



REV. JESSE JACKSON
GUEST EDITORIAL
BY
REV. JESSE JACKSON

"President Obama
is on a winning streak"
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Coming UP
in THE
COMMUNITY

Precinct W29 will hold a town hall meeting at Williston Middle School in the Media Room at 6:45 p.m. on Monday July 13.

Mayor Bill Saffo will serve as moderator with the subject being "The City and Its Role and Accomplishments in the Community".

For more information, please call E.B. Davis, Sr. at 910-762-8599 or Lynn McIntyre at 910-200-2530.

BRUNSWICK
COUNTY UPDATE



BERNEST HEWETT

NAACP National
Convention
coming up

BY BERNEST HEWETT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This week, I am getting ready to go to the NAACP National Convention, which will be held in Philadelphia, PA at the Downtown Convention Center this year. We face a lot of problems in the Black community, but "Black lives matter." We must deal with the denial of voter rights, equal rights for Blacks and Hispanics, rights of the elderly, help for poor people and the mentally ill, unemployment, open discrimination in the work place, poor education, and more. There is an idea going around in Brunswick County and in other areas that, by telling people that the budget is low and that equal rights are just something liberals use to divide the people and control and confuse the citizens. This has worked in Brunswick County and has caused us to lose jobs, factories, and assistance for

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THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

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FIFTY CENTS

NC NAACP prepares for voting rights trial

BY CASH MICHAELS
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

On Monday in a federal courtroom in Winston - Salem, NCNAACP v McCrory, a trial with implications far beyond the borders of North Carolina begins, and once again, the North Carolina NAACP and its coalition partners - otherwise known as the Forward Together Movement - are right in the middle of it.

At issue: whether the voting restrictions passed by the Republican-led NC General Assembly in 2013 violated the constitutional rights of African-American and other citizens of color, who prior to their passage, enjoyed unfettered access to the polls on Election Day.

The defendants - Gov. Pat McCrory and the NC Legislature - say changes like requiring voter photo identification; shortening the early voting period by a week, eliminating same-day registration and no longer allowing 16 and 17-year-olds to pre-register in time to qualify to vote, were simply safeguards against voter fraud and designed to protect the integrity of North Carolina's electoral process.

The plaintiffs - the NCNAACP, Ms. Rosanelle Eaton and the US Justice Dept, among others - reply that there

was no, and still is no discernable voter fraud for the NC voter restrictions to address, and the changes were simply a major attempt by the Republican governor and his

GOP legislative majority to suppress the black and youth vote, two traditionally Democrat-leaning voting blocks, for years to come.

"The North Carolina General Assembly knew that this law would discriminate against African-American voters but passed it anyway," the NCNAACP's lawsuit alleges. "Voters of color are more likely to use

early voting and same-day registration because, after centuries of racial discrimination in North Carolina, they continue to lag behind whites in income, education, access to transportation and residential stability."

Beyond claiming that the 2013 NC voting law violated the 14th and 15th amendment rights to the US Constitution of African-Americans, Hispanics, college students and the elderly, the lawsuit also claims that the law violates Section 2 of the 1965 US Voting Rights Act, which "...prohibits practices (like poll taxes and literacy tests historically) that result in African



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LAS AMIGAS INC. HOLDS PAGEANT --

STORY AND
MORE PHOTOS
PAGE 6



JOHN DAVIS PHOTO

THE PRINCESS AND PRINCE IN WONDERLAND PAGEANT PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE (L TO R) MAKYHIA LOIS CORBETT, YAMIL HARTMANN, AND TERRILYN LILLIANNA WILLIS-ROBINSON



COURTESY PHOTO
Robert L. Reece, doctoral candidate at Duke University and co-author of the study.

Slavery linked to school segregation in South

BY JAZELLE HUNT
NNPA WASHINGTON
CORRESPONDENT

WASHINGTON (NNPA) - There is a direct correlation between the geographic concentration of slavery and today's K-12 school segregation, according to a new study.

The study, "How the Legacy of Slavery and Racial Composition Shape Public School Enrollment in the American South," appeared in the publication Sociology of Race and Ethnicity, the official journal of the American Sociological Association.

According to the study, counties in the Deep South that had large enslaved populations currently have the highest levels of racial segregation between public and private schools.

"This is fundamentally still a White flight process. We tested whether or not White students were leaving public schools to attend private schools because they were better schools. That's not the case," said Robert L. Reece, a doctoral candidate in the sociology department at Duke University and co-author of the study.

"They're leaving public schools because of integration, because there are Black students in these schools; [and] because slavery created conditions that normalize segregated schooling in these areas."

Reece and co-author Heather O'Connell at Rice University examined Census and National Center for Education Statistics data along county lines in states that were original members of the Confederacy: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Texas, and South Carolina.

After Brown v. Board of Education, a wave of private schools washed across

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COURTESY PHOTO BY EPISCOPAL NEWS SERVICE
BISHOP MICHAEL CURRY

Election of Black leader helps redeem Episcopal Church

BY GEORGE E. CURRY
NNPA EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

WASHINGTON (NNPA) - The recent election of Bishop Michael Curry as the 27th presiding bishop of The Episcopal Church - the first African American to hold the denomination's highest office - to succeed the church's first female

presiding bishop is expected to help atone for the church's failure to take a more active role opposing slavery and Jim Crow laws.

Curry, bishop of the North Carolina Diocese since 2000, was easily elected presiding bishop of the 2.5 million congregation on June 27 at St. Mark's Cathedral in Salt Lake City, capturing 121 of 174

votes in a four-person race. Prior to moving to North Carolina, Curry served 12 years as rector of St. James Church in Baltimore.

Recalling the election of Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori nine years ago as the church's first

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BRUNSWICK
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programs needed just to live decent lives. We have, in Brunswick County, seen our schools turn to personal agendas. Our County turns to a high society rule with no thought to the poor or elderly. They have no regard for justice or righteousness.
 Over 4000 years ago in the Book of Amos we find so-called God's people turn the word of God into their words and ways and not what God wanted. Is this not what's happening to Brunswick County's elected officials today? Amos said that God would judge these people and that He would cut them off. I know that God has all power in his hands, and I know, like Amos, that we have work to do. We have to stand up for what is right. We must be careful how we present ourselves to the public. We are humans! We are God's creation! Nobody can take us down if we stand for right! Our young boys and girls are watching us as we stand. Let them know they need to do the right thing! As I have stated before, if you are taught by a fool and you learn from a fool, then you are likely to be a fool. Please don't make our children fools too!
 Bernest L. Hewett is President of the Brunswick County Branch of NAACP.

TRIAL
 Continued from Page 1

American and Latinos having less opportunity than other members of the electorate to vote.
 The stakes are enormous, especially for the upcoming 2016 gubernatorial, legislative and presidential elections. If the entire 2013 omnibus voting law is deemed unconstitutional in federal court after what's presumed will be a six-week trial, the shockwaves will provide a template for similar cases across the nation, delivering a critical blow to the Republican voter suppression movement.
 Indeed, as indicated before, even the Obama Administration's US Justice Dept., now under the leadership of North Carolina native US Attorney General Loretta Lynch, is a plaintiff in the case, effectively partnering the

weight and resources of the federal government with one of the premier state chapters of the world's most prominent civil rights organization.
 If the legal effort fails to uproot North Carolina law, then until Democrats reclaim the NC Legislature - which may not occur for several years thanks to redrawn voting maps (which are also being challenged in court) that keep Republicans in power until at least 2020 - the voting restrictions, key elements of which go into effect in 2016, will become a way of life in the Old North State.
 There has been a chink in the defendants' legal armor, however.
 Without warning last month, the state Legislature passed, and Gov. McCrory signed into law, a relaxation of the stringent rules governing the 2013 voter photo ID requirements.
 Now, those who do not have

a government-issued photo identification to show at the polls when they vote will be able to fill out an affidavit declaring a hardship that prevented them from obtaining one. That voter would still have to present either a valid utility bill or Social Security card with birth date to prove who they are.
 Critics charged that these provisions could have been included in the original 2013 law without a problem, but Republican legislative leaders countered that they needed two years of feedback on the measure in order to make to the proper adjustments for the "good" of the voter.
 With the much-anticipated federal trial in Winston-Salem coming up, in addition to a separate case in state court focusing solely on the photo ID provision, many observers saw the unexpected move to soften the voter ID law as an acknowledgment that the state would lose if

