

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



DAVID W. MARSHALL

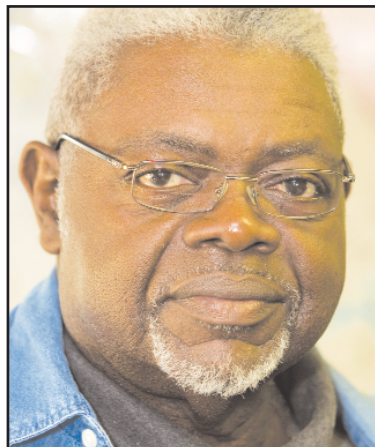
GUEST EDITORIAL

"School curriculums and the new politics of fear"

BY

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BRUNSWICK COUNTY



BERNEST HEWETT

On Vacation

WILL

RETURN

NEXT

WEEK

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

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

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DONTAE SHARPE

Cooper Grants Sharpe Pardon Of Innocence

BY CASH MICHAELS
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

Now that Gov. Cooper has granted Dontae Sharpe a pardon of innocence for a murder of which he was erroneously convicted in July 1995 and for which he served 26 years in prison, the question remains: Why did it take so long after Sharpe was released in August 2019? That question lingers for Sharpe and many others falsely and convicted behind prison walls, those who await the courts to clear them for crimes they did not commit. "My freedom ain't still complete. Know that our system is corrupt and needs to be changed," Sharpe said during a Zoom press conference last Friday. "I'm thankful that I got mine and thankful that other guys are gonna get theirs. That's what's important now."

To say it has been one long hell for Montoyae Dontae Sharpe is an understatement. The Charlotte native was an 18 year old teenager when he was arrested and charged in the 1994 fatal shooting of George Radcliffe in Greenville during

what police at the time alleged was a drug deal gone bad. Sharpe denied all charges, adding that he wasn't even at the scene, but that didn't stop a Greenville jury from convicting him of first-degree murder, despite no forensic evidence tying him to the crime.

Sharpe was sentenced to life in prison despite his denials. He also rejected all deals to shorten his sentence if he admitted to the crime, saying that he deserved a new trial in which he could prove his innocence.

It wasn't until 2019 when attorneys working on Sharpe's behalf uncovered exculpatory evidence proving that Dontae Sharpe could not have committed the crime, including evidence that false testimony was given in the original trial.

A Greenville judge released Sharpe from prison after Greenville prosecutors said they could not retry him, based on the new evidence available. Sharpe's devoted mother and family, who had asked the NC NAACP to help in the cause, were grateful for his release.

Sharpe's long awaited victory was celebrated by leaders who long advocated for him, even when he was still in prison. "I am elated and overcome with

joy," exclaimed NC NAACP president, Rev. T. Anthony Spearman, who notably spent several Friday afternoons camped out in front of the Governor's Mansion in downtown Raleigh, protesting the delay on Sharpe's being granted a pardon of innocence.

Rev. Dr. William Barber, president of Repairers of the Breach, and co-convenor of the national Poor People's Campaign, was president of the NC NAACP when the civil rights organization first took up Sharpe's cause over five years ago. He also paid tribute to Sharpe and his family for their faith and long suffering, Rev. Spearman for picking up the advocacy mantle after he left the NC NAACP, and Attorney Catlain Swain and the progressive advocacy legal group, Forward Together, of Durham, for fighting for Sharpe's release.

Rev. Barber also suggested that Gov. Cooper meet with Dontae Sharpe "man to man" one day to talk about the true injustices of North Carolina's criminal justice system.

"Mr. Sharpe and others who have been wrongly convicted deserve to have that injustice fully and publicly acknowledged," Gov. Cooper said in a statement last Friday.

EXCLUSIVE

APRIL 2022 TRIAL SET FOR FAYETTEVILLE MEDICAL DIRECTOR IN RACIAL PROFILING CASE

Gregory Smith is intent on making sure that the State of Missouri knows that it "messed with" the wrong Black man when a state trooper there allegedly racially profiled the Fayetteville medical director during a visit there last August in the middle of the night.

That's why, instead of a November 9 traffic court hearing via video hookup, Smith is now preparing for an April 18, 2022 trial in Platte County, Missouri to prove that, when he was stopped, it was because he was driving while Black, not because he had broken any laws.

Smith was arrested for allegedly resisting an officer after he flew to Missouri three months ago for a medical conference. He claims that he was threatened with violence by a trooper, roughly handcuffed, unjustly charged \$1,040 for a ticket for resisting the officer, and forced to walk six miles in the dark of

night to find his rental car, which authorities left at a gas station that distance from the Highway Patrol station.

Smith was hoping that a Black attorney he hired there would be ready to fight the false arrest for him, especially since Missouri is well known in recent years for vigorously racially profiling African-American drivers. However, the Black attorney he initially hired show little interest in actually fighting the bogus charge against Smith, he says. "Ridiculous that I have to constantly contact this guy for updates," Smith said recently by text. "I'll have to find a different attorney there to sue them."

So intent was Gregory Smith to fight what he saw as a serious racial injustice that he also submitted formal complaints with the Missouri Governor's Office, Missouri Attorney General's Office, and the ACLU of

Missouri.

Plus, Smith says he also spoke with a retired Missouri NAACP attorney about securing someone there to sue the Missouri State Highway Patrol. "We'll have to bring this stuff into the biggest light and put a stop to it as best we can," Smith said.

One of the reasons Smith was so disenchanted with his initial attorney, as he said, is that he was being kept in the dark about what was going on with his case. On the morning of the November 9 hearing, Smith texted, "I'm so in the dark. I sent the attorney another email this [morning] asking for an update. I sent one two weeks ago so I would know if I needed to book a flight or whether this was going to be a video hearing. He just sent a response earlier saying

Please see TRIAL /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



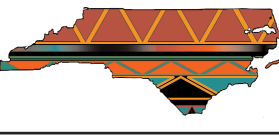
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STATE BRIEFS



MEMBERS OF THE PROUD BOYS AT NH SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

[WILMINGTON] Why were five members of the white supremacist group,

The Proud Boys, present at the Nov. 10th NH County School Board meeting? They never said anything, but with handkerchiefs across their faces, they stood and applauded every time a speaker addressed the board opposing the mask mandate. Official say the members have the right to attend school board meetings, as long as they aren't violent.

