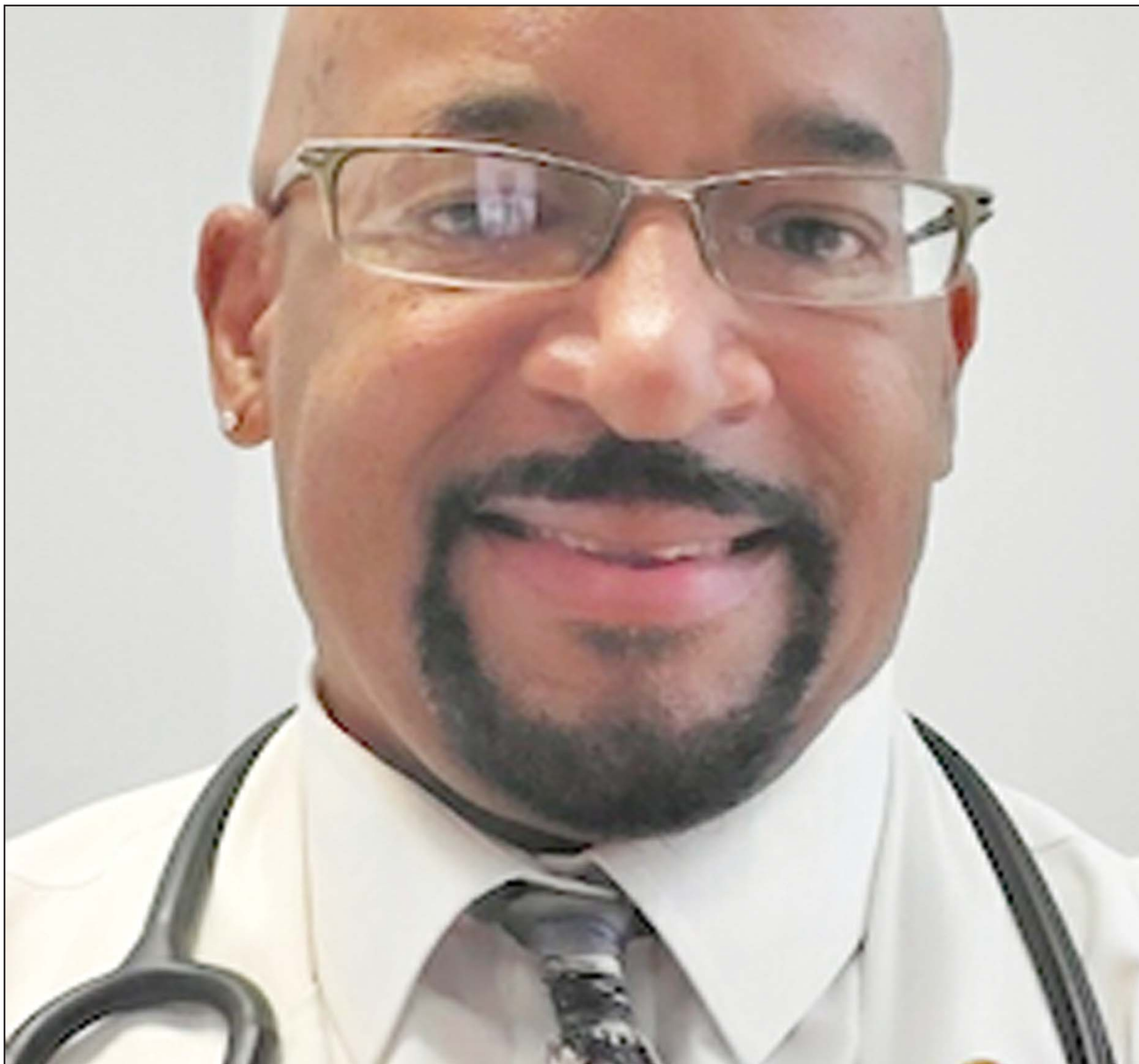
THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

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GREGORY SMITH

Fayetteville medical director racially profiled--PART 1

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

No, he wasn't beaten, nor was he shot, nor did he have a knee pressed on his neck, as George Floyd did. Yet, according to Gregory Smith, the clinical director of a family medicine clinic in Fayetteville, the alleged mistreatment he suffered from a Missouri state trooper on August 6, 2021, was solely because he was a Black man driving alone on a road in the middle of the night from the airport, on his way to a nearby medical conference.

Before that night was over, Smith would be threatened with physical force, arrested, booked, made to pay a \$1,040.00 bond, and made to walk six unfamiliar miles in the pitch black dead of night to find his rental car, which officers left at an off road gas station. Yet, Smith may have saved his own life in his encounter with the state trooper by phoning 911 on his cellphone from his rental car and keeping the line open so that everything that was said between him and the officer could be recorded for later use in court. Gregory Smith vows that he will be suing the Missouri Highway Patrol.

He's likely in good company. According to a Vehicle Stops Report (VPR) issued earlier this

year by the Missouri Attorney General's Office per racial profiling incidents by the state's law enforcement in 2020, even in the midst of the pandemic, Black motorists were stopped 71% more than Whites. As troubling as that figure is, it's actually lower than the 2018 Missouri AG's VPR figure for Black traffic stops - 85% - the highest figure in 18 years there.

The problem was so bad there that, in 2017, the Missouri NAACP issued a first-of-its-kind travel advisory for African-Americans visiting the state. The advisory "...warned visitors that their civil rights could be violated if they entered the state," reported Time Magazine in August 2017. The NAACP advisory also warned visitors to exercise "extreme caution." Add to that, according to press accounts, the trooper with whom Smith had his confrontation is a former U.S. Marine who had just graduated the Missouri Highway Patrol Academy in December 2019 and got his first trooper assignment in January 2020.

According to the St. Louis American, a leading African-American newspaper in the state of Missouri, Platte County, where Smith was stopped, was among "The worst places to drive while Black in Missouri."

And through it all, one factual question lingers. Why was Greg Smith even stopped by

the trooper in the first place?

On the copy of the uniform citation that Smith was given subsequent to his arrest, there is nothing about the Black motorist's speeding or violating any of Missouri's other traffic laws. The citation reads, "Willfully resisting or opposed a member of the Highway Patrol in the Proper Discharge of his duties - resisting officer." However, what was the reason for the trooper - identified as "J. Colwell" on the citation - to stop Smith in the first place? What was Smith doing to peak Trooper Colwell's attention at night time on the road? Why was it necessary to stop this Black man driving a 2021 Nissan Versa with Missouri license plates?

The only information we have is that citation and Gregory Smith's story. It's a story, that to this day, has Smith, 64, shaken, angry, and demanding justice.

In an incident report and phone interview, Smith tells how he flew into Kansas City, Missouri from North Carolina at approximately midnight on August 6. He picked up the rental car and proceeded down Highway 29 North towards Lawrence, Kansas where the medical conference was being held. He was to

Please see PROFILED/ Page 2

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





THE WILMINGTON  
JOURNAL

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## BRUNSWICK

Continued from Page 1

tics! It kills people!

Use your minds. Paul wrote in Romans 7:21, in essence, "Every time I desire to do right, evil is always present!"

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

PATRONIZE  
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STATE SENATOR DAN BLUE (D-WAKE)



STATE SENATOR PAUL NEWTON (R-CABARRUS)

# Despite court ruling fight over voter ID is not over

BY CASH MICHAELS  
OF THE WILMINGTON  
JOURNAL

A three-judge Superior Court panel Sept. 17, 2021 ruled that North Carolina's 2018 voter photo ID law was unconstitutional because, even if it didn't intend to discriminate against African-Americans, that is what it effectively did.

So what happens next, especially when there are three N. C. voter ID cases in litigation at play? Republican legislative leaders have already announced their intention to appeal Friday's 2-1 decision in *Holmes v. Moore* to the N. C. Court of Appeals. There is also another pending lawsuit in N. C. Supreme Court against the 2018 law, *NAACP v. Moore*, claiming that the Republican-led N.

C. General Assembly did not have the legal authority to put a constitutional amendment on the ballot from which the law was derived for voter ratification because the 2018 N. C. General Assembly was illegally constituted due to racial gerrymandering. A Wake Superior Court judge ruled accordingly, but that ruling was reversed by the N. C. Court of Appeals. So now the State's High Court must weigh in. Finally, there is yet another lawsuit, *NAACP v. Cooper*, this time in federal court, scheduled for January 24, in 2022 in Winston-Salem, after a Black federal judge issued a preliminary injunction preventing the 2018 voter ID law from going into effect while the lawsuit was pending because of North

Carolina's "...sordid history of racial discrimination and voter suppression." That judge's December 2019 injunction was later overturned by the U. S. Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, even though a state court had also blocked the law from going into effect.