it didn't take some of the teeth out of the NCNAACP case.
 Attorney Irving Joyner, chair of the NCNAACP Legal Redress Committee and one of the attorneys representing the NCNAACP in the case, says while the change is significant, it doesn't impact their basic argument that the entire 2013 voter law is corrupt.
 "The state was getting ready to lose its case in both state and federal court, and they recognized the wealth of both information and evidence that we had amassed that will be presented in court to show the discriminatory impact that the voter ID portion of the law has had, and will have on African-Americans," Joyner said.
 "So this was a kind of a ploy by the state to get away from a sure defeat in court where the court would have declared that what [the state] had done violated the [US] Constitution," Joyner added. He went on to

say that the plaintiffs will continue the battle in court regardless because "whatever they've done is not sufficient to cover all of the deficiencies and all of the problems which exist with the law."
 Recognizing the historic nature of NCNAACP v McCrory, the Forward Together Movement is rallying the state, encouraging all to come to Winston-Salem on Monday to take part in a "Mass Moral Monday March for Voting Rights" at 5 p.m. at Corpening Plaza, 231 W. 1st Street.
 "Today we find ourselves fighting to hold on to the very things that they won 50 years ago," says NC NAACP Pres. Rev. William Barber. "This is no small moment and we have all been chosen for this. The moment is bigger than any individual."
 For more information email forwardtogether@naacpnc.org.

SLAVERY
 Continued from Page 1

these and other states in defiance of integration. Because this White flight was a response to Black students entering previously-White public schools, Reece and O'Connell expected there to be more private schools in places that had been particularly attached to slavery.
 Instead, they found that the correlation rested in the level of use of private schools, not the number of schools.
 "We argue that the social structural legacy of slavery may separately affect the use of private schools by amplifying their legitimacy as a means to escape integrated public schools," the study stated. "The strongly demar-

cated social hierarchy associated with the legacy of slavery may make the use of private schools more likely among Whites, regardless of the number of private schools."
 In other words, there weren't necessarily more private schools in counties that had had high concentrations of enslavement, but the school segregation in these areas was stark.
 Reece and O'Connell explain that high enrollment and racial segregation in private schools in the Deep South was, and still is, partly a result of "racial threat" - the rise of Black students and families in a given county or public school, which then leads to White flight and greater Black-White disparities. To test this hypothesis, they analyzed the same data

for counties in the "Upper South:" Arkansas, Delaware, Kentucky, North Carolina, Maryland, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia. Their results suggested no link between racial threat and racial school segregation in the Upper South, while showing a statistically significant link in the Deep South.
 The study noted, "The Deep South was much more reliant on the plantation economy and is argued to have subsequently developed a more rigid set of racial politics that remain in place today."
 Although the researchers focused on the former Confederacy, they make it clear in their writing that this type of segregation happens everywhere - but in different ways and for different historical reasons.

"Everyone [in America] had a connection to slavery. Like New York, for example - a lot of plantation investment money came out of New York, from Wall Street," said Reece. "We're measuring how this one specific type of racial inequity was grown and protected in this area. School segregation exists in other areas, but the history is just different."
 As the nation changes demographically, with young children of color already the majority in their generation, Reece asserts that race relations will not change much without examining and targeting these roots.
 The study is part of a developing field of social science research on the legacy of slavery that examines the system's social and economic consequences. Reece and

O'Connell hope to advance the field and encourage others to study history as a path toward correcting present-day racial inequality in communities all over the United States.
 "What we're trying to demonstrate is that history mattered. The history of slavery matters," Reece says. "We can't really understand the social determinants of things like segregation, and poverty, and income disparity without taking a long pause and historical look at what has been happening. And considering that antebellum slavery, I'd argue, is the most prominent historical period in the country's history, we have to understand how it affects our current society if we want to be able to fix these social inequities."

CURRY
 Continued from Page 1

female presiding bishop, Curry said: "It was an experience of the Holy Spirit, for real ... And today I had that same feeling. And I think that's a sign of our church growing more deeply in the spirit of God and the movement of God's spirit in our world."
 He explained, "... My election is a reflection of that same thing. That's exciting. That's a combination of God and us working together and that is a church willing to grow and being all that God dreams for it to be."
 With roots in the Church of England, the U.S. Episcopal Church is a branch of the 80 million-member Anglican Communion. Like many denominations, the church is facing declining membership, down 18 percent over the past decade.

practices could only have occurred because governance changes ensured the presence of new diverse voices. Nonetheless, change in the programmatic management at the Church's headquarters was slow to recognize institutional racism."
 The report recalled, "The Church first took action on addressing institutional racism in the 1980s. A 1982 Church-wide Conference on Racism drew delegates from 50 dioceses including bishops and deputies to push for change in the councils of the Church through training and education programs. In response General Convention for the first time requested every diocese and congregation to establish committees on racism (1982-A062). Convention also endorsed Council's 1981 Affirmative Action policy (1982-A152). In 1986 Presiding Bishop Browning stated to Executive Council that, 'no greater challenge faces the Church than that of racism,' and committed the Episcopal Church to set an example of an organization confronting institutional racism."
 Since then, the church has conducted anti-racism training, racism audits and undertaken other action to make the church more diverse.

the world and to my daughter, who's become cynical about the church. He can bring us all together, not just Black people who've left, but he can also give White people hope...There's so much divide in the world, we need someone like him to bring us together."
 Rev. Stephanie Spellers, chaplain to the House of Bishops, said, "I can't stop crying. This is not even about Michael Curry ... This is a victory for Jesus. ... I could just feel the Spirit just pouring out, and it's not going to be ever the same again."
 Jane Cosby, an Executive Council member from


Philadelphia, said: "...The fact that he got it on the first ballot and the fact that I've lived long enough to see a Black president of the United States and now a Black presiding bishop in The Episcopal Church, I've got nothing else to wish for. If I die to tonight it will be OK."

Dr. King and others spent their lives fighting for the right to vote. We have a responsibility to those who came before us to continue fighting attempts to deny our right to vote in the courts and in the streets.

Join the Forward Together Moral Movement for a **WALK & RALLY FOR VOTING RIGHTS & JUSTICE** on the first day of trial against our state's massive voter suppression law, a crucial case after the Supreme Court's *Shelby County v. Holder* decision.

July 13, 2015 | 5:00 PM
 United States District Court House
 251 N Main St, Winston-Salem, NC 27101

This is our Selma.
 This July, we march Forward Together.


 Visit www.naacpnc.org for details

WOMAN FILES \$5 MILLION DEFAMATION SUIT AGAINST 2 CHAINZ
 [CHARLOTTE] A Charlotte woman who claims that a video featuring her that was posted by rapper 2Chainz and an associate has cost her her job, so she's suing him in Mecklenburg Superior Court for \$5



STATE BRIEFS

million. Christine Chisholm says she was invited backstage after the rappers' show at the Fillmore Theater where the video was shot. When 2Chainz (whose real name is Tauheed Epps) then posted the video on Youtube and other websites, he referred to Chisholm as a THOT (that hoe over there). Chisholm claims in her suit that as "a direct result" of that video and its posting, she has been subject to harassment, and lost her job. 2

Chainz has not responded to the suit.
ONLY TWO PERCENT OF STATE'S MAGISTRATES ARE REFUSING MARRIAGES
 [GREENSBORO] A month after the NC General Assembly overrode Gov. McCrory's veto of a law allowing all 672 state magistrates to refuse to conduct same-sex marriages or issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples on religious

objections, the state Administrative Office of the Courts reports that only 14, thus far, have actually invoked the law. The report does not identify which counties the 14 operate in, and nor does the report identify them by name. Opponents of the law says magistrates are sworn public employees who are tasked to serve everyone. The law's supporters say magistrates with religious objections should be protected.

STATE HOUSE REPUBLICAN BLASTS GOV. MCCRORY'S "IGNORANCE"
 [RALEIGH] After Gov. Pat McCrory criticized the Republican-led NC General Assembly for changing how the Greensboro City Council is elected by eliminating its at-large seats in favor of eight separate districts, Republican House member Rep. Michael Speciale of New Bern took to his Facebook page and accused McCrory, a

fellow Republican, of criticism "borne out of ignorance." Speciale went on to charge that McCrory is constantly grandstanding in the press." Critics have charged that the voting districts in Greensboro were changed to lessen the impact of African-Americans in City Council elections.

