



REV. JESSE JACKSON
GUEST EDITORIAL
BY
DR. JULIANNE MALVEAUX
"Tear down the walls of economic inequality"
PAGE 4

Coming UP
in **THE**
COMMUNITY

Fundraiser for Kidney Transplant Patient
Jobina Brunson at Macedonia FB Holiness Church
1103 South 5th Street
Sunday, July 26
4:00 p.m.
For more info, please contact
Harry L. Brunson at 910-297-2888
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BRUNSWICK COUNTY UPDATE



BERNEST HEWETT

NAACP National Convention

BY **BERNEST HEWETT**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I'm here in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, attending the National Convention of the NAACP. I have seen Vice President Joe Biden and listened to his speech, I have seen and listened to the National NAACP Chairman, Cornell William Brooks, and their message is the same, Together we stand! Divided we fall! We want change, and it's needed. Then let's come together. We don't support organizations that helped you get to where you are now, but we are willing to start new ones.

You are breaking down your power, Brunswick County. You need to support the NAACP and attend its meetings. This organization has a proven record and has never stopped. It's working and is still going here in Brunswick County!

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

THE WILMINGTON
JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

VOLUME 88/No. 29

JULY 16-JULY 22, 2015

FIFTY CENTS

Obama's prison commutations praised
More commutations expected

BY **CASH MICHAELS**
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

A North Carolina-based nonprofit group committed to "stop the flow of African-Americans to prison" has applauded President Obama's commutation of the prison sentences of 46 federally convicted drug offenders, but says the president has to do more.

Dr. Madeline McClenney - Sadler, president and founder of Exodus Foundation.org based near Charlotte, says more nonviolent prisoners should be released immediately, because to hold them further is unconstitutional.

"Earlier this year, Exodus Foundation.org submitted an application to the White House Office of Pardons requesting the commutation and pardon of all non-violent federally convicted persons. It is a violation of the Eighth Amend-ment's protection against cruel and unusual punishment to cage human beings who

pose little threat to themselves or others," Dr. McClenney-Sadler said in a statement.



"Few citizens trapped in cages for nonviolent offenses have either the means to hire a lawyer or the understanding necessary to maneuver the clemency process even where legal services are donated."

"Exodus Foundation.org commends President Obama for com-

muting the sentences of 46 federal prisoners, and it condemns the current practice of putting human beings in cages in order to solve social problems. President Obama must go further and we are available to assist."

The president's commutations, the most since President Lyndon Baines Johnson in the 1960s, come as he makes history today, becoming the first president in US history to visit a federal prison.

Please see **PRISON**/Page 2

Brigade Boys & Girls Club hosts field day



SHAWN MCGREEVY PHOTO

A group of boys participate in a tug-of-war competition during the 3rd Annual Brigade Boys & Girls Club Summer Camp Field Day, Friday, July 10, 2015. The purpose of the event was to promote a healthy and active lifestyle.

SPECIAL TO
THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

More than 350 children, staff and volunteers participated in the 3rd Annual Brigade Boys & Girls Club Summer Camp Field Day, Friday, July 10, 2015.

The event is designed to promote healthy and active lifestyles in a fun way. This year's field day included activities such as dancing, tug-of-war, water balloon toss and more.

The event also gave volunteers an opportunity to learn more about the Club and the kids we

serve, according to Angie Hill, Vice President of Operations for the Brigade Boys & Girls Club.

"It's great to have over 85 volunteers from the community give back to our Club and our kids," Hill said.

The mission of the Boys & Girls Club is to inspire and enable, through character development, all young people, especially those from disadvantaged circumstances, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring children.

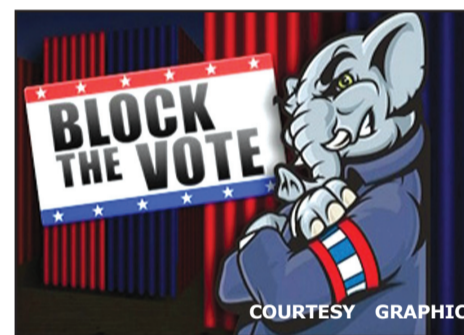
For more information about the Brigade Boys & Girls Club, visit to www.brigadebgc.org

NAACP WARNS ABOUT KKK FLIERS



CASH MICHAELS PHOTO

At a recent press conference in Garner after fliers promoting recruitment to the Ku Klux Klan were found just outside of town, Raleigh-Apex Chapter Pres. Rev. Portia Rochelle (center) told the community that if they find one, immediately call 911, but take no further action. Racial intolerance has been on the upswing since the Charleston Church Massacre.