Meanwhile, the Sept. 17 Superior Court ruling, striking down the 2018 voter ID law, was definitive.

"We do not find that any member of the General Assembly who voted in favor of SB 824 harbors any racial animus or hatred towards African American voters, but rather ...that the Republican majority 'target(ed) voters who, based on race, were unlikely to vote for the majority party,' the court majority ruled. "Even if done for partisan ends, that constitute(s)

racial discrimination."

Reaction to the ruling was swift from both sides. "Today's ruling striking down North Carolina's latest unconstitutional photo voter ID law is a testament to the overwhelming evidence, including compelling stories of disenfranchisement from voters themselves, which highlighted how the State's Republican-controlled legislature undeniably implemented this legislation to maintain its power by targeting voters of color," said Allison Biggs, lead attorney for the plaintiffs, who were represented by the Southern Coalition for Social Justice, said last Friday. "We applaud the three-judge panel's decision and hope it sends a strong message that racial discrimination will not be tolerated," Biggs continued. "Should legislative defen-

dants appeal today's ruling, we'll be prepared to remind them of what this court and the State's constitution mandate: every vote matters."

State Senate Democratic Leader Dan Blue (D-Wake) posted on Facebook, Friday, "Republicans' pattern of a 'race blind' approach to legislating continues to give us discriminatory results. The court has again struck down the State's voter ID law, later adding that the law was 'racially discriminatory and unconstitutional.'"

Sen. Blue's GOP colleague, Sen. Paul Newton (R-Cabarrus), disagreed. "The court absurdly concluded that a law sponsored by an African American Democrat was designed to harm African American voters," Newton opined. "It's unbelievable."

## PROFILED

Continued from Page 1

check into a hotel there. About 20 minutes in, Smith noticed a highway patrol car "parked dangerously on the lip of the highway," he recalls. He put on his blinkers, changed lanes, passed the parked patrol car, and then re-entered the right lane, doing 65 mph (the speed limit posted was 70).

There were several cars on the road at that time, but Smith noticed that the patrol car pulled off and got behind him with its lights

flashing. Unsure why, Smith says he dialed 911 and told the dispatcher he didn't feel safe being pulled over by a patrol car in the dark.

"Keeping my hands on the steering wheel, the officer looked into my vehicle and began barking out orders, 'give me your driver's license,'" Smith recalls. Asking the dispatcher if she could clearly hear what was going on (she replied that she could), Smith then explained to the trooper that his driver's license was in his pants pocket, but he didn't feel

safe reaching for it because the officer was yelling, "...moving my hands from the steering wheel would give him an excuse to shoot and kill me..."

Smith then repeated to the dispatcher that he didn't feel safe and requested that a supervisor come to the scene immediately, which she did.

"The Highway Patrol officer became (more) irritated...[and] then began to threaten pepper spraying me ...six times if I didn't move my hands from the steering wheel despite me repeating at least six differ-

ent times I didn't feel safe and felt my life was in danger..."

The trooper, says Smith, told him other patrol cruisers had arrived, and warned the Black motorist that officers were going to "forcefully remove" him from his vehicle, go through his clothing and retrieve his driver's license, so either move his hands towards his pants pockets, or get prepared to be pepper sprayed. It was then that the trooper and two other officers pulled open the driver's door, while the supervisor appeared on the

passenger side, urging Smith to comply with the order.

Smith says he lowered his hands and exited the vehicle, at which time he was "shoved up against the car, handcuffed (tightly) and arrested."

Editor's note - NEXT WEEK: What happened to Gregory Smith after he was arrested; why he had to walk six miles to find his rental car in the middle of the night, and why he feels he behaved appropriately to save his life when confronted by the Missouri state trooper.



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

----AN AFRICAN PROVERB









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.

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## OUR VOICE

GUEST EDITORIAL

### HENRY "HANK" BROWN



HENRY "HANK" BROWN

Henry "Hank" Brown and I met many years ago became friends and started doing business together.

I know he loved four institutions and their color combinations.

Williston Senior High School. The colors are maroon and gold. He loved the students, band, choir, athletes, cinnamon buns (smile) and all the "great" teachers including L.S. Williams, William Lowe and Coach E. A. "Spike" Corbin.

Fayetteville State University. The colors are lily white and royal blue. He received an excellent education at that HBCU that helped him become very successful in all of his endeavors.

New Hanover County NAACP branch. The colors are blue, gold and white. While I was an active member, Henry either attended and/or shared his time, talent and treasures with us at every event.

State Farm Insurance. The colors are red and white. He was my family agent for over thirty years. We all had to file claims during that period which can be nerve-racking, but Henry was always "cool", knowable and walked us through every step.

Henry also loves talking with people. There were no colors when it came to people. He loved and respected all colors and creeds. His client's list was like a rainbow coalition. He would talk for 30 minutes or more, if you let him (smile). I enjoyed our talks and I learned something positive every time.

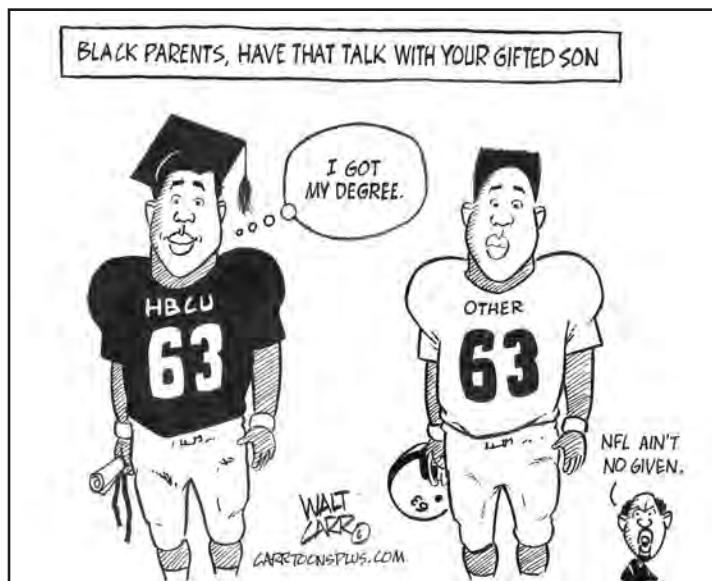
Hank bared his cross so well without bitterness that it earned him a crown in heaven. His parents named him Henry, his family and friends called him Hank. When GOD wrote his name in the Book of Life, He changed it to "King" Henry Brown. Peace, love and happiness to the king we were blessed to spend some time with. 2 Timothy 4:7-8.

James Hankins is a Retired Vocational Teacher-Wilmington, NC.

Tell them you read it in  
**THE**  
**WILMINGTON JOURNAL**



## VISUAL VOICE



## MATTERS OF OPINION

### Who gets flexibility?

(TriceEdneyWire.com)

I had not planned to have a policy conversation when I boarded my connecting flight from Detroit to DC. But the young white woman, totally professionally dressed, seemed to want my ear. She was coming to Washington to do "advocacy," she said, around workplace flexibility and "reimagining work." I thought girlie just wanted to hear herself talk, so my responses were minimal - um hum, okay. But I was more interested when she wove her policy thoughts into her own story - a young mom who COVID challenged to ensure that her children didn't fall behind.

The exchange sustained us for the scant hour or so of the flight, but I went another perspective as we began to exit the plane. We were in row 15, just five rows out of first class. As we left, I observed several women, mostly Black and Latina, and one African man, frantically cleaning the plane's first-class cabin. It was clear that they were also waiting for the rest of us to get off the plane so they could go to the back and con-

tinue to clean.

The airlines promise cleaning between flights, and these folks were doing their jobs. Watching them, though, made it clear that the flexibility my seatmate was advocat-

ing for is not flexibility that trickles down. Those who write, talk, think, and compute for a living have the privilege of flexibility. Those of us who clean, sit

behind a cash register, pick up garbage, or more, don't have the same benefit of flexibility. Too much of the policy conversation centers around providing flexibility for some. What accommodations are we prepared to offer others?

For example, at hotels these days, guests are told that we should sleep on the same sheets and use the same towels for days, only asking for housekeeping services when we need them. But when we do not have house-

keeping services, there's a sister who has less work. She can't clean our rooms from home, so her work week, once 40 hours or more, is now shortened. Her paycheck is smaller. Her benefits may disappear. Where is flexibility for her?