COMPILED BY CASH MICHAELS

Abortion rights issue regains momentum

BY JAZELLE HUNT
 NNPA WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT

WASHINGTON (NNPA) - When she was five months pregnant, past the point where she could obtain a legal abortion, 23-year-old Kenlissia Jones of Albany, Ga. ordered prescription abortion pills from a Canadian website. When Jones started feeling pain, she was rushed to the hospital.

En route, she delivered the fetus in the backseat of her neighbor's car. The fetus died 30 minutes later. Instead of being comforted in her hour of loss, Jones was arrested at the hospital and charged with murder.

With agonizing stories such as Jones' in the news, reproductive rights issues are again coming to the forefront of public attention and are certain to be an issue in the upcoming presidential election.

That battle is already being played out at the state level. Since 2010, legislators in 31 states have passed almost 300 abortion-related laws, more than 50 of them in this year alone.

According to the Kaiser Family Foundation, White women accounted for 55 percent of all legal abortions in 2011. Black women accounted for 37 percent. Still, reproductive policies disproportionately affect African Americans. They report more unintended pregnancies, have a maternal death rate three-times that of White women, and often lack the health insurance that fully covers women's care.

are changing the circumstances under which abortion is provided and how abortion is accessed. We also seeing real access issues, depending on socio-economic status and racial status," said Elizabeth Nash, who analyzes state policy at the Guttmacher Institute, a Washington, D.C. nonprofit advocating for reproductive rights.

"Low-income women have fewer resources on which they can rely, and these restrictions are having more of an impact on them," she continues, adding that middle- and upper-income women can afford the procedure, which typically costs around \$500, have flexible jobs that allow for time off, and have the resources to travel if need be.

Data from the Pew Research Center supports the notion that Black people tend to be socially conservative on causes such as gay marriage and abortion, out of religious belief. But according to surveys conducted by In Our Own Voice: National Black Women's Reproductive Justice Agenda, a national policy organization, there's another overlooked factor:

"Overwhelmingly Black Americans, by numbers of 80 to 95 percent, support a woman's right to determine for herself when she will have children, and how she will have those children," says Dazon Dixon Diallo, founding partner of the In Our Own Voice agenda and founder and president of SisterLove, an Atlanta-based reproductive justice organization.

"Regardless of religion, regardless of political ideolo-



COURTESY PHOTO

Black Americans, by numbers of 80 to 95 percent, support a woman's right to determine for herself when she will have children, and how she will have those children.

gy, regardless of education level or income level, and age...Black folks overwhelmingly support statements that, when it comes to abortion, "We should trust Black women to make the important decisions about themselves and their families."

As part of a new effort to challenge women's care provisions built into the Affordable Care Act, 31 states have enacted Targeted Regulation of Abortion Providers policies, or "TRAP laws," which set requirements for abortion clinics and/or medical professionals who perform the procedure.

The laws share a few commonalities across states. For example, physician offices

and clinics must obtain a license from the health department, which makes the licensee subject to random searches of their offices and client medical records.

But in general, the requirements vary widely. In Missouri, for example, doctors cannot work in a clinic unless they are also on the staff list at the nearest hospital. In North Carolina, a clinic must meet specific standards for the air quality, flow, and vent placement in recovery rooms. Some laws require clinics to meet hospital standards. Some require medically unnecessary ultrasounds or mental health services before an abortion, while other states shrink the window of time a woman

can obtain one.

Jackson Women's Health Organization, the lone clinic in Mississippi that offers abortion services, has become the stage for a possible U.S. Supreme Court battle. One of the state's 2012 TRAP laws requires abortion physicians to have privileges at a local hospital. The Jackson center would not be able to meet that requirement and would be forced to close. The court case argues that this closure violates the 14th Amendment rights of women in Mississippi.

The case is on hold until at least the fall, when the court will reconvene and decide whether to consider it.

"When we've seen TRAP

laws go into effect, we've seen clinics close for no good reason. That law does no good for any woman and is not justified in any sense of the word," said Nash, referring to the Mississippi law in question and others like it. "What would make a lot of sense is for this law to be repealed so the clinic can remain open."

Abortion is often only one of a range of services physicians and clinics provide, including providing contraceptives, prenatal care, sex education, affordable or free STD testing, and infertility services. Laws targeted at abortion also disrupt access to these services when they threaten clinics' existence.

Kenlissia Jones' murder charge was later dropped; although Georgia has TRAP laws, terminating a pregnancy is not a criminal act. As the Supreme Court and state legislatures recess for the summer, various advocacy and social justice groups are mobilizing and educating citizens on the issue in preparation for the election and legislative seasons this fall.

"We have to be a lot more engaged, and especially among Black women as leaders...that we're able to articulate these issues from within our own communities and on our own behalf," Diallo explained. "And that when we know these kinds of issues come up - like with Kenlissia - we are proactively ready for any legislative work that needs to be done, before we have to react to punitive legislation that may be working to close any kind of opportunities for women to be self-determining and have autonomy in their own bodies."

The Affordable Care Act beats another U.S. Supreme Court challenge

BY SANDRA JORDAN
 OF THE ST. LOUIS AMERICAN

(NNPA)- In a major victory for the Obama administration, the Supreme Court upheld by 6-3, that the Affordable Care Act authorizes federal tax credits for eligible Americans living not only in states with their own health insurance exchanges but also in the 34 states with federal exchanges.

President Barack Obama praised the June 25 Supreme Court's decision to uphold the subsidies in his signature health care law by recalling all the hurdles the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act has cleared in order

to survive.

"After more than 50 votes in Congress to repeal or weaken this law; after a presidential election based in part on preserving or repealing this law; after multiple challenges to this law before the Supreme Court - the Affordable Care Act is here to stay," President Obama said from the White House.

"If the partisan challenge to this law had succeeded, millions of Americans would have had thousands of dollars' worth of tax credits taken from them. For many, insurance would have become unaffordable again. Many would have become uninsured again. Ultimately, everyone's premiums could



SUPREME COURT DECISION IS APPLAUDED.

of thousands more Missourians who continue to be denied access to affordable health care due to the Missouri legislature's inaction on Medicaid."

Nixon added the "ruling by the Roberts Court to uphold the Affordable Care Act a second time removes all doubt that the ACA is and will remain the law of the land. There are no more excuses for continuing to send our tax dollars to other states and denying 300,000 working Missourians the opportunity to access affordable health care coverage through Medicaid expansion."

The governor said he looks forward to working with the General Assembly next session to finally bring Missouri tax dollars home to provide affordable health coverage to hundreds of thousands of hard-working Missourians through Medicaid expansion.

In the last health insurance enrollment period, those tax credits benefitted 90 percent of Missouri Marketplace enrollees, who qualified for premium tax credits to lower their costs. Cover Missouri reports the tax credits lowered the average premium payment from \$363 to \$85 per month.

For more information regarding health insurance coverage, visit www.cover-missouri.org.

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have gone up. America would have gone backward. And that's not what we do. That's not what America does. We move forward."

At issue in the court challenge King vs. Burwell, was whether the Internal Revenue Service could extend tax-credit subsidies to health insurance coverage purchased through exchanges established by the federal government (like the Missouri Marketplace) under

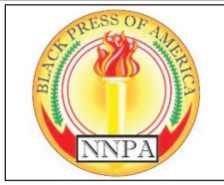
Section 1321 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

"The Supreme Court's decision means that families and individuals across Missouri will still be able to afford health insurance," said Ryan Barker, director of health policy for the Missouri Foundation for Health. "Now, nearly 200,000 Missourians who rely on tax subsidies to help pay their health insur-

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THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

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

RAINBOW COALITION

President Obama is on a winning streak

The presidency is a bit like a baseball season. Players go through streaks and slumps, good days and bad days. Teams rack up wins and losses. It is only over the course of the long season that champions emerge, their record of accomplishment finally coming clear.



Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.

As President Obama's eight years heads into its final stretch, his accomplishments are becoming clear, rising above the daily skirmishes, wins and losses. As the first African American president, Obama was always going to be an historic figure. But increasingly, it is becoming clear that he will be remembered as a significant president not simply for winning office, but for what he accomplished while holding it. The first inklings of the results are reflected in recent polls showing that 50 percent of Americans now think the Obama presidency has been a success - an impressive number given the bitter partisan divides of our politics.

Economically, the president inherited an economy that was in free fall, losing hundreds of thousands of jobs a month. Now he presides over an economy that has created 12 million jobs, witnessed the fastest economic growth in a decade, and sets a record each month for the longest consecutive months of jobs growth. And the U.S. recovery has far outstripped that of Europe. And this was accomplished despite the unrelenting obstruction of the Republican opposition that committed itself from day one to opposing every thing Obama attempted.