MCCRAE DOWLESS REJECTS PLEA DEAL 2018 ELECTION SCANDAL

[BLADEN COUNTY] The man who authorities say was at the heart of the 2018 absentee ballot scandal in Bladen County has rejected a plea deal in the case. McCrae Dowless has until the end of November to accept one year in prison and five years probation if he pleads guilty to

all charges stemming from his alleged election ballot fraud scheme that forced the 2018 congressional elections be redone. If Dowless, 65, rejects the deal, he'll go on trial next year.

CAFETERIA WORKERS AT 30 WAKE SCHOOLS DEMAND MORE PAY

[RALEIGH] First the Wake Public School System bus drivers refused to work last week until they got a pay

hike. This week, cafeteria workers in 30 Wake County schools warned parents to pack their children lunches because there would be no lunch service for them until they saw higher pay. The Wake School Board had already approved a \$1,250 bonus for full-time employees, and a smaller one for part-timers.

COMPILED BY CASH MICHAELS

TRIAL

Continued from Page 1

it's a video hearing. He still hasn't sent me the link for it...yet. I am a bit disenchanted with this Black attorney," Smith continued. "Not sure he's really on my team. It appears he just wanted the money, just to go through the motions, just to be paid to address the ticket. I'll ride through it, and continue pursuing justice."

An hour later, a frustrated Smith texted this reporter, "I have patients on my schedule, and I still don't know what time this court hearing is today. I requested info over a week ago, so as to coordinate my patient schedule." Smith continued, "...this is very poor on behalf of this BLACK male attorney I've retained. This is unacceptable...."

It would be later on that Smith would text again, indicating that he requested

a trial in Platte County, Missouri for Monday, April 18, 2022. With a full-on trial, as opposed to just a traffic court hearing, Smith believes, along with a different attorney, that not only will he be able to testify about his harrowing racial profiling experience on August 6, but also call at least one witness, the 9-1-1 operator who was on duty at the time when he called on his cellphone and left it on so that she could both hear

and record the tense exchange between him and the threatening trooper.

Smith might also be able to call as a witness the overnight store clerk with whom he spoke when he had to ask directions for getting to his rental car and was told that it was six miles away, six miles he would have to walk, and Smith should be able to enter into the record the emergency room report about injuries he sustained

from the tight handcuffs that were placed on him at the time of his arrest.

He is hoping that both the 9-1-1 recording and a dash cam video of his trooper encounter still exists so that the judge and/or jury can hear and see the threatening exchange and also hear that the trooper never read Smith his rights upon arrest.

"I'm making it a big deal, not just to dismiss the ticket," Smith wrote.

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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

School curriculums and the new politics of fear

There are two undisputable facts. First, most people really have little understanding of the true meaning of critical race theory (CRT). Second, there is little evidence that critical race theory is taught in K-12 classes. The means by which students learn about the past represents the latest rallying cry among political conservatives. For that reason, we have seen attempted recalls and threats of violence against school board members. Superintendents and school teachers are less willing to address racism within their schools districts, thereby being silenced out of fear. In one state, legislators passed a law which would allow the state to withhold funding if schools failed to follow the state's guidance on how to teach about slavery. This is not the first time we have seen political and cultural backlashes based on unsubstantiated claims.



David W. Marshall

The 2008 presidential election was a turning point in illustrating the potential voting power of black and brown people. It became evident that early voting, with its flexible hours and increased number of days, made it convenient for working class, minorities, students, and the elderly to get out and vote. As a result, high voter turnout helped propel Barack Obama in becoming the first U.S. president of color. The political and cultural reaction to this historic election came in the form of voter suppression laws and restrictions despite there being no tangible evidence of voter fraud. The goal of the laws is to increase the chances of winning elections in the future.

Most of us never heard of CRT until recently. It was then-president Donald Trump who characterized any effort by schools to address systemic racism as critical race theory. The murder of George Floyd and the subsequent public demonstrations led to a higher public awareness and open discussions concerning racial injustice and white privilege. People were starting to have the type of constructive discussions which were long overdue. The type of discussions which could lead to permanent changes. The George Floyd protests served as a moral catalyst which caused the nation to take a hard look at how people of color are treated. Unfortunately, anything which promotes diversity and inclusion will be met with resistance from various segments of society. Critics argue that certain truthful lessons about history will cast all White people as oppressors and all people of color as victims. CRT has become the enemy which should be feared and defeated. It is a gold mine for those looking for ways to limit the effects of open dialogue and social awareness regarding systemic racism. It generates the type of anger and fear which will motivate and mobilize White parents and voters. CRT will not only become an election issue for gubernatorial and midterm races, but school board races are now getting increased attention from it.

The way CRT is used by parents, educators and elected officials as a cultural and political weapon is the perfect example of systemic racism. Many people do not want an accurate depiction being taught because it will make certain people uncomfortable. We must note there's another side to the story. There are people who are also uncomfortable due to the gross omissions and whitewashed stories throughout history books. The American story, in its entirety, will show the good in all people as well as the bad. The complexity of the truth will also produce a wide range of emotions by people of all races and from all walks of life.

In Texas, even before legislation was passed to resist CRT, Hispanic students rarely saw themselves reflected in the history they were taught. While we recognize November as Native American Heritage Month, Native American students can also point to omissions and inaccuracies throughout school curriculums. During my years in school, the Native American experiences surrounding the "Trail of Tears" was never taught. Most people are still unaware of this particular Native American dispossession through the Indian Removal Act of 1830. Over 60,000 Native Americans were removed from their ancestral land and made to walk more than one thousand miles from the deep south to the area now known as Oklahoma. The brutal journey which resulted in thousands of deaths is another whitewashed untold story of history.

For most native cultures, the primary means of transmitting and understanding the truth of their history has been through oral tradition. Stories are passed from one generation to the next through speech. Many Native Americans personally see their plight as being the same plight facing the Black community. Both have suffered from racial abuse and intimidation, higher rates of unemployment, higher levels of incarcerations, income inequality, inadequate housing, poorer health, incorrect and inappropriate depictions within the media and arts, and constantly being the target of voter suppression tactics. In October of this year, the U.S. Senate modified the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act to include the Native American Voting Rights Act (NAVRA) as part of the bill. The experiences of oppressed people from all backgrounds will always be tied together.

America has a "truth" problem. The truth is being rejected for political and cultural reasons. There is no K-12 school curriculum where CRT is taught. There is no voter fraud. There was no stolen election. And the pandemic is not a hoax.