Our policy lens is distorted by our privilege and class situation. Desk jockeys advocate for desk jockeys, folks who can easily do their jobs from their desk or the office. Folks who can't desk jock or advocate are left on their own. Too many of those who don't have the luxury of flexible work are Black or Brown. A conversation about flexible work reeks of privilege and sidelines too many in the labor force.

According to the Brookings Institute's Dr. Kristin Broady, about 13.4 percent of the workforce teleworked. Nearly a third of Asian American workers teleworked, compared to 12.4 percent of whites, 11.2 percent of Black people, and a scant 7.9 percent of Chicano/Latinx people. I'm not casting any shade on Asian American workers. Still, I'm wondering about other workers and how we

reimagine work for those who aren't sitting at the policy table.

Simple arithmetic suggests that when we pay people more, we get more effort, that many won't mind the three-day workweek if they can be paid for it. Some of the workers, most of whom are women, won't mind spending more time engaged in their children's education, perhaps volunteering at their schools. Others might like the time to upgrade their skills, possibly enrolling in classes that augment their already proven skills with management possibilities. Or, they might choose to chill, work less complicated, and embrace the notion that their lives should only be dictated by work and survival.

Predatory capitalism extracts surplus value from workers, exploiting them because they have no choice but to work at substandard conditions for the capitalists to maximize their profits. Covid reminded us of our interdependence, of the

**MALVEAUX**  
Continued on page 4

## TO BE EQUAL

### Responding to Hurricane Ida:

### We are not trapped to repeat the sins of Katrina recovery

(TriceEdneyWire.com)

*"In the wake of Katrina, contractors charged the same amount to rebuild a three-bedroom house, whether it was in the Lower 9th Ward or on high ground Uptown. But rebuilding grants didn't take that into consideration. The state-run Road Home program devised a grant formula based not upon rebuilding costs but on pre-storm home values. Since majority-black neighborhoods had lower property values, white homeowners received a markedly higher grants than black homeowner with comparable houses. The end result was that more white homeowners were able to rebuild, while more black homeowners couldn't afford to do so." - Politico Magazine, "The Dark Side of Katrina Recovery"*

Almost three weeks after Hurricane Ida made landfall in Southeast Louisiana before barreling up the east coast thousands of homes remain uninhabitable, industrial sites are shut down, businesses are shuttered and at least 46,000 homes and businesses remain without electrical power.

As recovery from the storm continues around the nation, the National Urban League and our affiliates are mobilizing relief efforts on the ground while urging state and local elected officials to avoid the missteps that hindered recovery after Katrina and ground their programs inequity and racial justice.

A recent FEMA Advisory Committee Report, based on a Rice University study, found that federal recovery funding after a disaster disproportion-

ally benefits white entrepreneurs. When major disasters strike and significant federal resources are invested, there is an increase in white net worth and a corresponding decrease in net worth for Black people.

I pointed to this report in a letter I sent last week to the governors of Louisiana, New York, and New Jersey, New Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrell, and presidents of the several Louisiana parishes.

I reminded them that we are not trapped to repeat the

sins of the decade-plus recovery from Katrina. We are not required to continue policies that, since Katrina, have led to inequitable recovery for Black families and unequal opportunities for Black businesses to thrive and contribute to the recoveries across all communities.

While Ida did strike on Katrina's anniversary, our federal, state, and local elected officials have the power to make sure the recovery in no way resembles the slow, inequitable, and imbalanced recovery in Louisiana; a recovery that has left many white neighborhoods thriving and white-owned businesses expanding and left too many Black communities behind.

The National Urban League recommends that the following guidelines to level the playing field and contribute to a recovery in which we all can take pride:

Make the earliest funding

for impacted citizens truly and equally available. Due to FEMA's application and compensation process, Black families often receive fewer funds. To remedy this injustice, FEMA damage assessments should no longer be done solely in-person or over-the-phone, but with the flyover and digital imagery technology used by insurance companies. Not only would this save time and money, but it would also strip unconscious bias from the process and lead to equitable and accurate compensation. Furthermore, because of decades of redlining and racial bias in-home appraisals, FEMA should prohibit appraised home values from being used to determine compensation.

Improve the timeliness and methodology for Community Development Block Grant funding. A year after funding that drives most post-disaster residential recovery. Congress still has not allocated any funding for recovery from hurricanes Laura and Delta, and other storms that devastated American communities last year. The process is much more efficient in states that reimburse homeowners for CDBG-eligible rebuilding work. A Recovery Acceleration Fund model would make the reimbursement pathway accessible to all CDBG-qualifying homeowners.

The billions of dollars that will be invested into the region must be made available to Black-owned businesses. The labyrinth of paperwork, onerous requirements and high costs effectively screen out small and mid-sized Black businesses in the very communities that are impacted. When

and where large contracts are deployed, they must be held accountable to ensure they provide sub-contract opportunities for Black-owned businesses in a real and meaningful way.

There is generational and life-altering impact when recoveries don't work and are not equitable. Since COVID, the importance of home and community has been reinforced for all of us.

In Louisiana, the hardest-hit region, the Urban League community is taking on its traditional role of economic first responder.

The Urban League of Louisiana, along with Thrive New Orleans, Convoy of Care, PepsiCo, and National Urban League, has organized a Hurricane Ida Relief Giveaway on Saturday, Sept. 18, to distribute food, water, baby formula, diapers, clothing, feminine products, cleaning supplies, and tarps.

The affiliate also has partnered with the Foundation for Louisiana to establish the Black Business Works Fund to help businesses stand back up in the aftermath of the storm and be stronger on the other side. Many Black-owned businesses are anchors in their communities, often hiring those who many others don't and won't. Creating supports that allow these businesses to remain competitive not only helps them but also helps the community to rebound.

For more information or to contribute to these efforts, visit <https://urbanleaguela.org/id/> "Marc Morial is President/CEO of the National Urban League.



**MALVEAUX**

*Continued from page 4*

many ways we must rely on each other. For many privi-

leged workers, it has meant that the terms and conditions of their work can be reexamined. What about the workers we rely on for our health care, transportation services, grocery shelving, and more.

It will be a classist tragedy if the few folks at the top only enjoy workplace flexibility. Workplace flexibility, and the pay that goes with it, must also be a privilege of those at the bottom.

*Dr. Julianne Malveaux is an economist, author and Dean of the College of Ethnic Studies at Cal State, LA. Reach her at julianne@malveaux.com.*

**CRAZY FAITH MINISTRIES**

**Christianity vs Christian Nationalism**

The memory of members of the January 6 mob that attacked the United States Capitol is still raw on many levels, but perhaps the most disturbing memory is that of the violent insurrectionists stopping to pray while they were bashing the Senate chamber. (<https://religionnews.com/2021/02/25/the-insurrectionists-senate-floor-prayer-highlights-a-curious-trumpian-ecumenism/>)

Someone was heard to say, "Jesus Christ, we invoke your name!" and Jacob Chansley asked the group to stop their riotous behavior long enough to "lift up holy hands in this sacred space."

Members of the mob, while calling out and calling on the name of Jesus were not Christians, if Christianity is defined as the religion wherein people believe in and follow the commands of Jesus the Christ.

Some say that Christian nationalism is the belief that America is defined by Christianity, but there is a problem in that statement, in that Christian nationalists, while using the name of Jesus to support their political ideology, do not follow or, apparently, respect the tenets taught by the Christ. They have reshaped the religion brought to this world by the Christ into a religion that many scholars say Jesus himself would not recognize. They believe that America is a Christian nation, shaped by Christian men.

But that is not the case; the Founders of this country were very adamant about stating that this nation was not a Christian nation and many of them were not Christian at all, but were, rather, Deists. While they believed that Jesus existed, they rejected the metaphysical aspects of his time here on earth, i.e., they rejected the stories of the miracles he performed.