Health care reform - with the Affordable Care Act reaffirmed once more in the Supreme Court - has provided a big step forward. Some 15 million Americans have gained insurance, even as health care costs have risen at the lowest levels this century. And that despite the fact that partisan opposition led about half of the states to oppose expansion of Medicaid, denying millions from protection.

On the environment, the president is the most important leader since...well, since Nixon. His stimulus plan provided a major boost to renewable energy. He used regulation and executive order - particularly the gas mileage standards and the soon to come carbon emission standards - to boost energy conservation and limit carbon emissions. He will carry a

strong hand into the round of climate negotiations in Paris. On immigration, the Congress has stymied comprehensive reform. But by executive order, the president has provided some hope for the millions left in the margins.

On social issues, the president has been more observer than actor. Yet on his watch, the Supreme Court has ratified gay marriage. After the publicity about police shootings garnered attention, a bipartisan turn against mass incarceration has gained momentum with the Justice Department weighing in.

On economic inequality, President Obama used his bully pulpit to put the issue in the front of the American people. In the budgetary wars, he has succeeded in raising taxes on the rich. He sought, with little success, to increase investment in the most vulnerable. Inequality has grown more extreme on his watch, but any hopes of redressing it were blocked by Republican opposition to any and all efforts to take on the rigged rules that feed the inequality.

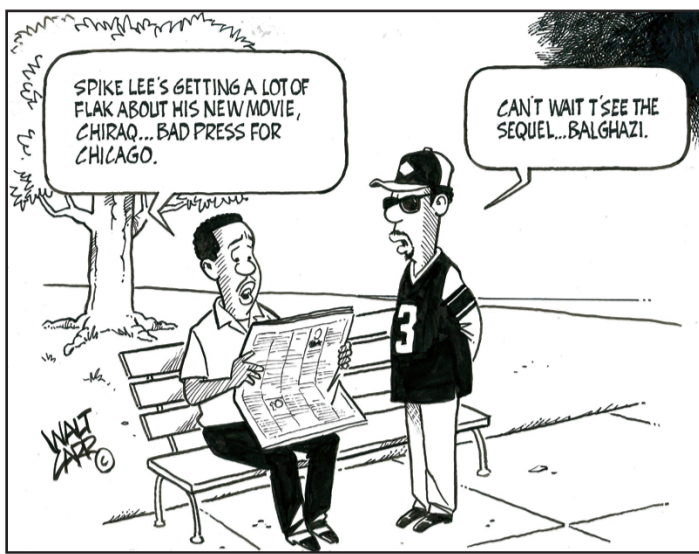
On foreign policy, the president's effort to extricate us from the sectarian wars in the Persian Gulf have been largely frustrated. Troops are going back into Iraq, now to take on the threat posed by ISIS. He has emerged as a defender of presidential prerogatives in national security. His administration has continued to police the world, while deploying drones across the Middle East. By opening relations with Cuba, the president has created the basis for a new start with our neighbors in this hemisphere.

Much, of course, remains to be done. The president remains wedded to the failed trade policies of the past decades. There has been no clear policy for urban development or for targeting the most vulnerable communities. Government has grown more corrupted, not less. Big money dominates our politics more than ever before. The president's education policy with its emphasis on high stakes testing has been a disappointment.

But this president has faced unprecedented obstruction, insult and venomous hatreds. He has more than survived; he has a record of accomplishment to be proud of. And has forged a potential majority political coalition that could insure - if its members show up at the voting booth - that reform accelerates rather than retreats.

Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. is founder and president of the Chicago-based Rainbow PUSH Coalition. You can keep up with his work at www.rainbowpush.org.

Visual Voice



Matters of Opinion

TO BE EQUAL

The amazing grace of the Mother Emanuel Nine

"They were still living by faith when they died, Scripture tells us. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on Earth."

Marc Morial

Rev. Clementa Pinckney

The lives of six women and three men were cut short under a hail of bullets from the gun of a self-professed White supremacist. They ranged in age from 26 to 87. Some were grandparents; others were only beginning to recognize and realize their potential in this world.

They represented the diversity of life in Charleston, S.C. Some were teachers; some were lawmakers; others were the glue that bonded their families. While they hailed from all walks and stages of life, the nine innocents slaughtered in the racist-fueled shooting at the historic Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church shared a common faith. Their devotion to cultivating that faith gathered them together

in the unquestioned safety of that church basement. In the end, it would be in the unquestionable embrace of the grace of their faith that their weeping families, mournful church family and our grieving nation bid them eternal rest.

Rev. Pinckney was a long-serving Democratic state senator and the senior pastor of Emanuel A.M.E. Church. He fought as hard for constituents as he did love and serve his congregation. In his eulogy for Rev. Pinckney, President Obama remembered him as a "good man." He shared that, "he was in the pulpit by 13, pastor by 18, public servant by 23. He did not exhibit any of the cockiness of youth, nor youth's insecurities; instead, he set an example worthy of his position, wise beyond his years, in his speech, in his conduct, in his love, faith, and purity."

The married, 41-year-old father of two daughters leaves behind an impressive record of activism, including his recent push to equip South Carolina's police officers with body cameras after the videotaped fatal shooting of a Black man in North Charleston at the hands of a White police officer.

Sharonda Coleman-Singleton was as widely known for her smile as she was for her dedication to her family, her church and her community. The 45-year-old mother of three was a minister at

Emanuel A.M.E. Church; the celebrated girls team track coach at Goose Creek High School; and a highly respected high school speech therapist. After her death, her oldest son, Chris Singleton, a baseball player at Charleston Southern University, recalled on social media that he would often tease his mother about going to church so much. He remembered that she would always laugh him off and say, "Boy you can never have too much of the Lord."

It has been reported that 26-year-old Tywanza Sanders died trying to protect his 87-year-old aunt, Susie Jackson. Sanders jumped between the shooter and his aunt, begging him to take his life instead of hers. The shooter is alleged to have said it didn't matter because, "I'm going to shoot all of you," before he opened fire.

Sanders was a recent graduate of Allen University in Columbia, S.C. He received a degree in business administration in 2014. Recently, he worked at Against Da Grain Barbershop along with his brother. Despite his bravery and heroism, Sanders could not save his aunt's life. Susie Jackson, a grandmother and longtime church member, became another of the shooter's victims, along with her cousin, 70-year-old Ethel Lance. Like the others, Lance was a devoted member of

Emanuel. She worked at the church for more than 30 years.

Depayne Middleton Doctor was the mother of four daughters. She was a minister and sang in the church's choir. The 49-year-old devoted her entire career to public service. She had just started a job as an enrollment counselor at Southern Wesleyan University's campus in Charleston, her alma mater. Before that, she was a Charleston County community development director, helping the county's poorest residents receive grants.

Equally dedicated to serving her community, 54-year-old Cynthia Hurd, who was lovingly described by her brother as "a woman of faith," worked for 31 years at the Charleston County Public Library as a librarian. Recently, Hurd was the regional library manager at St. Andrews Regional Library. County officials have confirmed that the library will be renamed in her honor.

On the path to becoming an ordained minister, 59-year-old Myra Thompson was the wife of Rev. Anthony Thompson, who is a vicar at Holy Trinity REC Church in Charleston. Daniel Simmons initially survived the attack, but died in a hospital operating room. The 45-year-old was a fourth-gener-

MORIAL

Continued on Page 5

BLACKONOMICS

Blacks are today's putty people

Incidents over just the past two months have taken Black folks on the psychological ride of our lives. The White woman in Spokane, Wash., who passed as Black caught and held our attention; then there was the McKinney, Texas pool party incident; and then the Supreme Court decision on



James Clingman

Obamacare, the confederate flag controversy, and the Supreme Court ruling on gay marriage. Add to that Walter Scott being fatally shot, Malissa Williams and Timothy Russell's killers going unpunished for firing 137 bullets into their car, 12-year-old Tamir Rice being killed in less than two seconds after cops rolled up on him in a park in Cleveland, Freddie Gray's death in police custody in Baltimore, and the nine church members killed during Bible study in Charleston, S.C.

It's easy to see how Black folks can be so off balance and unfocused. And to think we haven't even finished dealing with the Eric Garner case. We are constantly bombarded with so many tangential issues that keep us from concentrating the important ones. Life is the most important thing we have, but we are so easily swayed from cases

like Eric Garner's, to superficial issues like flags.