David W. Marshall is founder of the faith based organization, TRB: The Reconciled Body, and author of the book "God Bless Our Divided America". He can be reached at www.davidwmarshallauthor.com.

VISUAL VOICE



MATTERS OF OPINION

Know means no!

(TriceEdneyWire.com)

Generally, there is great appreciation for someone who can control the narrative. That person who is skilled enough to master an honest and truthful round of discussion, discourse, or dialogue is often rewarded with sincere admiration.

Conversely, he or she who resorts to dishonest use of facts is held in disdain by the honest dealer. Such is the case with those who hijack, distort, and reframe the meaning and significance of generally accepted "labels." The current controversy regarding the words "Woke" or "Wokeness" exemplifies the shameful attempt of political reactionaries to apply a negative connotation to our increased awareness.

I refuse to accept this hijacking. As a Black person who has experienced and continues to live through the indignities commonly suffered by Black people, I REFUSE! As a Black person who, by accident or intent, is subject to on-going disparate treatment and consideration, I REFUSE! As one who worked with and observed my friend, Dick Gregory, bludgeon "dishonest dealers" with the

truth of the negative impact of their attitudes and actions, I CONTINUE TO REFUSE!!

Those of us living a more progressive life know the pitfalls of allowing our wokeness to be distorted into something evil and unacceptable. We have watched the term "Liberal" stolen and reshaped into an objectionable characterization.



Dr. E. Faye Williams

We have allowed the term "Diversity" to become perverted into an imposition upon the emotional comfort of those who would continue to oppress us or ignore the existence of institutional discrimination and oppression.

Accepting the bastardization of these terms, we have also accepted that the use of these terms in the justification of positive change distorts that change into something offensive and unacceptable. By allowing the reframing of these terms we have contributed to the shameful suffering we experience.

We know what "Wake Up and Stay Woke" means. Being "Woke" is indicative of accepting that time is long overdue for meaningful and constructive change in the lives of those who have long suffered the application of unjust obstacles to our full participation in the economic prosperity of this nation.

Being "Woke" signifies an ability to critically analyze and actively move to restructure a criminal justice system that allows the environment in which vigilante justice flourishes, as in the cases of the murderers of Ahmaud Arbery and murderer, Kyle Rittenhouse.

Being "Woke" means drawing a line in the sand past which the illegal actions and practices of the police will not be condoned or excused. It means holding law enforcement officers to a standard of conduct that is consistent with the same laws they are directed to enforce. It means ending "qualified immunity" and establishing a national registry in which "bad cops" who have been dismissed for misconduct are listed and denied future opportunities for employment in law enforcement.

Being "Woke" means refusing to be apologetic for merely existing. Unlike the admonitions of James Carville, who practically demands that we quietly hurry up and wait for the full measure of our citizenship, being "Woke" means that there is no greater imperative than complete justice.

Unlike Winsome Sears, the gun-toting woman of color and current Lieutenant Governor-Elect of Virginia, being "Woke" does not mean that we have to imitate our oppressors to survive or realize the American Dream. It means that we no longer have to align ourselves with those who hold us in contempt for the remote possibility of achievement or acceptance.

Being "Woke" means that we must increase our assertiveness toward the achievement of social and economic goals that will secure our, and our children's future. As "Woke" folks, we must proudly tell our own stories. As with the African proverb, "Until the lions tell their story, tales of hunting will always glorify the hunter."

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

Investing in American people and communities

(TriceEdneyWire.com)

President Joe Biden and the Democratic Congress have come through with a \$1.2 trillion infrastructure package—something the previous president repeatedly promised but never delivered. The plan will bring much-needed investments to American communities to fix roads and bridges, update water and energy systems, and expand affordable access to broadband internet service. Now Congress needs to address equally urgent needs to shore up the social safety net by passing Biden's Building Back Better plan.

There's a lot to cheer about in the infrastructure bill. It includes \$40 billion to repair and replace bridges. And there's \$1 billion devoted to reconnecting communities, mostly in Black neighborhoods, that were divided and disrupted by racist decisions about where to route highways and other public infrastructure. It also includes the largest federal investment ever in public transit.

So far, so good. But the plan that passed Congress was a watered-down version of the Biden administration's original American Jobs Plan. And there's a lot that it doesn't

address. That's why Congress needs to pass Building Back Better legislation. It is an investment in us.

It will make free preschool available to all 3- and 4-year-olds. And it will make the largest investment in childcare in our country's history, helping most families save more than half their childcare spending.

It will lower the cost of prescription drugs and make affordable care more available for older people and people with disabilities—and support the workers who take care of them.

It will also be the biggest investment in our history in addressing climate change—in ways that will create a lot of new green energy jobs, like installing solar panels and improving the energy efficiency of buildings. It would create a new Civilian Climate Corps to put 300,000 young people to work on projects that will address the impact of climate change, like restoring forests and wetlands.



Ben Jealous

The Biden administration has been negotiating with members of Congress on the details of the plan and the amount of funding that will be committed to making it effective. The White House is confident that its current framework—and a budget of \$1.75 trillion over 10 years—will make it through the House and Senate in the coming weeks.

And it's all paid for, with higher taxes on the wealthiest Americans and big corporations. Nobody making less than \$400,000 a year will see their taxes go up. Many middle-class families will get a tax cut.

The infrastructure bill and Build Back Better legislation will help individuals and communities across the country—in rural America, inner cities, and suburbs. That's the kind of progress that will make people's lives better. That's the kind of progress that will make people feel it was worth their time and effort to help elect President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris and a Democratic majority in Congress.

And that brings us to the next essential piece of legislation that the White House and Congress must get signed into law this year: vot-

ing rights legislation. The Freedom to Vote Act and the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act are urgently needed to overturn state restrictions on voting and protect our democracy from state voter suppression laws, corrupt redistricting, and billionaires buying our elections.

The president and congressional leaders deserve credit for devoting countless hours to the hard negotiating and willingness to make difficult compromises that was necessary to pass the infrastructure bill—and will soon bring us the important investments in Build Back Better.

Our democracy deserves the same investment of time, energy, and political will.