While Jesus' ministry taught that all people were worthy of the love of God, and therefore, were included in the space called the "Kingdom of God," Christian nationalists - the majority of whom are white - insist that Christianity demands that people work to maintain racial and cultural differences. Their religion is far more secular than they would admit - prayers in the Senate chamber notwithstanding - because their goal is to use the title Christianity as the affirmation of their white supremacist beliefs. (<https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2021/february-web-only/what-is-christian-nationalism.html>)

Not all Christians who adhere to the principles of Christian Nationalism are white. Given the political direction of Christian Nationalists and based on the statements they have made publicly about Conservative political beliefs, such noted Blacks as US Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas and the recently defeated candidate for the governorship of California, Larry Elder, seem to fit right into the group. And while many Black congregations identify as being **C o n s e r v a t i v e** ([https://trace.tennessee.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=3430&context=utk\\_graddiss](https://trace.tennessee.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=3430&context=utk_graddiss)) Black Christian Nationalism was defined by the Rev. Albert Cleage in 1967, when he launched the Black Christian Nationalist movement. But his idea of Christian nationalism is different from white Christian Nationalism in that he "called for Black people to reinterpret Jesus' teachings to suit the political, economic, and social needs of Black people." ([https://www.pbs.org/thisfarbyfaith/people/albert\\_cleage.html](https://www.pbs.org/thisfarbyfaith/people/albert_cleage.html)) Mark Burns and Darrell Scott and other Black Trump supporters would probably decry and criticize Cleage's idea of Black Christian **N a t i o n a l i s m**. (<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0021934717753730>).

It is offensive to me personally to hear persons lift the name of Jesus while they espouse policies that are as antithetical to the lessons that Jesus taught as they could possibly be. It will be interesting to note, as these "Christians" continue to mow through the structures and the institutions of this country in their goal to establish themselves as the "true" Americans who have a right to claim their rights while denying rights to so many others who, they would teach, Jesus never intended for them to include in the messages contained in the Gospel.

*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  
Read Hofeller files before testifying at redistricting hearings**

(TriceEdneyWire.com)

All NC Civil Rights Activists should be studying the racist Republican gerrymandering tricks of packing and cracking in North Carolina's state Senate and House Districts, not to mention our 14 U.S. Congress Districts. Both Common Cause and Eric Holder's excellent teaching guides are useful learning tools. It is also useful to review the Hofeller Files, which reveal the Republican's racially discriminatory formulas to intentionally suppress Black and Brown Voting Power for years.

During the last 40 years-- the last four census-redistricting decades-- we should remind ourselves of the intentional race discrimination of two Toms-Tillis and Hofeller. Working near the Peoples House on Jones Street, Tom Tillis and Tom Hofeller joined forces to swing at least five U.S. Congressional seats to Republicans, plus switching a Democratic Majority on Jones Street to a strong Republican Majority in the North Carolina General Assembly. The two Toms, Hofeller and Tillis, worked hand-in-hand conflating non-white voters with Democratic Party voters, plowing NC's rich soil of Jim Crow fertilized with the racist tweets and policies over the last five years.

In 2020 I believe Senator Tillis engaged in the Republican National Committee's scam to split Democratic Votes, in violation of Federal Election Commission laws. This is currently being examined by the Senate Ethics Committee.

Today I write to remind us how Tillis teamed up with a racist IT man, who realized the good ol' Democratic Party of North Carolina had been coopted by Richard Nixon's camouflaged racism and anti-semitism for his six years in the White House. His second term was aborted when his hit-men were caught in the Democratic Party Headquarters at the Watergate Hotel.

When Nixon got caught, it took the US Congress only two years to force him to resign by a strong bi-partisan Senate vote in 1974. All the white racist extremists Nixon had re-settled in the GOP were susceptible to cults and other rationalizations for their deep hatred of people of color. They were welcomed in Nixon's extremist Republican Party, and by 1980, many Learned Lincoln Republicans jumped off the Republican Train when it stopped at a convenient station.

Some White Republicans stayed loyal to its founder's moral politics, including Gov. Earl Warren of California. Ike had named Warren as the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and Warren immediately set out to corral his eight white male colleagues to come to a unanimous decision to reverse the 1896 ruling in Plessy, legitimating Jim Crow, the ugly stepson of Slavery for 58 long years of humiliation for every human being of color.

By 2080, the Democratic Party, for better or for worse, had become the home of non-white voters, mobilized by the marches and martyrs of the Southern Freedom Movement. The Movement, which we all called it, had been loosed by Brown in 1954,

by Rosa Parks and Emmett Till's mother in 1955, and with strong southern Christian leadership of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Rev. John Lewis, Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth, Rev. C.T. Vivian, and the thousands of Freedom Singers and leaders.

Southern jails were filled by Black and White moral activists for trying to register Black voters to vote. The Klan and its electoral front group, the States Rights Party, set up state and county armed "militias" with the direct participation of local Sheriffs.

As national television networks began to understand that a non-violent war had been declared by the southern Movement, the networks transmitted gut-wrenching live coverage of confrontations of dogs, firehoses, head-bashing hate-filled white deputies and highway patrolmen into American's living rooms every night. Something had to give. The Civil Rights Act of 1964, the War on Poverty Act of 1964, and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 were passed in less than two years, with strong Republican support!

High Tech Racist Redistricting: While these Federal Laws helped to support massive changes in race relations across the nation, white losers got out their Klan playbooks to intimidate and terrorize non-white voters in the South and the Northern cities where Black families had moved for decent jobs. In California Tom Hofeller went to work for Ronald Reagan and learned to sell his knowledge to the highest bidder "seeking to gain legislative strength through the redistricting process." Hofeller knew that every ten years his unique far-right politics and IT skills would be in great demand particularly in the South. Republicans had already destroyed the weak Lincoln Republican party structures in Dixie, and Nixon had helped them insinuate themselves into state legislatures as the Good Racists, vs. George Wallace's openly racist rhetoric. Hofeller could demand high pay directly from Black and Brown taxpayers as his tactics violated their voting rights. Hofeller was the staff director of the House Subcommittee on the Census and worked for a staff member of the Committee on House Oversight during the Reagan and first Bush years. Between censuses, the Republicans kept him on the downlow as their own Computer Director until the next census cycle came around in 1989-90.

In July 1999, when the Bush II ran against Al Gore, the Republicans assigned Hofeller to be the Party's redistricting director, knowing this election might hinge on Florida where George Bush's brother, Jeb, happened to be Governor. All loyal (willing to wink at racist tactics and rhetoric) Republicans were dispatched to Florida. Hofeller's detailed files were used to focus subtle and not-so-subtle intimidation tactics on swing counties and precincts. The intersection of Census and Presidential elections hap-

pens in years when Presidential elections occur in years that end in Zero. Hofeller's Files could quickly be tapped for precincts where loyal Democratic Party voters lived. They were invaluable for the thugs and lawyers the Republicans ordered to Florida to bang on windows and file multiple lawsuits in key precincts and districts. A young ambitious lawyer, Brett Cavanaugh, learned the art of fusing the law and threats of violence while in Florida.

Hofeller's Files also were in high demand in the second largest Southern State, Texas, where the Republican Party organized b the same Bushes had become dependent upon openly racist appeals to the dwindling white electorate. Hofeller made a deal with the Texas Legislature Republican majority. As they did earlier this year, Democratic State Legislators drove to New Mexico, and Federal Marshalls were sent to bring them back to vote on the Hofeller Gerrymandering Plan. The Republican National Committee's website in 2002 described how the Hofeller Files helped suppress the number of votes by the most loyal Democratic Party voters-- Black and Brown.

"Even though all redistricting takes place at the state level, the Republican National Committee (RNC) has played a pivotal role, providing expert technical, political and legal support to all GOP stakeholders. Before line drawing even began, the RNC invested millions of dollars supporting the election of legislative and statewide candidates whose positions were critical to control the redistricting process. Education and training were provided to hundreds of prospective GOP participants."

"In a May 2000 PowerPoint presentation to the National Conference of State Legislatures titled "What I've Learned About Redistricting-The Hard Way," Dr. Hofeller, then the Republican's Redistricting Expert, laid out the rules to his upcoming redistricting fight. On a slide called: "On Politics & Coalition Building," Hofeller wrote: "Just like 19th Century British Foreign Policy, we have No permanent allies, No permanent enemies, Only permanent interests. Self interest binds. Honor doesn't." Hofeller concluded with these "Don'ts:

Don't enlighten the innocent!  
Don't reveal more than necessary."

Don't be afraid to dazzle them with science.

Don't confuse them--unless that's intended.

Hofeller, the King on Jones Street (HKonJ)

Back in the day, Republican Governors like Holshouser and Martin were often more anti-racism than many good ol' boy Democrats. But the Nixon-Reagan-Bush steady use of racist code words and actions had developed a critical mass of white voters who thought, if not spoke, the N-word their grand daddies always used, the North Carolina Republican Party believed they could sell the Hofeller Files to their slim majority at the General Assembly.