We are such a pliable people, and dominant society knows that all too well. We will jump on any superficial issue the media present to us and neglect the substantive ones. We are like putty in the hands of folks about whom we complain; they can shape us into anything they want us to be, and use us in any way that fits their agendas.

A media firestorm began when the president's said "nigger" in an interview. Many of us were steaming, others thought it was alright, and still others didn't care at all. Nonetheless, our heads and our attention turned to that issue, and no sooner than we started to recover from the lack of oxygen caused by the White/Black NAACP branch president, we moved right into discussions and arguments about a word that the NAACP "buried" in 2007 at its convention in Detroit. There must have been a resurrection, huh?

Then, all of a sudden, after nine people are killed, the confederate flag becomes such a vicious symbol that it now has to come down. Private corporations called for its removal and stores took the flag off their shelves, quite obviously in an effort to get in front of the issue and show Black folks they really care about our feelings. Politicians did their usual thing by calling for the flag to be taken down; it seems the flag has become more important than the

lives that were taken.

If the flag is so important now, it was just as important in 2000, when the boycott of South Carolina's tourism industry was called. All they had to do back then was move the flag to another location. Reflecting on the tourism dollars lost, I am sure the folks in Charleston said, we had better do something quick before our money starts drying up again.

Another flag is also in the public scrutiny; it's the gay pride flag. Black folks are arguing whether we should support or lambast the Supremes for their actions, which were followed by the president calling the plaintiff to congratulate him and telling him he had changed this country, and then illuminating the White House with the rainbow colors of the gay pride flag.

Then there's the real hook, line, and sinker for Black folks. The POTUS did his Black preacher thing and then broke out in song at the funeral of the slain pastor. That did it for many of us. By the way, I wonder how many of us know about the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP) that the POTUS signed. "Don't bother us with that stuff, Jim; we're still hummin' Amazin' Grace - on the black keys."

As we continue to major in the minors, constantly allowing ourselves to be dragged into nonsensical and nonproductive discussions, and held hostage by talking-head puppets on TV, the world is mov-

ing forward at a very fast pace. Our people are being killed at an alarming rate, not only by cops and fanatics but also by other Black folks. We are slipping further behind other groups in this nation when it comes to economic/political empowerment and education. We are gnashing our teeth about the disproportionately high incarceration of Black men and women. All of this, and much more, negatively affects Black people, yet we are kept off stride by what the president says rather than what he does, by confederate flags, and by other peripheral inanimate objects.

Like putty in the hands of disingenuous politicians, greedy retailers, pompous preachers posing as everything but real preachers, and surreptitious interlopers, Black people are molded into exactly what they want us to be, and we end up doing exactly what they want us to do, which includes even placing symbolism over our existential substance.

Jim Clingman, founder of the Greater Cincinnati African American Chamber of Commerce, is the nation's most prolific writer on economic empowerment for Black people. He can be reached through his website, blackonomics.com. He is the author of *Black Dollars Matter: Teach Your Dollars How to Make More Sense*, which is available through his website, professionalpublishinghouse.com and Amazon Kindle eBooks.

The BLACK PRESS

USE IT or
LOSE IT!

New Hanover County

Haso Ministries will sponsor Feed The Needy every 1st Saturday of each month at 5-Star Café, 604 Redcross Street at 11:00 a.m. For more information contact Ramona at 910-264-4530.



Community Briefs

StyleOf Elegance, 4805 Cedar Ave., will hold a fish dinner to benefit the National Foundation for Transplants in honor of Tony Evans (who is need of Kidney Transplant) on Saturday, July 18th from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. For more information contact Brenda Evans at 910-791-8558 or at 910-233-1622. To make an online donation please visit www.transplants.org.

The Saint Augustine's University (College) Alumni monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, July 18th at 2:00 pm at the Covil Farm Road Clubhouse at 7300 Covil Farm Road, Wilmington. All graduates, persons who attended and friends of St. Augustine's University are invited to attend. Call Angie at 910-620-7978 for more information.

Brunswick County

The Town of Navassa will hold its 34th Annual Homecoming Parade on Saturday, July 11th at 10:00 a.m. at the corner of S. Navassa Rd. and Brooklyn St. The committee is looking for Queens, civic groups, churches, community organizations, community leaders, vendors to participate. For more information or to sign up call 910-371-2432

Policies for briefs, news, & photos on page 2.

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

HOMETOWN NEWS FROM BRUNSWICK COUNTY

Vacation Bible School

One of the most successful Vacation Bible Schools ever to be held at St. John Missionary Baptist Church, 2586 Old Ocean Highway 17, Bolivia, NC, was held during the week of June 22-26, 2015. This was a very special week of Bible School, one which will be remembered for a long time. The control and discipline were exceptional and reflected the love of Christ in our hearts. Total attendance for the week was three hundred and forty. The theme was "Shining Star Because Jesus Loves Me." Jesus loves everybody in the world."



Verniece Stanley

Teachers and assistants were as follows:
Adult Class:
 Reverend Helen-Boynton (Teacher) and Deacon Earl Singletary (Assistant)
Ages: 18 and up
Teens:
 Brother Allen Smith (Teacher), Brother Michael Randolph

(Assistant), Deacon Hubert Reaves (Assistant) and Deacon Kevin Robinson (Assistant)
Grades: 8 - 12
Older Elementary:
 Sister Shencika Smith (Teacher) and Sister Erica Fullwood (Assistant)
Grades: 5 - 7
Younger Elementary:
 Sister Jada Smith-Walker (Teacher) and Sister Karen Brown (Assistant)
Grades: 1 - 4
Pre-School - Kindergarten:
 Mother Lizette Singletary (Teacher), Mother Betty Robinson (Assistant) and Sister Cassie Daniels (Assistant)
Recreation:
 Sister Sylvia Ford (Rotating Teacher)
Crafts:
 Sister Quindria Robinson (Rotating Teacher) and Sister Gwen Johnson (Assistant)
Cafeteria Ministry:
 Mother Ollie Hickman
 Mother Eloise Hankins
 Sister Coretha Hickman
 Sister Marsha Grissett
 Sister Sylvia Funderburk
 Sister Sheri Hickman
 Brother Malik Simmons
 Sister Donnell Simmons

Sister Betty Price
 Deacon George Bellamy
 Van Ministry:
 Deacon Hubert Reaves
 Deacon Earl Singletary
Music/Movement
Directress:
 Sister Phelesia Daniels
VBS Directress:
 Sister Pamela H. Brown
Pastor:
 Reverend Quan K. R. Stewart

Spiritual growth is for everybody, and we will keep it in our hearts. The joy that I feel inside of me comes from the power of listening. Listening and understanding go together. The Word of God is a perfect foundation to help overcome difficult situations that we may have now. We carry the love for Jesus as a shining light to help others in need of help. Showing that love and thoughtfulness to the sick and shut-in it could leave them with the feeling that somebody cares for them. I will keep the path of righteousness that leads to the gates of Heaven. Nobody can stop me now.

Happy facial expressions of young people showed their enjoyment in sharing the Vacation Bible School experi-

ence with friends. They enjoyed the delicious snacks, which were served every night. Friday, June 26th was the closing ceremony. Each class gave a review of the lesson and offered help when it was needed. Students, teachers, and all volunteers received a Certificate of Appreciation. The summer is not over yet. Let the remaining summer months be safe and happy, as we share them with relatives and friends.

Verniece E. Stanley is a native of Brunswick County. She grew up on a farm but wanted more excitement in life. She graduated from high school in Brunswick County in 1948 and graduated from Fayetteville State Teachers' College in 1952. She taught school in Brunswick County for nine years. She moved to Baltimore, Maryland, married, and taught school for twenty-five more years. She received her master's degree from Morgan State College in Baltimore City. She retired and moved back to Bolivia, N. C. where she enjoys writing articles for The Wilmington Journal and is an active member of the NAACP Board.

The Princess and Prince in Wonderland Pageant

BY JACQUELINE DAVIS
 CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Wilmington Chapter of Las Amigas Inc., held their annual Prince and Princess in Wonderland pageant on April 25th 2015, at Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church Empowerment Center. The pageant was a great success, with all the funds going to charities in the communities.