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



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

--AN AFRICAN PROVERB

TO BE EQUAL

First-ever Civil Rights Scorecard grades senators on performance defending voting rights

"Partisan sabotage bills ... are a new and dangerous twist on the same legislative agenda. Each is driven by the Big Lie that there is widespread voter fraud. And each is part of a broader ongoing partisan project to thwart democratic elections and rig electoral outcomes, especially by undermining or canceling the votes of people of color. Each is antidemocratic and toxic to a free and fair society. And each demands urgent intervention by Congress to prevent irreparable corruption of our electoral system." - The Brennan Center, The Election Sabotage Scheme and How Congress Can Stop It

How much do your senators care about voter suppression? How committed are they to our most sacred constitutional right? What have they done, and what are they willing to do, to defend it?



Marc Morial

Released this week by the National Urban League, along with the NAACP, National Action

Network, National Coalition of Black Civic Participation, Fighting for Our Vote Initiative, and National Council of Negro Women, the Scorecard provides civil rights advocates and their supporters with clear insights into the voting patterns of their Senate delegations.

There is no greater crisis facing our nation at this moment than the preservation of democracy. History will judge every member of the Senate on their commitment to democratic principles. The Civil Rights Scorecard is not just a measure of each Senator's voting record. It is a measure of their character, their integrity, and their patriotism.

The grades are based on senators' votes on the American Rescue Plan Act, the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, and the For the People Act, along with each senator's stance on the filibuster - a once-rare procedure has been weaponized to block major legislation, including voting rights protection bills.

As the Scorecard notes, "the divide between the 51st and 60th vote in the Senate is unbridgeable with the Senate split along partisan lines."

Senators were awarded one point for each "yes" vote

MORIAL

Continued on this page

MORIAL

Continued from this page

on the three bills, and zero points for a "no" vote, abstention or not voting.

Their stance on the filibuster, which comprised 50 percent of their overall score - was worth three points for abolishing the filibuster; two for reforming it, one for willingness to change it and zero for retaining the filibuster as it currently exists.

Senators with a score of 2.1 to 3 earned an "A" grade; those with a score of 1 to 2 earned an "I" for "incomplete," and those with a score of 0.9 or lower earned an "F."

The Scorecard focused on voting rights because every other right stems directly from it. Without the right to vote we have no say. No voice. No seat at the table to determine public policy on policing, education, or economic equity.

"A law is unjust if it is inflicted on a minority that,

as a result of being denied the right to vote, had no part in enacting or devising the law," Martin Luther King, Jr., wrote in Letter from a Birmingham Jail. Stacey Abrams expounded on this reality in Our Time Is Now: Power, Purpose, and the Fight for a Fair America: "As millions are stripped of their rights, we live out the policy consequences, from lethal pollution running through poor communities to kindergartners practicing active shooter drills taught with nursery rhymes."

Our democracy is cracking at the seams. It is crumbling before our eyes. The Scorecard is a clanging alarm, alerting every member of the United States Senate that we expect them honor their Constitutional duty and to do everything in their power to protect democracy, including abolishing or reforming the filibuster.

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

No rights without voting rights

(TriceEdneyWire.com)

Black women leaders have been working on this issue of voting rights, calling for the passage of the John Lewis Voting Rights Act, the Freedom to Vote Act, the Build Back Better Reconciliation Act, and DC Statehood. Several leaders, including Melanie Campbell, CEO of the National Coalition of Black Civic Participation, and Janice Mathis, Executive Director of the National Council of Negro Women, were arrested a couple of weeks ago. On November 16, the women took their energy to the Supreme Court, walking from the NCNW headquarters on Pennsylvania Avenue to the Court building.

would extract every penny of surplus value from other citizens. How else can we explain the resistance to managing drug prices, raising the minimum wage, or blocking the right to vote?



Dr. Julianne Malveaux

The big-money politics game makes it easy enough for deep-pocketed corporations to purchase a senator to protect their interests. Grassroots efforts, like the NCNW/NCBPC (with many allies) efforts are less well funded than some of these senators are, and they may be less influential. Republicans with consciences surely know that voting is an essential right. However, too many of them want to win at all costs, eschewing fairness for power.

It's like a chicken and egg thing. Republicans (yes, let's call it as it is) want to suppress the vote so they can

keep getting elected. Once elected, they continue to manipulate the system with a gerrymandering that is designed to minimize the electoral influence of those who oppose the predatory capitalist agenda. This includes Black folks, Chicano/Latina folks, American Indians, senior citizens, and those who live in inner cities. These voters, certainly, aren't a monolith, but voters of color are treated monolithically and sidelined in the same way. Voting rights legislation might pass, but for the filibuster.

So why can't we get eliminate the filibuster? Some Democrats want to embrace the traditions of the past, even though those traditions allow the minority to ride rough-shod over the majority. President Biden, whose legislation has been blocked by the filibuster, only recently signaled some willingness to get rid of the filibuster in some cases. He should have spoken up sooner, and more loudly. Though more than 60 percent of Americans support the Build Back Better

legislation, just two recalcitrant Senators have been able to hold up the vote. Now, as we head into the holiday season, the window to pass this legislation is closing. In my opinion, neither the House nor the Senate deserves time off until voting rights legislation is passed.

Too many of us seem to forget that we are the BOSS-ES, not the serfs, of these members of the House and the Senate. We can kick them to the curb as viciously as they've kicked us. We have powerful Black women leaders who are urging us to take our power back, rejecting incumbents who don't have our interests at heart. Our work, our serious work, is to vet these incumbents and send them home when it is necessary.

We don't do that. We tend to reelect incumbents because we are used to them, because we feel close to them, because they've been to our schools, because they've done

MALVEAUX

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MALVEAUX

Continued from this page

a town hall, because they are friendly and personable. As personable as some of them are, if they don't support economic justice, they are just a waste of space. They are sitting in an elected seat that someone else might better use to serve people.

Voting rights and economic justice are inextricably intertwined. We won't get fair wages, good labor laws, student loan forgiveness, child care, or more progressive economic legislation until we get the right to vote, because there

are those who would offer rights like goodies on a snack plate, goodies they an easily take back. It is absurd that in a nation that brags about democracy fails to provide it for too many of its citizens.

Republicans are shameless in their grab for power. We have to be aggressive in our resistance. We cannot have economic justice without voting rights. Kudos to the Black women who are fighting for our rights.

Dr. Julianne Malveaux is an economist, author, and Dean of the College of Ethnic Studies at Cal State Los Angeles. juliannemalveaux.com.

THE BLACK PRESS: USE It or LOSE It!