After a few years of getting regular paychecks from the work defending itself from the lawyers of the NC NAACP, Advancement

Project, and other skilled voting rights lawyers representing the Democratic Party, the League of Women Voters, and Young Voters, Thomas and Kathleen Hofeller decoded to buy a \$339,000 house near Jones Street. Hofeller used a laptop computer, but he relied heavily on saving his hard drives regularly, putting them in waterproof plastic bags for ready reference. He worked at his home until he died in 2018. These Hard Drives were part of his widow and daughter inherited which were published by the NYTimes a few days later that exposed the long history of the Hofeller Hustle, including the hottest legal issue of the day, whether the Census Bureau should include a Citizenship Question on the 2020 census? David Daley's book "Ratf\*\*ked" is one of the best accounts of the Hofeller Hustle. Daley once said, "Tom Hofeller invented modern redistricting." Daley said that Hofeller "understood before anyone the importance of state legislatures and the possibilities for long-term Republican control if the party owned every seat at the table when it came time to redistrict."

A year before his death and life time of hustling, Hofeller was put under oath in a federal lawsuit challenging his North Carolina House maps. Plaintiffs' lawyer asked him what instructions state Republicans gave him? He said "none."

"There were no instructions given to you in writing?" he was asked. "No," Hofeller said. "There's no paper trail against which we can evaluate your description of the instructions?"

"I don't believe so, no," he said.

"But you advised them not to give you instructions in writing, to do so orally?" "I don't recollect that," Hofeller said.

When his daughter discovered his Hard Drives in May 2019, it immediately became clear to Common Cause and the New York Times that Hofeller was quarterbacking the Trump Administration's effort to include a Citizenship Question on last year's census, which everyone knew would result in a devastating undercount of Latinos in the Census which just came out. Please read the New York Times Front Page Article by Michael Wines on May 30, 2019.

Google "Deceased G.O.P. Strategist's Hard Drives Reveal New Details on the Census Citizenship Question" Al McSurely, North Carolina Civil Rights Lawyer.

*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.*



Al McSurely



Rev. Susan K. Smith

**THE BLACK PRESS:  
USE It or LOSE It!**



**"When a school child remains unchallenged, he or she will shut down and lose interest in learning altogether".**

**--BESSIE HOGAN**



## GET THAT DEED AND FLIP THOSE KEYS!

## It's not small, it's a BIG thing

When something changes in your income, the way you get paid, it's a big deal in the mortgage world. If you were fortunate enough to get loan approval, and then to find, negotiate and take control of a property, the last thing you want to do is jeopardize that.

Over the last few weeks, I have heard of buyers having to scramble to keep their loans alive because of changes in income. In one case the job got bought out by another company and the new company decided to not keep paying

workers by the hour, but rather by the job. They still were getting W2 income but now it was more commission-based instead of fixed hourly. The loan approval was done on hourly rate calculations, and now that it no longer exists, that's a problem. When you work on a by the job, or by tips, or by anything that can fluctuate, the lenders require a 12-month



Brenda Dixon

history of pay. They will take that 12 months history, add each month's total up, then divide it by 12 to come up with the average pay for the month. Now, who can wait 12 months when you have a home under contract and was aiming to close within the next 3 weeks? My goodness, that took everyone for a loop, and they had to go back to the hourly pay to buy the home. Then there was a case where the worker had a history of making overtime for over 2 years straight, and the approval was based on the history of overtime. However, they had a troubled pregnan-

cy, and had to take pre-delivery time off of work, and then regular maternity time off from work, and once back to work, no overtime was made... Granted they working their way back up to doing overtime again, but it is not now, so the lender said, "sorry we can't honor the loan structure we originally told you." Not counting the overtime dropped the income by \$1000 a month, so in turn, dropped the approval amount down. The original structure of the loan was for 96.5% FHA financing with NC Housing funds giving the 3.5% downpayment and

closing cost assistance. Once they took away that \$1000 in income, their DTI(debt-to-income) ratios were too high to qualify for the NC Housing funds. Who plans for an extra \$12,000 out of pocket vs \$3000 they were expecting? Well, if they wanted to keep that house they have under contract that is being built, they had to come up with it from somewhere.

I'm sharing this to let you know that things can come about that are out of your control at times, but know that it will make a difference. If something is in your con-

trol with your income, please keep it the same until you have that deed and those keys, or talk it out with your lender early as possible so you can game plan. This homebuying process is not easy, but it is well worth it.

Until next week, share this article with at least 3 people and tell them to reach out for a no-cost financial game plan to own in the next 18 months, or less.

*Brenda Dixon, Dixon Realty Since 1991, 30 yrs. F/T expertise. [www.getthatdeed.com](http://www.getthatdeed.com). GET THAT DEED! 910-262-4836.*

## POWER THOUGHTS FOR YOUR SUCCESS

## The four stages of life

*The first stage of life is the stage of education.*

The first stage lasts from conception to 20 or 25 years of age. During this stage you learn the basic rules of the game of life.

You formulate or accept a value system. Basic instruction in reading, writing, counting, logic, and decision making is also provided.

In the education stage, the foundation for the rest of your life is laid: thoughts, attitudes, emotions, and associations.

Your basic attitude towards yourself—your self-image—is developed.

You also develop your attitude toward other people, and the world in general.

It is here that you develop self-confidence or fear; faith or doubt; cowardice or courage.

The challenge in this first stage is that most of your education comes from other people. You, as a child or young adult, had little input in the matter.

The thoughts, attitudes, emotions, and experiences, positive or negative, of your parents, teachers, ministers, and authority figures can be perpetuated in the child and young adult.

If this foundation stage is

not laid down solidly, then at some point later in life, a crack in the foundation may manifest.

It can show up like a thief in the night and snatch away your peace of mind, your good health, your glory, and your possessions.



Dr. Herbert Harris

Nothing is impossible when this foundation is built on truth, honesty, love, faith, discipline, confidence, compassion, and other positive attributes.

The Second Stage of Life is the stage of emotion, sensation, and experience.

Chronologically, the second stage extends from 20 to 40 years of age.

In this stage, you begin to experiment and learn things for yourself.

You experience the living process and strike out on your own to face the challenges of an adult reality.

You experience love, sex,

alcohol, drugs, competition, insecurity, success, and failure.

You also learn about other sensations that make life exciting, intense, and challenging.

Many people get stuck in the second stage for a major portion of their lives.

They get hooked on a feeling, a sensation, a person, a drug, or other addiction.

It is in the second stage when your habits tend to make you or break you.

Here you must develop and master the art of self-discipline.

Learn to control your thoughts, emotions, and appetites.

In the second stage, you are challenged by the reality of survival.

What does it take to keep a roof over your head and food on the table?

To properly move through this second stage, you must master the skill of survival.

Mastering the skill of survival requires that you develop and implement a financial program in which your income exceeds your expenses.

Your financial dealings should be in accord with a realistic pre-established bud-

et.

Overcome the urge for immediate consumption or gratification through discipline. Systematically, set aside a portion of your income for wealth building.

Use the benefits of investing and compound interest to establish a body of wealth for your peace of mind and enjoyment.

The Third Stage of Life is the stage of power.

It is in this stage that you perfect your ability to make things happen. This stage ranges from approximately 40 to 60 years of age.

Everything should come together in the third stage of life. Here, you attain your greatest successes and experience your greatest failures.

In the third stage you learn how to reach down to the very core of your being and pull out whatever you need.

You master the laws of success and the skill of multiplying your powers through the efforts of others.

The challenge of this third stage of life is in the choices you make.

“... chose you this day whom you will serve...”

Joshua 24:15

You either serve good or evil. It is also where you must repeat lessons you did not master in previous stages.

The challenges that confront you, and how you manage them, reveal the type of human being you would like to be.

The Fourth Stage of Life is the stage of immortality.

This fourth stage is from 60 to 80 years of age.

In this stage, you assess what you wanted to accomplish in your life—your purpose.

Evaluate the donations or contributions you can give to the world.

What can you give, or how can you live, so that your contributions outlive your lifespan?

You must become a visionary and see things as they can be, rather than as they are.

Create impact that extends beyond the boundaries of one lifetime.

Your vision of immortality cannot be centered on the self, personal desires, or ego.

Center it on the positive aspects of service and benefit to humanity.

Address a positive, worthwhile need in the world and be obsessed with your vision of addressing that need.

You become magnetic, attracting the people and resources needed to realize your vision.

You will be invincible.

The time periods given for each stage are average for most people.

There are certain people to whom the time periods may not apply.

Many great figures in history had short lifespans. A close inspection of their lives reveals that they experienced the four stages, but at an accelerated pace.

Next week – “The Four Types of People in the World” (c) Copyright 2021, LifeSkill Institute, Inc., PO Box 302, Wilmington, NC 28402; 800-570-4009.