To kick off this year's pageant, the parents had a "Parent Orientation Meet and Greet" luncheon at Ebenezer Fellowship Hall, and the contestants attended a "Get Together" at the Land Fall Library in March. At the library, they participated in crafts furnished by The Wilmington Chapter of Las Amigas Inc., president, Marilyn Westinghouse, and enjoyed eating pizza and other goodies. We had several contestants to participate in the pageant this year. The contestants for Princess were Makyhia Lois Corbett and

Terrilyn Lilliana Willis - Robinson, and, for Prince, the contestants were Yamil Hartmann and Isaiah Emmanuel Graham.

Makyhia is 8 years old and enjoys spending time with her family. She is a cheerleader and a member of the Youth Choir at Union Missionary Baptist Church. Her parents are Marsha and Russell Corbett. She attends Douglas Academy.

Terrilyn is 3 years old. She loves to learn and enjoys going to school. She loves to draw pictures of her friends and family. Her favorite cartoon character is Dora the Explorer. Terrilyn goes to Dorothy B. Johnson Pre-K. Her parents are Terry and Gwendolyn Robinson.

Yamil is 8 years old and loves to sing, dance, and draw. He likes math, science and reading. He attends Charter Day School. He plays golf and has a pet named Patches. Yamil sings on the youth choir and ushers at



PRINCESS MAKYHIA LOIS CORBETT



PRINCE YAMIL HARTMANN



PRINCESS CONTESTANT
 TERRILYN LILLIANA WILLIS-ROBINSON



PRINCE CONTESTANT
 ISAIAH EMMANUEL GRAHAM

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church. His grandparents are Charles and Teresa Eubanks.

Isaiah is eighteen months old. He is a very active and loving toddler. He loves his

mom and dad. His parents are Jazzman Graham and Jason Jones.

Once the contestants walked in and were seated by their parents, Sister Emma Saunders began the pageant

as the Mistress of Ceremony. After the welcome given by Sister Evelyn Hinnant and the Invocation by Sister Emelie Todd, we heard the history of Las Amigas Inc.,

given by Sister Leslie Watkins. The presentations of contestants were given by Sister Johnsie Davis and Sister Jacqueline Davis. During the pageant, a solo was sung by Sister Marsha Graham-Ali, and a praise dance was performed by Sydney Watkins, and another dance was performed by one of our contestants, Yamil Hartmann.

Next, what everyone was waiting for: the crowning of our next Princess and Prince. The crowning was administered by Sister Lula Little. Makyhia Lois Corbett and Yamil Hartmann were crowned to be Las Amigas, Inc's new Princess and Prince. The awarding of the gifts was done by Delores Whitted. All of the contestants received gifts. Sister Renee Beatty and Sister Sherby Eaddy gave a special recognition to the parents of the contestants. Remarks were given by President Marilyn Westinghouse and a special thanks was given to this year's committee for such a wonderful pageant. Chairperson is Johnsie Davis and committee members are Emelie Todd, Deloris Whitted, Leslie Watkins, Jacqueline Davis, and Faye Jacobs.

PHOTOS BY
 JOHN DAVIS

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Mr. Darryl L. Eugene Goodwin

Mr. Darryl Eugene Goodwin was born September 9, 1963 in Wilmington, North Carolina to the late Mrs. Essie Mae Eddy Goodwin and Mr. Jesse N. Goodwin. The memorial service and inurnment was held at Thursday, July 2, 2015 at Pine Forest Cemetery.

He was also preceded in death by his brother, Anthony Wayne Goodwin.

Darryl was a happy person who loved his family very much. He had a special love for those in need. He was not only a friend to many but a fine steward to God's animals. He enjoyed fishing and everything about the outdoors. His sense of humor was unmatched and he could turn any negative situation into something positive.

Through his challenges in life, he attained his Associate and Bachelor's Degree from Ashford University. He was a natural born teacher and served as a Deacon at Ministry of Deliverance.

He took every opportunity to mentor the youth. He worked many jobs and through them he worked harder at teaching people to love. Our dear loved one will truly be missed, so family and friends dry your eyes; Darryl would say "This life is not forever, we are just passing through."

He leaves to cherish his memory: two brothers, Roderick and Jeffery Goodwin; his only sister, Islah (D. Damiyr Speller) of Wilmington, NC; a loving friend and confidant, Ms. Lynda Flood-Goodwin; five stepchildren (Kyp, Jamal, Ricky, Elanda, Annie); including eleven grandchildren; two uncles, William Goodwin of the Northwest Community and Willie Eddy of Philadelphia, PA; one aunt, Minnie Eddy Platt of Wilmington, NC; one great-aunt, Alberta Smith of Lakeland, FL; a special cousin, Sharon Lewis of Richlands, NC and a host of nephews, nieces, cousins and friends. *Arrangements by Adkins-Drain Funeral Service, 515 South Eighth Street, Wilmington, North Carolina 28401. Condolences may be shared at www.adkinsdrainfuneralservice.com.*

Ms. Latanya Denise Allen-Hines

Latanya Denise Allen-Hines (known as Nise) was born on December 6, 1968 in Newark, New Jersey to the late Janie Mae Allen and the late Lamont Williams. She departed this life on June 26, 2015. The funeral service was held on Saturday, July 3, 2015 at Faith Temple Church of God in Christ.

Nise received her education in the Newark Public School System. She relocated to Wilmington, North Carolina in the late 1980's. It was there that she met William Hines. They were married on June 21, 2008.

Nise was a faithful member of Faith Temple COGIC

for many years. Her faith in GOD showed through her ability to love and care for others as a Private Duty Nurse. Nise was always willing to lend a helping hand to anyone in need.

Nise was well known for her unique style of hair braiding. People would come from near and far to get some of her famous braids that could not be duplicated by anyone. Nise's hair styles were featured in the Macy's Day Parade.

Nise enjoyed playing bingo. You could always find her at Winner's World, drinking an orange soda, and having a good time with her friends.

There are two things in this world that Nise cherished: Her relationship with GOD and her FAMILY. She leaves to cherish her memory: her Husband, William Hines of the home, children: Katrina, Ericka, Demitrius, and Kareem Allen, all of Wilmington, NC, stepchildren: Shadonya, Shanequa and William Hines, grandchildren: Zy'Nautica, Aqualla, Zy-Myra, ZyMiryon, ZaKiyah, Quanasia, and ZaNayah Allen, all of Wilmington, NC, siblings: Lamont (Pamela), Juliette, Alberta, Damien and Rasheed Allen, all of Wilmington, NC, grandmother: Mother Ernestine Allen and Aunt/Mother Frances Allen, both of Wilmington, NC, adopted children: Tamajah Hines and Asun Miller, special cousins: Bernadette Allen and Donald Carty, special friend Malik Donaldson, The Torres Family, The K-9 Posse, and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Janie Mae Allen and Lamont Williams. *Arrangements by Adkins-Drain Funeral Service, 515 South Eighth Street, Wilmington, North Carolina 28401. Condolences may be shared at www.adkinsdrainfuneralservice.com.*

Blanie Johnson, Jr.

Blanie Johnson, Jr. of Kelly, NC died Friday at Whiteville Care Center. Funeral services were held on Wednesday, July 1, 2015 at Canetuck Missionary Baptist Church, Currie, NC. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

Blanie Johnson, Jr. "Jimmy", age 70, son of the late Blaine Johnson, Sr. and Mary Lee Johnson of Kelly, North Carolina was born May 17, 1945 in Wilmington, North Carolina. Blanie, the youngest of four was affectionately called "Bro" by his three loving sisters. He was educated in the New Hanover County School System. He left Wilmington at the age of 18 to reside in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Blanie owned and operated his own car detailing company. He took great pride in his work. He was a very kind and loving person. After years in Philadelphia, he relocated to Fayetteville, North Carolina, where he met and married Thelma McMillian. Blanie

has resided in Kelly, North Carolina for the last three years. Among his many hobbies was preparing southern dishes and barbequing pigs, as only "Bro." could. Blanie was a member of International Longshoreman's Association Local #1426.