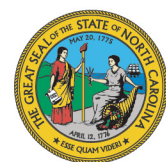
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Gladys M. Hankins

Gladys M. Hankins, age 85, of Supply, passed away Thursday, October 28, 2021.

A celebration of Ms. Hankins' life was held on Saturday, November 6, 2021 at Davis Funeral Home - Bolivia. Interment followed at Galloway Cemetery.

Her love and memories will remain in the heart of her daughters, Karen Gaynell Hankins of Supply and Patricia Rourke of Bolivia, 4 grandchildren, 8 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.*

Larry D. Simmons

Larry D. Simmons, age 70, of Leland, passed away Saturday, October 30, 2021.

A memorial service celebrating the life of Mr. Simmons was held on Saturday, November 6, 2021 at Davis Funeral Home - Wilmington.

His love and memories will remain in heart of his wife, Deloris Simmons of the home; children, Marcella Simmons of Leland and Orlando Simmons (Donna) of Red Springs; mother, Lucille Butler of Wilmington; siblings, Barry Irving of Wilmington and Carol Clinton (Darrell) of Leland, 2 grandchildren, 5 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.*

Blanch L. Robbins

Blanche Louise Robbins, age 97, of Wilmington, passed away Sunday, October 31, 2021.

A celebration of Ms. Robbins' life was held on Saturday, November 6, 2021 at Davis Funeral Home - Wilmington. Interment followed at Greenlawn Memorial Park.

Blanche Louise Printz Robbins was born on February 20, 1924, in Wilmington, North Carolina, to the late Augustus and Julia Printz. She was fourth out of five children, which would explain her selfless and loving charisma. She was a product of New Hanover County public school system, graduating from Williston Industrial High School, class of 1943. She always had a thing to get up and get active, You say "Let's" and she would say "Go". With that mindset, upon completion of her studies, Blanche and her eldest sister, Theresa, moved to Chicago to begin a new life. Years later, she relocated to Philadelphia, where she met and married her first husband, Kenneth Washington.

Blanche moved back to Wilmington in 1948 and was very active in the community. She was a lifelong member of Union Missionary Baptist Church, where her mother was a founding member. She was steadfast in her Christian walk, with service on the mothers and usher boards, gospel choir, as well as being the church secretary. Through her service, she earned numerous appreciative gestures from the church and the New Hanover County Baptist Missionary Union.

She was also a distinct employee for decades at Kmart (Formally known as S.S. Kresge), where she fulfilled many positions. Her warm vivacious character and loving spirit filled the store, positively impacting so many lives. Her hard work and dedication were often recognized and awarded several certificates. Through her time at KMART, she ended up finding love again and remarried the late Samuel L. Robbins and they were inseparable.

After retiring in 1989, she and her husband Samuel would often be seen around town out and about or simply spending quality time with family and friends. They set to bring joy to everyone they crossed paths with

and would even frequent the nursing homes and hospitals to comfort people in their time of need. After the passing of her husband in 2000, she set to travel and get away as a method to keep her spirits high. She explored many states throughout the Nation even moving for some time to Jackson, Tennessee, and Rock Hill, South Carolina.

"Muh", as she was affectionately called by family and friends, was a devoted, loving daughter to her mother. She was selfless and full of compassion. Her positivity was contagious and everyone that knew her loved her. She was active in the lives of her family, regardless the relation, even acting as a mother to many. Muh's favorite saying was "We have to stay together", and that's exactly what she did. Her life quote is deeply ingrained in us all, and still holds the family together through the toughest times.

She made a peaceful transition to her new home on Sunday, October 31, 2021, however, her spirits will forever live through us all and be in our hearts. *Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhome-nc.com.*

James L. Bloodworth

James L. Bloodworth, Jr., age 67, of Wilmington, passed away Sunday, October 31, 2021.

A celebration of Mr. Bloodworth's life was held on Friday, November 5, 2021 at Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church.

His love and memories will remain in the hearts of his children, Katrina N. Bloodworth of Middletown, NY, James L. Bloodworth, III of Charlotte and Angel S. Bloodworth of Wilmington; mother, Pauline Bloodworth of Wilmington; siblings, Stephen W. Bloodworth, Sr. (Natalie) of Washington, DC, Terry D. Bloodworth, Angel B. McKoy and Tony M. Bloodworth (Barbara) all of Wilmington and Carol L. Bloodworth of Charlotte, 6 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.*

Antwion D. Middlebrooks

Antwion D. Middlebrooks, age 39, of Wilmington, passed away Monday, November 1, 2021.

Public viewing 3:00 - 5:00 PM on Saturday, November 20, 2021 at Davis Funeral Home - Wilmington.

His love and memories will remain in the heart of his aunt, Patsy Williamson (James) of Wilmington; brother, Neito Middlebrooks of Wilmington; special friend, Niki Graham of the home 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.*

Pamela L. Stanley

Pamela Lorraine Dudley Stanley, age 55, of Leland (Snowfield Community), passed away Wednesday, November 3, 2021.

A celebration of Pam's life was held on Tuesday, November 9, 2021 at Holy Covenant United Holy Church.

Interment followed at Holy Covenant United Holy Church Cemetery.

Her love and memories will remain in the heart of her husband, George L. Stanley of the home; children, Takira Dudley and Tiara Stanley both of Leland and Terrell Stanley of Charlotte; siblings, Marvin Dudley of Wilmington, Sharon and Tawanda Dudley both of Leland, 2 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.*

Molly Lowry

Molly Lowry, age 38, of Wilmington, passed away Wednesday, November 3, 2021.

A memorial service celebrating Molly's life was held on Saturday, November 13, 2021 at St. Andrews-Covenant Presbyterian Church.