Based on *The Twelve Universal Laws of Success, Super Achiever Edition* by Dr. Herbert Harris. Available at [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com) or through [www.12uls.com](http://www.12uls.com). Email [herbert@herbertharris.com](mailto:herbert@herbertharris.com) to receive free Twelve Affirmations To Live By Poster.



## America Runs on Reliable, Affordable, and Cleaner Energy

### Keep This Vital Resource Accessible

As energy demand grows post-pandemic, public officials are making decisions that might affect your access to safe, affordable and reliable energy. Heat waves and storms are testing America's energy needs – we cannot take this energy for granted.

### Public officials should not diminish this vital resource.

To learn more about how energy helps your community, visit [CommunityEnergyCenter.org](http://CommunityEnergyCenter.org)





**Robert Grady McDuffie, Sr.**

Robert Grady McDuffie, Sr., gained his heavenly wings on Wednesday, September 15, 2021, at the age of 93. He was born December 5, 1927 to the late Addie Simpson-Walker and Willie McDuffie of Currie, North Carolina. He was employed at Queensboro Steel for 25 years until retirement. He was a member of Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church until his health began to fail. Robert was married to Evelyn Laura McDuffie who preceded him in death. From this union there were three sons. Also preceding him in death were two sons: Herbert J. McDuffie and Robert G. McDuffie, Jr. and one grandson, Rodney G. McDuffie, several brothers and sisters.

Robert leaves to cherish his memories: one son, Gerald McDuffie (Annie), one daughter, Geraldine N. Meyers, six grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, five great great-grandchildren, daughter-in-law, Willie Mae Morris-McDuffie, and a host of other relatives and friends. *Services entrusted to Adkins-Drain Funeral Service, 515 South 8th Street, Wilmington, NC 28401. Condolences may be shared at www.adkinsdrainfuneralservice.com.*

**Charles Lennon Walker, Jr.**

Charles Lennon Walker, Jr. was born on April 2, 1960 to Charles Lennon Walker, Sr. and Florence Lucille Walker Wheeler in Wilmington, North Carolina. He passed away on September 1, 2021 in Cleveland, Ohio. Charles attended the public schools of Wilmington, North Carolina and graduated from John T. Hoggard High School in 1978. He furthered his education at James Sprunt Community College and Wingate University. After attending college, he enlisted in the United States Air Force and served his country from May 1980 to August 1983. While stationed at Nellis Air Force Base, he met and married his wife Vernetha. After his military service, he returned home to Wilmington, North Carolina with his wife and eldest son, and worked as an electrician. In 1983 he moved his family to Cleveland, Ohio, where he lived the remainder of his life with his family. Charles retired shortly after the passing of his wife of 40 years, Vernetha Denise Orr Walker in September 2020.

Charles was a great man who always had a song in his heart and a smile for everyone. The family will greatly miss him and his beautiful singing voice. Family was his life and he left a legacy with all who knew him, young and old, that will never be forgotten.

Left to cherish his memory are his children Charles Walker, III (Sakena), Curtis Walker (Jessica), Cheri Walker (John); father, Charles Lennon Walker, Sr. (Cynthia); mother, Florence Lucille Walker Wheeler; aunts Mildred Ripley and Doris McQuillan; uncle David Allen Laceywell; mother-in-law Lynn Roberts; 17 grandchildren, 3 sisters Judy Walker Page (Michael), Phoebe Cathleen Richardson, Janice Robinson (Samuel); five sisters-in-law; six brothers-in-law; nephew Michael Walker, Jr.; and a slew of extended children. *Services entrusted to Adkins-Drain Funeral Service, 515 South 8th Street, Wilmington, NC, 28401. Condolences may be shared at www.adkinsdrainfuneralservice.com.*

**Jerome A. Lane**

Jerome A. Lane, age 54, of Wilmington, passed away, Thursday, August 26, 2021. His love and memories will remain in the heart of his mother, Annie Ruth Lane of Wilmington; siblings, Tyrone A. Lane of Wilmington, David Lane (Deanna) of Wilson, William Lane (Christina) of Chadburn and Joanna Lane (Champ Bealon) of Castle Hayne and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins 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.*

**David B. Gaskill**

David B. Gaskill, age 58, of Wilmington, passed away Thursday, September 2, 2021. A memorial service celebrating David's life was held on Saturday, September 18, 2021 at Davis Funeral Home. His love and memories will remain

in the heart of his wife, Tonya H. Gaskill of the home; children, David Gaskill, Zakiyyah Gaskill and Solomon Gaskill all of Wilmington and Keshawna Roberts (Jim) of Raleigh; siblings, Doretha McKoy, Margaret Sutton, Dedra Sutton, Rugena D. Thames (Jay), Antonio McKoy and Daniel Sutton all of Wilmington, Curtis Wright of Hallsboro; adopted brother, Raymond Bates (Angelita) of Boiling Springs; grandchild, Maniyah E. Gaskill 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.*

**Ruby Bland**

Ruby Bland, age 82, of Shallotte, passed away Saturday, September 4, 2021. A celebration of Ms. Bland's life was held on Sunday, September 12, 2021 at Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Shallotte. Interment followed at Rasha-Baye Cemetery. Her love and memories will remain in the heart of her daughter, Samone Bland of the home; sisters, Frances Bell and Georgia Holmes (E.V.) both of Shallotte and a host of nieces, nephews, 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.*

**Rosa L. Mosley**

Rosa L. Mosley, age 79, of Navassa, passed away Sunday, September 5, 2021. A celebration of Ms. Mosley's life was held on Saturday, September 11, 2021 at Mt. Calvary A.M.E. Church in Navassa. Interment followed at Mt. Calvary Church Cemetery. Her love and memories will remain in the hearts of her children, Derrick Mosley and Wilbert Mosley, Jr. both of Navassa, Norva Gibbs (Ronald) of Leland, Romona Brown (Hezekiah, Jr) of Riegelwood and Jerome Mosley (Carrie) of Navassa, 17 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren, 7 great-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.*

**Mother Frances L. Gethers**

Mother Frances L. Gethers, age 90, of Wilmington, passed away Monday, September 6, 2021. A celebration of Ms. Gethers' life was held on Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at Davis Funeral Home. Interment followed at Greenlawn Memorial Park. Her love and memories will remain in the heart of her children, Mary Nesmith (Keith) of Jersey City, NJ, Minister Linda Eaddy of Johnsonville, SC, William B. Gethers (Sabrina) and Elder Shawn D. Gethers both of Wilmington, 19 grandchildren, 31 great-grandchildren, 3 great-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.*

**Darrell R. Robinson**

Darrell R. Robinson, age 71, of Wilmington, passed away Tuesday, September 7, 2021. A celebration of Mr. Robinson's life was held on Saturday, September 11, 2021 at Davis Funeral Home. Interment followed at Calvary Memorial Cemetery. His love and memories will remain in the heart of his daughter, Tandy N. Robinson Davis of Wilmington; sister, Peggy Lee Montano of Sneads Ferry; brother, Lawrence Robinson of Sneads Ferry; grandson, Fawzy Tramaine Davis, II of Wilmington 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.*

**Frances S. Green**

Frances S. Green, age 84, of Wilmington, passed away Tuesday,

September 7, 2021. A celebration of Mrs. Green's was held on Saturday, September 11, 2021 at Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church. Interment followed at Calvary Memorial Cemetery. Her love and memories will remain in the heart of her husband, John A. Green of the home; children, Jonathan M. Green and Kimberley Jenkins both of Wilmington; siblings, Doris Cobs and John Henry both of Raleigh, 3 grandchildren, 12 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.*

**Deacon Joseph Canty, Sr.**

Deacon Joseph Canty, Sr., age 88, of Castle Hayne passed away Thursday, September 9, 2021. A celebration of Deacon Canty's life was held on Thursday, September 16, 2021 at Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church. Interment followed at Calvary Memorial Cemetery. His love and memories will remain in the heart of his wife, Mary B. Canty of the home; children, Joseph Canty, Jr. (Victoria) of Wilmington, Angela Tindall (Gregory) of Jacksonville, FL; Sharon Jones (Avery) of Fayetteville, GA and Rodney Canty (Yetta) of Fredericksburg, VA; sister, Alma McKoy of Wilmington, 10 grandchildren, 7 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.*

**Jesus Omar Gonzalez Mendez**

Jesus Omar Gonzalez Mendez, age 23, of Southport, passed away Saturday, September 11, 2021. *Services are pending and will be announced. 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.*

**Phillinee L. Ballard**

Phillinee L. Ballard, age 56, of Wilmington (formerly of Lorain, OH), passed away, Saturday, September 11, 2021. A celebration of Mrs. Ballard's life was held on Monday, September 20, 2021 at Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave., Wilmington, NC 28401. Interment followed at Calvary Memorial Cemetery.