Blanie is survived by his wife, Thelma of Fayetteville, NC; his children, daughter, Valerie Johnson and sons, Timothy Lorenzo Black and Leroy Johnson; nine grandchildren; three sisters, Elder Juerina Hamby, Lueida Keaton (Top) and Lela Flood (Ronald); a very special niece that was like a sister, Florine Davis and a host of other relatives and friends, including a best friend and caretaker, Vanessa Corbett. Blanie's favorite bible verse was the one that his father taught him at the tender age of 6, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you." *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Estelle Ellison

Estelle Ellison died Friday, June 26th at Lower Cape Fear Hospice Funeral services were held on Thursday July 2, 2015 at Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church, Sandyfield. Burial followed in the Grange Cemetery, Sandyfield. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Reginald Gene Bryant

Reginald Gene Bryant died June 24, 2015. Funeral services were held on Friday, July 3, 2015 at Mt. Calvary AME Church, Navassa, NC. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

Reginald was born on April 28, 1962 in Newark, New Jersey to James and Janether Bryant. Reginald graduated in 1981 from Valisburg High School in Newark, NJ. "Reggie" as he was so affectionately known, furthered his education by attending Newark Vocational Technical Trade School and received a degree in HVAC and Refrigeration in 1983. He was employed for ten years at Central Products in Linden, NJ until his health declined. Reginald was a loving, kind and humble man who adored his family and they enjoyed him; so much so that his Uncle Bubba named him "Twelve's", a name that only the two of them shared. He was always excited to come home every year to Navassa to enjoy the family. He was very smart and was known as the family historian, or a walking encyclopedia. He was a collector of many things, including music and baseball cards. His favorite hobby was collecting model cars and planes.

He leaves to cherish his memories: his wife, Iren Bryant; daughter, Tyshearia Bryant; mother and father, James and Janether Bryant; sisters, Stefanie and Michell Bryant; brother, Marvin Bryant, all of Newark, NJ; uncles, Donald Walker (Thomasina) of Newark, NJ,

Oscar Donnell Mosley (Yvonne) of Leland, NC, Sam Mosley (Carlene) and Michael Mosley all of Navassa, NC and Brian Kinston (Patty) of Winnabow, NC; aunts, Dorothy Monroe (James) of Wilmington, NC, Gilda Waddell (Charles) of Leland, NC, Deborah Kinston-Chappell of Charlotte, NC and Shelia Dean (Larry) of Norton, MA; three nieces; three special cousins, Donna, Deborah and King McEverett, all of Woodbridge, VA; a host of other family and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Matherine Rivers Benbow

Matherine Rivers Benbow, 73, of Wilmington, died Monday, June 22nd. Funeral services were held on Friday, June 26th at Davis Funeral Home, Burial in Calvary Cemetery. Online condolences may be made at www.frenchidavisfuneralhome.net.

Joyful memories remain with those who shall miss her most: Mother, Margaret Rivers; sons, Alfred Benbow, Raymond Benbow (Yolanda), and Richard Benbow, Jr.; brother, Alphonso Rivers (Harriet); sisters, Carolyn Rivers, Yvonne Rivers, Rev. Thomasina R. Brailford, Helen Warren, Judean Wilson (Gene), and Vernell Williams (Alvin); ten grandchildren; seven great grandchildren; very special cousin, George Stokes; a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. *A Davis Funeral Home service.*

Albert Rogers

Albert Rogers, 68, of Wilmington died Tuesday, June 23rd. Funeral services were held on Saturday, June 27th at Davis Funeral Home. Burial with military honors followed in Moore Family Cemetery. Online condolences may be made at www.frenchidavisfuneralhome.net.

He leaves to cherish beautiful memories: His loving wife of twenty one years, Thelma Roger, with whom he shared twelve years prior to their nuptials; one brother, Fennel Rogers (Jackie); four sisters-in-law, Gloria Williams (Alfred), Cathy Deas (Robert), Sharon Rogers, and Yolanda Rogers; two brothers-in-law, Rev. Jimmy L. Thompson and Leroy Thompson; a special cousin, Pastor Susie Briggs; a special friend, Frank Anderson; a host of nieces,

nephews, other relatives and friends. *A Davis Funeral Home service.*

Mildred Baptist Stackhouse

Mildred Baptist Stackhouse, 74, of Leland died Friday, June 19th. Funeral services were held on Monday, June 29th at New Hope FWB Church, Leland. Burial followed in the church cemetery. Online condolences may be made at www.frenchidavisfuneralhome.net.

She leaves to cherish her guardian and sister, Eliza (John) Sloan, who was also Mildred's husband Collie's guardian and their greatest advocate. As long as Eliza was there with John to back her, there were no worries about anything. Daily visits and shopping were their standard. Debates were another. Collie and Mildred counted on them tremendously for over thirty years. Mildred also leaves to cherish her memories, big sisters, Ida Mae Simpson of Ohio and Marietta (Horace) Bland of New Jersey; two brothers, William Baptist Jr. of South Carolina and Leon (Brenda) Baptist of Pennsylvania; two sisters-in-law, Brenda Baptist of Maryland and Estelle Stackhouse of Leland; nieces (including Lula (Levon) Little of Wilmington, nephews (including Terry (Garcia) Sloan of Pennsylvania), great nieces, great nephews, cousins and a host of relatives and special friends. Memories that will always remain in our heart. We love you Mildred...such a kind, tiny spirit with a great big ole heart! God loves you best! *A Davis Funeral Home service.*

Roosevelt Miller, Jr.

Roosevelt Miller, Jr., 57, of Wilmington died Friday, July 3rd. Funeral service will be held 1:00 p.m. Friday, July 10th at Davis Funeral Home. Visitation will be held in Thursday, July 9th 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Burial will follow in Calvary Memorial Cemetery. *A Davis Funeral Home service.*

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New Hanover County

Barry Smith & Company will host "Father, Son, & Holy Ghost" on Saturday, July 11th at 6:00 p.m. at St. Matthew AME Church, 6809 Wrightsville Ave. The speakers will be Rev. Carolyn Lewis, Rev. Thomesina Braiford, Rev. Carolyn Jones. Music by guest choirs. For more information call 910-550-7475.



Religious Briefs

Chords Across America, 1020 Rankin St., will hold their Pastor's Appreciation Service on Sunday, July 12th at 4:00 p.m. Music will be provided by The Male Chorus of Mt. Zion AME Church of Wilmington. All events are free to the public. For additional information call 910-623-4192.

Community Prayer House, will hold VBS, "God's Creation, I Am Somebody" 2015 from Monday, July 13th-Friday, July 17th at 6:30 p.m. nightly.

Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, 3701 Princess Place Dr., will hold Summer Revival 2015 from Sunday, July 19th (Kick-off) at 4:00 p.m. St. Luke AMEZ Church of Wilmington Jermaine Armour, choir and congregation will be the guest. Monday, July 20th - Wednesday, July 22nd, praise and worship will begin at 7:30 p.m. with various praise teams and choirs though out region. The services will begin at 8:00 p.m. The guest revivalist will be Reverend Debra Haggins, Chaplain of Hampton University.

Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, 812 Harnett Street will be celebrating its "121st Church Anniversary on Sunday, July 12th at 3:00 p.m. Theme: "One God, One Faith, One Baptism" Rev. Robert Campbell and New Beginnings Christian Church will be the guest Church. Dinner will be served following morning service. On Sunday, July 19th, at 3:00 p.m., Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church will hold Ordination Service for Deacons Elect, Cleo Brown and Alvin Blanks. Dr. Roosevelt Baxter, Jr., will officiate.

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, 701 S. 12th St., will celebrate their Men's Day on Sunday, July 12th at 3:30 p.m. The speaker will be Rev. Avery McAllister of Moore's Chapel AME Church, Leland.

On-Time Ministries, Inc., will hold Outdoor Youth Revival at Portia Hines Park, 10th and Red Cross St. from Thursday, July 9th - Friday, July 10th from 6:00 p.m.- Dusk. Featuring praise ministry of song, mime, dance, rap, gospel by assorted youth praise teams. The guest speakers will be Reverend Mycal Brickhouse of Durham, NC on Thursday. Evangelist Beverly Harris of Zebulon, NC and Reverend Elberta Hudson of Burgaw, NC on Friday.

St. Andrews AME Zion Church, 1201 S. 9th St. will present "The Fruit of the Spirit" on Sunday, July 12th at 6:00 p.m. For more information contact Mrs. Posey Johnson at 910-792-9720 or the church at 910-343-8408.

St. Phillip AME Zion Church, 2913 Acorn Branch Rd., will hold their Annual Clubs Boards and Auxiliaries Day on Sunday, July 12th the Rev. Dr. Mary C. Nixon will deliver the message. For additional information contact Sister Ashley Hall at 910-540-4250, Sister Aimee Brown at 910-368-3605 or Pastor, Dr. Nixon at 910-540-4406. The Christian Education Department will hold Vacation Bible School from Monday, July 13th-Friday, July 17th from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. The theme for this year is "Spies are needed in the Army of the Lord." There will be light refreshments served each night. For more information you may contact Dr. Nixon at 910-540-4406 or Sister Dentrail N. Boykin at 910-200-4953.