Molly Lowry was born Mary Frances in Tarboro, North Carolina along with her twin sister Katherine H. Bell on July 10, 1983. The family moved to Beaufort, South Carolina when she was nine. She attended Beaufort High School and was actively involved in the Beaufort High East Coast Wave Band where she played the flute and piccolo. She held the first chair and section leader positions for three years. Molly was the statistician for the women's and men's Varsity Basketball teams. She also was very active in the Student Government Organization as Historian. Molly had enough credits to graduate a year early from Beaufort High School in 2000. This did not stop her from remaining in constant friendships with both classes of 2000 and 2001. She attended Winthrop University where she would meet her beloved husband Jerrod Lowry. After her application to Winthrop was submitted during her senior year of high school, the Winthrop University Student Government Association chose Molly as one of two freshmen to be on the student government association. This was a rare opportunity for incoming students. Molly pledged Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. Mu Xi Chapter of Winthrop University on Easter Sunday, April 15, 2001. She earned the name Kasablanca as the #2 of the 14 Naturally Ravishing Survivors. She was the baby of the line. She and Jerrod, a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc, bonded through their Divine 9 connection as well as their love of the Student Government Association. Their daughter Kerryn was born and enjoyed attending classes and other campus events with her mom and aunt Katherine. Molly graduated in 2005 with a Bachelor of Applied Science from the College of Education with a focus in Family and Consumer Sciences and a minor in Early Intervention.

Jerrod and Molly united in marriage on July 3, 2004 in her hometown of Beaufort, South Carolina. They moved to Raleigh, North Carolina after her graduation; she continued her education earning a Masters of Education in Curriculum and Instructional Strategies from the University of New England. She taught in the Wake County Public School System from 2005-2010. During this time, they had their second child, a son named Kaleb; and twins, another son, Kendle Blake and a daughter; Kandice Naomi, who preceded her death.

They moved in 2010 to Sandy, Utah where Molly would continue to teach in the Granite School District from 2010-2017. As a survivor of child abuse, she wrote the curriculum for The United Way of Utah and was slated to begin writing a children's book on surviving child abuse. Health issues resulted in Molly leaving the classroom and becoming "the keeper of the Lowry Family Calendar." Molly was a pro at keeping up with Jerrod's church related events, meetings, and the kids' school activities. She also volunteered from time to time as a classroom parent. While in Utah, Molly was active in the Upsilon Beta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Inc. She participated with the debutante committee and supported the chapter's initiatives at the University of Utah. Molly joined the Community of Grace Presbyterian Church (USA) where she sang with the Spirit of Joy Band. The family moved from Utah back to North Carolina in October, 2018. They settled in Wilmington close to the beach where Molly often sought refuge. The beach was truly her happy place outside of spending time with her husband, kids, sister and siblings. Molly and the kids were members of St. Andrews-Covenant

Presbyterian Church (USA). Molly enjoyed singing with the praise and worship team as she loved to express herself through music. Molly again became active in the graduate chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Inc., Alpha Psi Omega Chapter. She worked with the debutantes and served as chair of the Arts Committee. Molly was truly beloved by her line sisters and her chapter Sorors.

Molly was preceded in death by her niece, Janie Faye Lowry and their daughter, Kandice Naomi Lowry.

She leaves to honor her memory her loving husband, Rev. Jerrod B. Lowry; children, Kerryn of Charlotte, NC, Kaleb and Blake both of Wilmington, NC; twin sister, Katherine Bell (Dee) of Wilmington, NC; brothers, Joshua Hood (Noshica) of Williamsburg, VA and Zachary Hood (Andrea) of Downingtown, PA; sisters-in-law, Mela Lowry of Asheville, NC, Sonja Burris (Onterio) and Tonja McFadden (Kendrick) of Rock Hill, SC; parents, Rev. Dr. Melvin Lowry (Faye) of Grovetown, GA; niece and nephews, Jayden and Jaylen Burris, Kameron McFadden, Jeremiah and Nora Bell, Skyler Knox, Alden Hood, Allister and Emerson Hood and a host of extended 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.*

Johnny J. Johnson

Johnny J. Johnson, age 43, of Leland, passed away Sunday, November 7, 2021.

Public viewing 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 18, 2021 at Davis Funeral Home - Wilmington.

A celebration of Johnny's life will be conducted at 12:00 p.m. Friday, November 19, 2021 at Davis Funeral Home - Wilmington.

Interment will follow at Greenlawn Memorial Park.

His love and memories will remain in the hearts of his children, Johnny J. Johnson, Jr. of Hamden, CT, Jyair Johnson, Journee Johnson, Jade Johnson and Jayla

Johnson all of Leland; mother, Gloria E. Johnson of Leland; father, Johnny Salters of Columbia, SC; maternal grandmother, Elois Robbins of Leland; siblings, Carlos A. Merrick (Casey) and Lakeberd Johnson both of Leland, Jordan Johnson and Michael Johnson both of Orangeburg, SC, Gaylord Salters of New Haven, CT, Evette Salters and Theodore Salters (Christy) both of Columbia, SC and Kenneth Salters of Bronx, NY 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.*

Annie R. Simpson

Annie Ruth "Classie" Grady Simpson, age 94, of Castle Hayne, passed away Wednesday, November 10, 2021.

A celebration of Ms. Simpson's life was held on Wednesday, November 17, 2021 at New Beginning Christian Church.

Interment followed at John Chapel Cemetery.

Her love and memories will remain in the hearts of her children, Lawrence Grady, Sr. (Pearlean) of Harrisburg, PA and Waymon Simpson of Castle Hayne; sisters, Edith Foy and Lucille Murrill both of Castle Hayne, 4 grandchildren, 5 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.*

Rosetta T. Miller

Rosetta T. Miller, age 79, of Bolivia, passed away Sunday, November 14, 2021.

Public viewing 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. on Friday, November 19, 2021 at Davis Funeral Home, 1705 Southport Supply Rd. SE, Bolivia, NC 28422.

A celebration of Ms. Miller's life will be conducted at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 20, 2021 at Friendship Missionary Baptist

Church, 620 Clarendon Ave., Southport, NC 28461.

Interment will follow at John N. Smith Cemetery.

Her love and memories will remain in the hearts of her children, William H. Miller, Jr. of Bolivia and Mary Denise Marshall of Randleman; siblings, Eunice Jones of Suitland, MD, Jean Dixon (Ronald) of Lanham, MD, Brenda Jones of Suitland, MD, Deborah Jones of Dillwyn, VA, Harvey Gregory of New Haven, CT, Latney Jones (Wanda) of Orange, VA and Timothy Jones of Charlottesville, VA, 3 grandchildren, 2 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.*

Bernie L. Brunson

Bernie L. Brunson, age 40, of Wilmington, passed away Tuesday, November 16, 2021.

A celebration of Bernie's life will be conducted at 12:00 p.m. on Friday, November 26, 2021 at Davis Funeral Home, 901 S 5th Ave., Wilmington, NC 28401. A viewing will be held one (1) hour prior to the service.