Her love and memories will remain in the heart of her husband, Robert Ballard of the home; daughter, Jamira Jenkins of the home; siblings, Rita Rader of Nashville, TN, Rozena Ammons (Albert), Ethan West, Harriet Moore (Eugene), Rev. Keith Harris, Rev. Hamp Horton all of Elyria, OH, Dominique M. Jenkins of Louisville, KY, Toni L. Royal of Chicago, IL, Shirley Jennings, Jackie Howard and Tina Howard all of Lorain, OH and Mark West of Elyria, OH, 3 grandchildren, 1 great-grandchild 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.*

**Elmer E. Beatty**

Elmer Elsworth Beatty, beloved son, brother, uncle, cousin, and friend was born on August 17, 1953, in Leland, NC, to the late Rev. Titus Beatty, Jr. and Beatrice Johnson Beatty and departed this life on September 15, 2021. Elmer attended Lincoln High School where he distinguished himself as an academic scholar and an outstanding basketball player. He accepted Christ at an early age and embraced the Christian faith throughout his life. Elmer was a faithful and active member of Reeves Chapel A.M.E. Church. His involvement included, but was not limited to, serving as Sunday School Superintendent, Sunday School teacher, usher, and delegate to many regional and state conferences. Evidence that Elmer was not ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ could be seen as he continually ended each visit with family by having everyone form a circle and join hands as he led us in prayer. As he prayed, he

remembered the sick, the shut in, and those who were less fortunate asking God to favor and protect them. He always ended these thorough and thoughtful prayers with the Lord's prayer, which we repeated in unison. Elmer attended North Carolina Agricultural and Technical University in Greensboro, NC until health challenges interrupted that process. Even though these challenges took him on new paths, he always kept the family and friends in his thoughts and prayers. He had a remarkable memory, and we would often defer to Elmer when we needed clarification on facts.

Welcoming him to his eternal home include our parents, grandparents, sister, Maxine, brother "Steve" (Herman) other relatives, and friends. Surviving to cherish his memory are four brothers, Joe (Helen), Leland, NC; John (Barbara), Springdale, MD; Bobby (DeShawn), Houston, TX; and Sherman, Winston-Salem, NC; six sisters, Mildred, Nottingham, MD; Delorisea, Joppatowne, MD; Martha, Queens Village, NY; Ella, Leland, NC; Doris, Winston-Salem, NC; and Karen (Henry), Clayton, NC. *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.*

**Shelia L. Armour**

Shelia L. Armour, age 62, of Southport, passed away Thursday, September 16, 2021. A celebration of Ms. Armour's life will be conducted at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 23, 2021 at Davis Funeral Home, 1705 Southport Supply Rd SE, Bolivia, NC 28422. A viewing will be held one (1) hour prior to the service. Interment will follow at Marsh Branch Cemetery. Her love and memories will remain in the hearts of her siblings, James C. McMillan (Emily) of Atlanta, GA, Carolyn Frink of Concord and Jere L. McMillan of Southport; aunt, Ruby Vaught of Columbia, SC 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.*

**William Henry Bradley, Jr.**

William Henry Bradley, Jr. died September 7, 2021. Graveside service

was held on Saturday, September 18, 2021 at Greenlawn Memorial Park. William, affectionately known as "Jr." or "Will", was born on July 22, 1972 to Annie B. Bradley and the late William H. Bradley, Sr. William was educated in the New Hanover County School System and graduated from Lakeside High School. He was employed with Strom Engineering Corporation. Jr. was a very generous, playful and unpredictable person to all that knew him. Jr. was preceded in death by his father; William H. Bradley, Sr., grandparents, Beatrice B. Brewington (Walter) and Eleanor Ingram (Haskell), uncles, Dallas Brown and John H. Bradley and nephew, Tyree Temoney.

He leaves to cherish his memories: his children, KeShawn Bradley, DeMonte' James, DeAndre' James and Katayah Small all of Wilmington, NC and Taron Robinson of Charlotte, NC; grand-children, Lauren Bell, Mazari Miller, Kinsley Bradley, Armani Robinson and Taelynn Robinson; moher, Annie B. Bradley of Wilmington, NC; sisters, Jacqueline Drakeford (Genell) of Wilmington, NC and LaWanda Bradley and LaTonya Bradley both of Raleigh, NC; god-sister, Alicia Hendrix (Jonearle) of Seattle, WA; aunts, Hazel Brown of Wilmington, NC, Shirley Paige of Leland, NC and Ann Evans of Alton, IL; a special cousin, Charles Brown (Turkeisha) of Durham, NC; uncles, Melvin Brown of Wilmington, NC and Eddie McCrae of Brooklyn, NY; nieces, Terrica King of Wilmington, NC and DenKita "Moma Mia" Bradley, Dyshika of Raleigh, NC; nephews, Gregory King, Jr. of Wilmington, NC and Keonte' Bradley of Raleigh, NC; fiancée, Tokeshia Watson of Wilmington, NC; several great-nieces, great-nephews, special cousins and friends, including special life-long friends, Ricardo McClain, Sylvester McClain, Reginald Wallace, Jenardo Slappy and Mark Simpson. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

**Larry DeGrant Wright**

Larry DeGrant Wright died September 10, 2021. Funeral service was held on Thursday, September 16, 2021 at Freedom Way Ministries. Larry was born March 18, 1964 in Wilmington, North Carolina. He was the only son of the late Lula Wright. The oldest of three siblings, he had a way of making you laugh and feel good when you were in his presence. Larry attended the public schools of New Hanover

County where he excelled academically in mathematics, one of his favorite subjects. He loved playing football and enjoyed working in the wood shop class. Larry graduated from New Hanover High School in 1982. He was a gentle giant with a big voice and an even big heart. He had a love for dogs, which would follow him home and become his friend. When you met Larry, he would treat you as if he knew you for years. He had this infectious laugh which would pull you into a joke, that made you love to be around him. His laugh you could hear from miles around. THE KING OF DOMINO'S is what his sister called him. He had the skills and mastered this game.

Larry leaves to cherish fond memories: his sisters, Samantha L. Smith of Burgaw, NC and Chai M., Wright of Wilmington, NC; aunt, Gloria J. Wright of Wilmington, NC; great-nephew, JeRon D. Conyers of Winnabow, NC; great-niece, Za'kiyyah A. Conyers of Wilmington, NC; first cousins, Becky Alexander (Stanley) of Charlotte, NC, Fred Wright, III and Jake Logan III both of Columbia, SC; like a son, Demetric Davis of Wilmington, NC; like brothers, Ronald and Donald Bryant of Wilmington, NC and a host of family and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

**Michael LaVon Ellis**

Michael LaVon Ellis "MUDD" died on September 10, 2021. Funeral service was held on Saturday, September 18, 2021 at the Willie L. Shaw Jr. Memorial Chapel. Michael was born June 25, 1968 to the late Wigenia B. and George Ellis. Michael was raised in Columbus County and at an early age relocated to Wilmington, North Carolina. In Wilmington he was educated in the New Hanover County School System, graduating in 1986 from John T. Hoggard High School. Michael was a jack of all trades and always willing to lend a helping hand. Although he was faced with some life struggles, he was a man of great integrity and kept a smile on his face and a joke for everyone. In addition to his loving parents, Michael was preceded in death by his brother; Dwight and both paternal and maternal grandparents.

Michael leaves to cherish his precious memories: his loving wife,

*Please see OBITUARIES/ Page 8*



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TELL SOMEBODY

“Righteousness exalts a nation”

Proverbs 14:34, "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people."

Rebellion - resistance to authority
Reproach - Discredit ; To Blame
Seduction - To persuade to disobedience and disloyalty
Idol - An image; A false god; Object of passionate devotion

advances, scientifically, socially, technologically, and medically. Yes, glory to God, we have come a long way! But Spiritually, there are some of us who feel, that we as a nation, have "backslidden"!



Sylvia Hooper

When we pass bills and sign laws that resist, defy, or deny the authority of God Almighty, we embrace a form of spiritual idolatry in the form of religious rebellion!