Brunswick County

Crystal Spring Missionary Baptist Church will their annual revival from Wednesday, July 1st - Friday, July 3rd at 7:00 p.m. nightly. The

Pender County

Hills Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, 2521 Little Kelly Rd., will hold a "Night of Worship" on Saturday, July 11th at 6:00 p.m. (Repass) and 7:00 p.m. (Service). The worship leader will be Reverend Marques Lewis. Praise and Worship leader will be Miss Jay Cole. There will be a special performance by "Electionsure". The guest preacher will be Reverend Adrian C. Shiver. For more information contact Ashley Simpson at 910-604-0392.

Sampson County

Ecumenical Fellowship Worship and Praise Convention, Inc., will hold service on Sunday, July 12th at 8:00 a.m. at the Friendly Community Center, 421 N. Hanson Rd., Clinton, NC 28328. Founders Day Celebration will be Saturday, July 18th from 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. at Wards Chapel Baptist Church, Hwy 421, Harrells, NC. The host will be Rev. Dr. J.N. Canty. For more information contact Rev. Dr. Canty at 910-233-4213 or Rev. Lilly Hollingsworth at 910-523-2626.

Policies for briefs, news, & photos on page 2.

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

SENIOR MOMENTS

A tale of two churches

My Fellow Seniors:

When I was in high school, I read a novel called A Tale of Two Cities." I can't recall the details, but, more recently, I was involved in a tale of two churches. This was not a novel. It was real life. It involved two Baptist churches that needed



Ruth Johnson

to join together but refused to do so.

One was mostly Italian, and the other was of the Black American Baptist Association. One was bursting at the seams, and the other was almost empty. So the ABA wanted to combine

them. However, that didn't happen.

The Italian church was a large stone building, almost two hundred years old, but the majority of the membership had moved to a new community called the suburbs. The few elderly members who were left behind were not able to maintain the building. So they turned to the ABA for help.

The nearby Black church met in a small building which had been built in the thirties. By 1950, it was bursting at the seams. They needed a new building. So they too called upon the ABA for help. They were informed about the Baptist church a few blocks away and the possibility of its having to close down. The solution seemed obvious, but it was not so. The two church-

es would not combine.

Finally, the ABA was able to persuade the Italian church to sell the building in which they were housed for a mere \$10,000. Their debt was canceled, and the building was turned over to the Black church, which was called Ebenezer.

On the day of the transition, they held a joint service. Many members of Calvary, who had moved to the suburbs, came back for one last time. During that service the keys were turned over to Ebenezer, and the name of the church was changed. For two centuries, it had been called Calvary, and now it was Ebenezer. The death of a church is a sad thing, but there was joy in the morning.

That story comes back to me as I urge some of our

small churches to unite. There is no cultural difference, and certainly our faith is the same. If some of our small churches would join together as one body in Christ, we could serve our community better.

A full church is more vibrant, and it attracts more young people. I have visited several small churches in recent weeks, taking time off from my own church, to see if there were any differences. I saw none. I believe a few full churches would have greater impact than several half empty buildings. I hope our ministerial alliance will address this subject while there is still time. God bless you one and all.

Mrs. Ruth Johnson is a First Baptist Church Ministry Worker.

TELL SOMEBODY

"Marriage is Honorable"

"Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled." Hebrews 13:4a

Honorable - Worthy of respect

Bringing recognition or distinction

Marriage is honorable. "And the Lord God said, it is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him." Genesis 2:18



Sylvia Hooper

Why do so many marriages fail? There is no one answer that fits every situation, but one thing for sure, somebody failed, and that somebody was not the Lord!

He cannot fail because he is God. Marriage is a sacred institution created by God. Marriages fail because one or more parties do not keep the wedding vows. Marriages fail because people fall in and then out of love. This downward spiral in the relationship can lead to infidelity and adultery. Sometimes a marriage fails because love was never in the picture. Some marriages fail when careers come first. Sometimes marriages fail

apart when couples do not spend enough quality time together, and they drift apart. Some marriages fail because one or more partners may not cleave to one another because they still cleave to mommy or daddy. "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh." Genesis 2:24

Marriage is commended by the word of God in Proverbs 18:22: "Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favor of the Lord."

Some of the duties of a husband are described in Ephesians 5:25. "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church and gave himself for it." Ecclesiastes 9:9 says, "Live joyfully with the wife whom thou lovest all the days of the life of thy vanity, which he hath given thee under the sun, all the days of thy vanity: for that is thy portion in this life, and in thy labour which thou takest under the sun." I Peter 3:7 says, "Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honor unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered."

Some of the duties of

wives are described in I Peter 3:1, "Likewise ye wives be in subjection to your own husband; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives." Proverbs 31:27, "She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness." Ephesians 5:22 says, "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord."

When husbands and wives both live in agreement to the Word of God, there can be marital bliss. When one or both parties do not esteem the Word of God above their personal wants and desires, then there is a problem. All marriages have problems of varying degrees, because two people coming together from different culture, backgrounds, socio-economic status, are sure to clash at some point, no matter how much love is there. Therefore, if problems are not resolved quickly and wisely, then comes the potential for separation and divorce.

According to the Word of God, marriage is honorable. Statistics say one half of all marriages are ending in divorce. For those couples who have weathered the storms of marriage and are yet holding on by faith, we must confess that it is no

goodness of our own, and it is no accident, but it is the grace and mercy of God keeping us together! When couples agree to not be another statistic, they can ask God to make their marriage a testimony to the keeping power of God. God can and God will, because He is able!

Prayer: Lord, help me to honor you as I honor my spouse. Make my marriage a living testimony for your glory! In Jesus's Name, Amen. Tell Somebody!

"Mrs. Sylvia B. Hooper is a native Wilmingtonian, married to Pastor Johnson A. Hooper, First Lady of Faith Outreach COGIC, Jacksonville, N.C. She is a mother of three wonderful children and a proud grandmother! She is a Licensed Evangelist with COGIC, International. She is the President of P.W.E. Pastors Wives Empowerment Conference, an annual event held in honor of Pastors and ministers Wives. This support group's focus is to Encourage, Embrace and Empower Elect Ladies to be all they can be in Christ Jesus, while providing support to their husbands, who are Gospel preachers and pastors. Her heart's desire is to please the Lord, rescue the perishing, comfort the dying, and live a life that gives God glory!"

THE RELIGION CORNER

Fear is faith in reverse

(NNPA) Callers tell me they have saved this column. Some send it to others in times of trouble. To those who have never seen this column, I pray

it will help you as well.

In fact, a reader called last week, upset that her newspaper containing this column had been destroyed accidentally. She saved this



Lyndia Grant

column for years, reading it, and holding on to it for herself and for others. It begins with this scripture: But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord." - Luke 2:10-11.

What great things could happen in our lives if we would continue to stand on these promises today? What was the first thing the angel told the shepherd? "Do not be

afraid." This command is still valid today. We are charged to not be afraid. Fear is faith in reverse. Fear opens the door to our enemy.

For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. - 2 Timothy 1:7.

God didn't create us with a "fear gene." Fear didn't enter into the garden until sin entered. Fear is from the enemy, pure and simple. The first time we find fear in the Bible is after Adam and Eve ate the apple. Suddenly, when they heard God walking through the garden, they had communed with Him daily before, yet now they hid themselves because they were ashamed and afraid.

When fear is in action, one has decided you cannot have whatever it is you want; you see the goal going in the other direction. Your goal moves away from you when you have fear: Fear and faith cannot and will not operate simultaneously. The minute you begin to feel fear, your goal moves backward. That's your nonbelief at work.

When you say you can't believe you got this job, you are offering up some negativity, and you may forfeit it.

We must practice speaking in the positive rather than the negative. Another example is when someone is planning an event, and as you're planning you say something like "We can't have an empty room; we've really got to get some people out to this event." Death and life are in the power of the tongue. - Proverbs 18:21.

Well the "empty room" part of your comment will attract exactly what it is you're saying. If instead you would say "The room will be filled for this event" and begin to be thankful for a filled room, then you'd be speaking life into your event. You will be speaking for a point of faith rather than fear.

When you examine your level of faith, all you need to do is look at your crop, what is it that you've been able to produce. "Makes you look at who planted the crop," doesn't it?

All you need to do is look in the mirror: It was you. It's the truth that tells the mind what

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