Interment will follow at Greenlawn Memorial Park, 1311 Shipyard Blvd., Wilmington, NC 28412.

He was preceded in death by his son, Zakhi McKoy.

His love and memories will remain in the heart of his father, Bernard Brunson (Deborah) of Wilmington; mother, Jeleen White of Wilmington; children, Marquitta Brunson of Castle Hayne, Jayden Brunson and Zahmad McKoy both of Wilmington; siblings, Staff Brunson of Washington, Nadja Brunson and Sharkey Shiver both of Wilmington, Shakirah James (Curtis) of Raleigh and Jerronda White of New York 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.*



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Father in the name of Jesus, we give you thanks for all you have done for us. You have forgiven all our iniquities; healed all our diseases. You have redeemed our life from destruction; and crowned us with lovingkindness and tender mercies. You have satisfied our mouth with good things so that our youth is renewed like the eagles. Lord, you are merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy. (Psalm 103:2,5,8)

You have not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is your mercy toward them that fear you. (Psalm 103:10)



Sylvia Hooper

As far as the east is from the west, so far have you removed our transgressions from us. Like a father pitieth his chil-

dren, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him. For you know our frame and remember that we are dust. (Psalm 103:14-14) Lord, you have heard our voice and our supplication, and you have inclined your ear unto us, therefore will we call upon you as long as we live. (Psalm 116:1-2) You have delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling. (Psalm 116:8) I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the Lord. (Psalm 116:17)

God, we thank you that you are not a respecter of persons. (Acts 10:34) For, whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. (Romans 10:13) God, you have commended your love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Surely you have borne our griefs and carried our sorrows: (Isaiah 53:5) But you were wounded for our transgressions, bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon you; and with your stripes we are healed. (Isaiah 53:5)

As a nation, and as a people, we have our share of problems, but through it all, God, you have been good to us. Before we ask you for another thing, we should stop and give you thanks and praise for what you have already done! You has blessed us, kept us, and never left us! We are eternally thankful to you Lord God for sending your Son and our Savior Jesus Christ! "O Give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endureth forever." Psalm 136:1

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

Are there any Nehemiah’s in the country on the wall and watching?

Nehemiah, although a prophet of God, was a man with like passions as you and I. He was also a man, that was concerned about the old Jerusalem that once was in greatness and splendor. He was concerned enough to inquire about their welfare. When God places a concern or burden on our heart, there is a reason for that burden and it becomes our mandate to take it further to God. He will lead us to our place in helping to relieve that burden. It doesn't matter what it is or how complex it is. Tools are already in place for you to use in making decisions with God's help to alleviate any problem. You are positioned to complete a task. The question is, are you and I ready for the task. If you are, God has someone to work with you. Nehemiah's concern about the condition of Jerusalem and Judah led him to ask how are those who were left in captivity. He was informed of

their condition. It wasn't good news. After learning that the remnant left of the captivity was in great reproach and the walls were torn down his concern heightened. This knowledge given stirred the heart of the prophet to tears for many days. Though the prophet was in complete despair, God had already prepared the heart of the prophet and already positioned and qualified him to proceed with the prophetic answer. God had already prophesied years before what would happen which concerned his chosen people. God's always right on time and knows when to step right in. Does he need us. I know he wants us to be involved with him. I know he also wants to be involved in us and our affairs. We don't have because of not asking. First, Nehemiah was a prophet and second, he was king Artaxerxes' cupbearer. When help was needed he first, consulted God in prayer

of repentance for himself and the people. He knew that their present position was not because of God, but because of their disobedience. Then and only then did he go before King Artaxerxes. God has a way of preparing even a king's heart (a president's heart) and a nation's heart when repentance is realized in humble submission and we ourselves admit that we are a part of the problem. The prophet Nehemiah reminded himself of God's faithfulness to Israel and his ongoing promises. Sometimes we forget that fasting is part of what we do when going before God. It is a way of humbling ourselves before Him. And drawing near to him strengthens our trust in Him. Because of his covenant blessing's which are greater in the new covenant, we are blessed with Abraham throughout the generations. God still answers our prayers. Nehemiah brought before God promises made in

Nehemiah 1:8 "b. If ye transgress, I will scatter you abroad among the nations: 9 But if ye turn unto me, and keep my commandments, and do them, though there were of you cast out unto the uttermost parts of the heaven, yet will I gather them from thence, and will bring them to the place that I have chosen to set my name there." He's already doing this now. Nehemiah ends his prayer by saying "I pray thee, thy servant this day, grant him mercy in the sight of this man", referring to King Artaxerxes. God faithfully prepares the way for the prophet Nehemiah. Nehemiah presents his cause and his needs for beginning the process. We as people of God may not have the resources for the good causes of the master builder, Jesus Christ. We, too, can be assured, however, that God doesn't have to work out a plan. He has a thousand ways to take care of our situ-

ations. Remember God is the watchman on the walls of our little universe and particular our little space in it. He sees all and just needs a repented and yielded heart that dares to trusts in him. Nehemiah began a trust in God and had many battles from that same enemy to overcome, but because he stayed with God amid those who verbally ridiculed and tried to stop the rebuilding of Jerusalem, God stepped in. God gave them the resources through the favor of King Artaxerxes, the support and protection of willing men that God had surrounded him in fighting against that same enemy while rebuilding the wall. The wall was completed. Nehemiah 6:5 "So the wall was finished in the twenty and fifth day of the month Elul, in fifty and two days. 16 When all our enemies heard thereof, and all the heathen thereof that were about us saw these things, they were such cast down in their own

eyes; for they perceived that this work was wrought of our God. "If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways., then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land". 2Chronicles 7:14 Why has God always protected a people, all of us, over the centuries. Because God truly loves us and gave his Son Jesus to pay a dept. You and I can be free from the dept of sin by receiving his rest. Answer yes to his call of salvation. Say save me Lord and forgive me. I want and need your love and peace. Teach me the way. I receive you now. Amen and thank you Jesus. Find a church that will help you further as you read His word. *Thelma Fullwood first lady of MRDRC Ministries (Miracle, Restoration, Deliverance, Revival Center Ministries Inc.) located in Wilmington, NC..*

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NNPA President Dr. Benjamin Chavis gives keynote address at Wilmington Unity Service

BY STACY M. BROWN
NNPA NEWSWIRE SENIOR
NATIONAL
CORRESPONDENT

If Wilmington, North Carolina can have a healing, maybe America can have a healing, asserted National Newspaper Publishers Association President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., during a keynote address observing the 1898 Wilmington massacre.