Those who would cringe at the thought of idolatry in our American society should take another look at the changing of the laws of the land. When something has been declared legal and lawful, and is in direct resistance to the authority of God's word, we are legalizing idolatry in the form of rebellion. We, as a society and nation have made many

In too many cases, we see where rebellion started in the home when children were allowed to disrespect the authority of the parents with no discipline, training or cor-

rection. Proverbs 22:6 says, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." When some parents rebel, and fail to train their children as God's word decrees, it breeds a generation that knows not about the True and Living God. Sometimes these same children go into society and rebel because they were never taught or "trained" to respect authority in the community, in the school, or even in the House of God. Where rebellion and lack of knowledge coexist, there will be a form of idolatry.

Rebellion has spread across the land because many people in authority have abused their power, with a reckless abandonment of right and wrong, with much prejudice and malice shown towards those they were

sworn to protect or to represent. As a result, there are growing numbers of law abiding citizens who are losing hope and respect for a system which protects the guilty and persecutes the innocent. It is the abuse of authority which has created a breeding ground for idolatry, rebellion and the reproach of sin.

Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people. Rebellion in government is escalating with little regard or respect for God's people, or for God's holy Word.. Rebellion in the house of God is unacceptable. The church must not sway on the side of error which questions the integrity of God's Word. The true church will forever uphold the sovereignty and finality of God's word in spite of society's trend to doubt and unbelief. The true

church will always seek to please the Lord, and not to please men. The True church will walk in love and practice forgiveness. The True church will let its light so shine, that men will see its good works in spite of the spiritual darkness spreading across the land! The True church will praise, magnify, and glorify the name of the Lord Jesus Christ! The fact is, that God will always have a nation and a people that will obey him! Jesus said, "Upon this rock, I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it!"

Prayer warriors, we have our work cut out for us. We must fight for our nation in prayer(II Cor. 10:4) in order to bring down strongholds, and take captive every twisted thought and imagination

of corrupt men, to the obedience of Christ!

Prayer: Lord, keep your church (Bride of Christ) unspotted from the world. Make us ready for your return. Bring us back to you Lord, our first love! Save Our Nation ..... In Jesus's Name we pray, Amen. 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.



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OBITUARIES continued from Page 8

Caroline of the home; three children, Shabria, Corderal and Kareem; three granddaughters, Aqualla, Jahziya and Jahsani; one great-grandson, Kihalil; two sisters, Antionette and Keisha; three brothers, Albert, Kelvin and George Jr.; special nieces, Constance, Jala and Tyshanna; special nephew, George Ellis Harding, III; life-long friends, Lamont "50" Weems and Gregory "Fish" Johnson; a host of other nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Clarence McIntyre

Clarence McIntyre died September 15, 2021. Graveside service will be held on Sunday, September 19, 2021 at the Restwell Cemetery #2, Bolton, NC. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Erica Jacobs Graham

Erica Jacobs Graham died September 16, 2021. Graveside service was held on Wednesday, September 22, 2021 at Greenlawn Memorial Park. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home

Doris Beacham

Doris Beacham died September 16, 2021. Funeral

service will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 25, 2021 at the Willie L. Shaw, Jr. Memorial Chapter. Visitation is from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. on Friday. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Henry "Hank" Brown

Henry "Hank" Brown died September 17, 2021. Graveside service will be held 11:00 a.m. on Friday, September 24, 2021 at Greenlawn Memorial Park. Visitation is from 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. on Thursday.

The family is requesting that due to COVID-19 restrictions, all persons attending the graveside service remain in your cars during the service. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Bobby Smith

Bobby Smith died September 17, 2021. Service information is incomplete at this time. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Annie Newkirk died September 18, 2021. Service information is incomplete at this time. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Joseph Gregory

Joseph Gregory died September 20, 2021. Service information is incomplete at this time. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Having qualified as Administrator of the estate of **Keri Ellen Rasmussen (21-E-1242)**, 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 **December 3, 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 2nd day of September, 2021.

Dennis Michael Rasmussen  
c/o Craig & Fox, PLLC  
701 Market Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401

September 2, 9, 16, 23, 2021

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of Terry **John Gmytruk (21-E-1293)**, 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 **December 16, 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 9th day of September, 2021.

Judy Ann Wolf  
c/o Craig & Fox, PLLC  
701 Market Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401

September 16, 23, 30, October 7, 2021

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the estate of **Sharon Smith Coble**, 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 **16th day of December, 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 16th day of September, 2021

Paul Graham Coble, Jr., Administrator  
109 Tara Drive  
Wilmington, NC 28409

September 16, 23, 30, October 7, 2021

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Administratrix of the estate of **Gale Mary Corcimiglia**, 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 **16th day of December, 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 16th day of September, 2021

Teresa L. Pierce, Administratrix  
2137 Willow Creek  
Leland, NC 28451

September 16, 23, 30, October 7, 2021

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Administratrix of the estate of **Clea A. Williamson**, deceased, of the New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **16th day of December, 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 16th day of September, 2021

Sharon D. Williamson, Administratrix  
2802 Colonel Lamb  
Wilmington, NC 28405

September 16, 23, 30, October 7, 2021

**EMPLOYMENT**

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The Housing Authority of the City of Wilmington is seeking to fill the Housing Choice Voucher Housing Specialist position. A copy of the full job description can be accessed from the website at [www.wha.net](http://www.wha.net). The Housing Authority provides a generous benefit package. Salary will be commensurate with experience and education. Submit a cover letter, resume, Wilmington Housing Authority employment application and three professional references to Housing Choice Voucher Housing Specialist Job Search, Attention, Human Resources Department, PO Box 899, Wilmington, NC 28402 or email to [jobs@wha.net](mailto:jobs@wha.net). Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The Housing Authority City of Wilmington is an Equal Opportunity Affirmative Action Employer.

**LEGAL NOTICES**

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the estate of **Ramona Nixon**, 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 **16th day of December, 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 23rd day of September, 2021

Demarcus Nixon, Administrator  
713 Anderson St.  
Wilmington, NC 28401

September 23, 30, October 7, 14, 2021

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER IN THE DISTRICT COURT JUVENILE SESSION FILE NO. 20 JA 12**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**  
Z.F.

**TO: ROLANDO ALEXANDER TORRES, RESPONDENT-PARENT OF Z.F. born on January 12, 2020 in 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:

Adjudication of Juvenile Petition filed on November 14, 2020, alleging that Z.F. is a Dependent Juvenile.

You are required to make defense to such pleading within forty (40) days following Thursday, September 16, 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.

ROLANDO ALEXANDER TORRES has been assigned Attorney Meghan Schultz. Counsel may be contacted at (910) 251-6088, 611 Princess Street, Wilmington, NC 28401.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT AN ADJUDICATORY HEARING ON THE JUVENILE PETITION IS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, NOVEMBER 08, 2021, AT 9:30 A.M., or upon a date and time set thereafter, at the New Hanover County Courthouse located at 138 N. 4th Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401, or may occur via WebEx at a time to be determined.

This the 16th day of September 2021.

Regina Floyd-Davis, Senior Attorney  
New Hanover County Department of Social Services  
1650 Greenfield Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
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September 16, 23, 30, 2021

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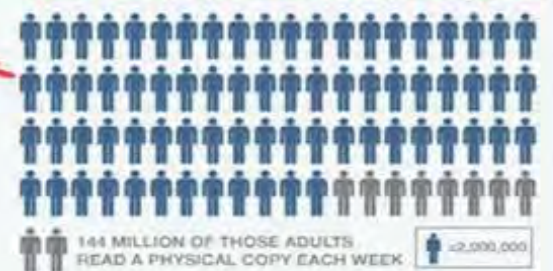
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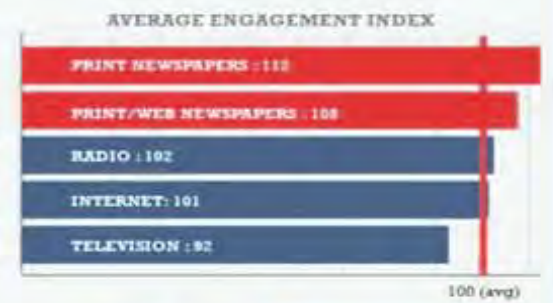
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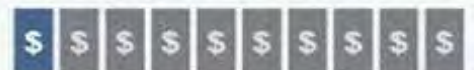


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**Sources:**

Across Platforms, 7 in 10 Adults Access Content from Newspaper Media Each Week (NAA.org, March 25, 2013)

The American Newspaper Media Industry Revenue Profile 2012 (NAA.org, April 8, 2013)

2013 Nielsen National Cross-Media Engagement Study (NAA.org, April 16, 2013)





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