November 10 marked 123 years since the evil and racist attack by white supremacists on African Americans. Then, hundreds of innocent people were killed in the only coup d'état ever to occur on American soil.

Wilmington leaders held ten days of events to commemorate, culminating in the Commemoration Unity Service held at Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church in the port city.

"Wilmington, North Carolina should be the emblem of the future if we learn from the past," Dr. Chavis told the audience that included many members of the local and national media.

"To lean forward and heal forward and launch forward, we've got to talk about what should bring us together and not what should divide us," Dr. Chavis insisted.

Rev. Jermaine Armour of the St. Luke AME Church, Deborah Maxwell, the New Hanover County NAACP president, and Linda Thompson, Chief Diversity and Equity Officer of the city, also spoke during the more than 90-minute ceremony.

Bertha Todd, the 92-year-old "Mother of the 1898 Movement," also spoke.

"This was a wound that needed to be healed after 100 years," Todd declared.

Rev. Armour and Maxwell each spoke of how the events of 123 years ago "shook the whole nation."

Each emphasized the event's theme, "Never Forgetting - Always Forgiving - Healing Forward."

"What happened here 123 years ago had never happened before in America," Dr. Chavis stated. "It was attempted again on January 6 of this year, but it didn't happen," he said about the attack on the U.S. Capitol by supporters of the then outgoing President Donald Trump, who wanted to overturn his election loss to Joe Biden.

Dr. Chavis admitted to the audience that when he arrived in Wilmington in



NNPA President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., who was part of the Wilmington Ten in 1971, speaks at the 1898 commemoration service on Wednesday night. [SCREENSHOT, CITY OF WILMINGTON]

February 1971, he had only heard details of what happened on November 10, 1898.

He remarked that he didn't know just how deep the wounds were.

"When I crossed that bridge, and as I was coming across the river, I didn't know about all the bones of our people who are still in that river right now," Dr. Chavis reflected.

"When I heard the theme 'healing forward,' I said if Wilmington, North Carolina can have a healing, maybe America can have a healing," he continued.

The Black Press of America leader recalled that old The Daily Record newspaper, which he said was the first building destroyed in the attack on Wilmington.

Reportedly, a mob of about 400 white people led by politicians had given the newspaper's editor an ultimatum. They demanded that he destroy the newspaper and leave town.

Before the day ended, The Daily Record had burned and the local government that won the election two days earlier had been overthrown and replaced by white supremacists.

"I'm so proud of our 230 African American-owned newspapers, and one of our foremost historic newspapers is the Wilmington Journal," Dr. Chavis reminded the audience, which repeatedly burst into standing ovations.

He noted that the current publisher, Mary Alice Jervay Thatch, has taken ill and rests in a local hospital.

"Pray for her," he encouraged.

"Pray that we keep that newspaper alive and don't let

it go down. There's a relationship between the Journal and The Daily Record, and I'm so glad to see the family of Alex Manley, the heroic publisher of The Daily Record, in attendance.

"The people of oppression and racism wanted to make sure that The Daily Record didn't print any more words or print anything to inform the people of what was going on. You would have thought people would have rushed to Wilmington to celebrate Wilmington rather than rush to Wilmington to overthrow Wilmington."

Finally, Dr. Chavis applauded Wilmington police under its new chief Donny Williams.

"I was so proud today when I got to that airport and saw all of these police officers. Lord knows that I'd rather be escorted by the police than chased by the police," Dr. Chavis exclaimed.

"It was a great feeling and then to see a Black police chief in Wilmington, North Carolina. He's a native of the city, and his family has deep roots in the city."

Dr. Chavis met with Chief Williams in a private session before the event. The chief presented Dr. Chavis with a 1971 mugshot of the civil rights activist when the Dr. King disciple was jailed for not having his vehicle registration in his car's glove box.

"The registration was in the trunk, but I was still locked up for several days," Dr. Chavis said. "The chief said, 'you may want to have this.' I had been trying to get my mugshot for 50 years. I work for the Black Press. Words matter, and pictures matter," he concluded.

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the estate of **Joseph Carson Gainey**, 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 **28th day of January, 2022**, 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 28th day of October, 2021

Rae Shirer Gainey, Executrix
8400 Sidbury Rd,
Wilmington, NC 28411

October 28, November 4, 11, 18, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **Sara S. Griffin (21-E-1573)**, 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 **February 4, 2022** 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 4th day of November, 2021.

Myra G. Wallace
c/o Craig & Fox, PLLC
701 Market Street
Wilmington, NC 28401

November 4, 11, 18, 25, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **George J. Jernigan, Jr. (21-E-1568)**, 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 February 4, 2022 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 4th day of November, 2021.

Terri Jernigan Minnis
c/o Craig & Fox, PLLC
701 Market Street
Wilmington, NC 28401

November 4, 11, 18, 25, 2021

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Administratrix of the estate of **Diane Marie Son**, 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 **4th day of February, 2022**, 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 4th day of November, 2021

Megan Alicia Gower, Administratrix
136 Graystone Rd.
Wilmington, NC 28411

November 4, 11, 18, 25, 2021

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LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE
OF:
ROBERTA KNIGHT FANNING**

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **Roberta Knight Fanning** deceased, late of New Hanover County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to present such claims to the undersigned C/O Terry B. Richardson, Attorney at Law, 209 Princess Street, Wilmington, NC 28401 on or before the 15th day of February, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of your recovery. All persons indebted to the estate will please make immediate payment.

This the 5th day of November, 2021.

Loretta Fanning, Administrator
Terry B. Richardson
Attorney for the Estate
209 Princess Street
Wilmington, NC 28401
Telephone No. 910-763-7420
Fax No. 910-762-4176

November 11, 18, 25, December 2, 2021

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
New County Estate File No.:
21E1512**

All persons, firms or corporations having claims against, **Benjamin Hayes Horrell** deceased late of New Hanover County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before **January 21, 2022** or this notice will be plead in bar of recovery. All persons indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 21st day of October 2021.

Benjamin Arden Horrell
Rosilyn Horrell Renn
c/o Renee Williamson Bloodworth
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 129
Atkinson, NC 28421

October 14, 21, 28, November 4, 2021

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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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