COURTESY GRAPHIC

Did the GOP target Blacks in voting changes?

BY **CASH MICHAELS**
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

Proving in court that the 2013 Voter Information Verification Act, which imposed new restrictions on North Carolina's voters, is unconstitutional is one thing.

But did the Republican-led NC General Assembly know that cutting the early voting period, ending same-day registration and out-of-precinct voting, and eliminating youth pre-registration would specifically suppress the black and Latino vote?

NEWS ANALYSIS

That is a key burden plaintiffs' attorneys for the NCNAACP and the Washington, D.C.-based Advancement Project, the US Justice Dept., and the League of Women Voters must prove in federal court in Winston-Salem, beginning this week, if they are to demonstrate not only that House Bill 589 is unconstitutional, but that it also violated the particular voting rights of African-Americans.

The trial - NCNAACP v McCrory, is expected to span at least four weeks.

Attorneys for Gov. Pat McCrory and the Republican-led state Legislature have maintained in their opening statements and cross examination thus far that HB 589 is not racially discriminatory, and fair to everyone. To Rev. William Barber, president of the NCNAACP, there is no question race was a factor in devising the voter restrictions.

"Deliberate, race-based voter suppression laws passed in our state House [and Senate] and signed by our governor... is sin," Barber told reporters during a June 24th teleconference with reporters prior to the trial. "It violates our deepest constitutional values, and it violates our deepest moral values which demand equal protection under the law, and the establishment of justice."

Rev. Barber went on lay out the case against McCrory and GOP lawmakers, saying that HB 589, "...targets every, not just one, but every aspect of the voting process - who can vote, where they can vote, when they can vote, and how they

Please see **GOP**/Page 2



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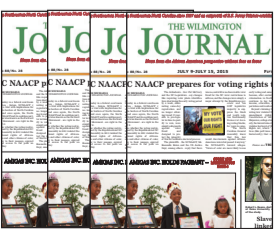


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PRISON

Continued from Page 1

During a speech delivered at the NAACP National Convention in Philadelphia on Tuesday, Obama demonstrated his concern about the nation's high incarceration rate, and the need to do something about it.

"The United States is home to 5 percent of the world's population, but 25 percent of the world's prisoners," the president told convention attendees. "Think about that. Our incarceration rate is four times higher than China's. We keep more people behind bars than the top 35 European countries combined. And it hasn't always been the case -- this huge explosion in incarceration rates. In 1980, there were 500,000 people behind bars in America -- half a million people in 1980. I was in college in 1980. Many of you were not born in 1980. Today there are 2.2 million. It has quadrupled since 1980. Our prison population has doubled in the last two decades alone."

"Now, we need to be honest," Pres. Obama continued. "There are a lot of folks who belong in prison. If we're going to deal with this problem and the inequities involved then we also have to speak honestly."

GOP

Continued from Page 1

can vote. This measure... eliminated the very things that were enacted [earlier by Democrats] to make voting easier for voters of color."

Indeed, it was because of strong lobbying efforts by the NCNAACP and other advocacy groups years ago that the then-Democrat-majority NC General Assembly instituted election reforms to allow traditionally politically disenfranchised groups like blacks, Latinos, young people and the poor to better access the electoral process.

Voter registration was made available at local libraries, churches and even at the county Division of Motor Vehicles office. Same-day registration was instituted during the 17-day early voting period prior to Election Day, allowing people to properly register and vote at the same time, thus alleviating long lines at the polls. "Souls to the Polls" allowed churchgoers to cast their ballots immediately after service on Sunday at a designated early voting location. Youth pre-registration allowed young people, 16 and 17-years-old, interested in taking part in their democracy, to prepare themselves to vote once they turned 18.

And provisional balloting allowed those who, for some reason on Election Day, could not vote in their assigned precinct, to instead cast their ballots at another poll within that county, and have it counted only after the registration had been checked and verified.

Barack Obama was able to win North Carolina over Republican opponent Sen. John McCain in 2008 by just 1500 votes out of 4.2 million cast, because he was able to capture the lion's share of outstanding provisional ballots in a tight election.

Republicans allegedly saw these voting improvements - successfully used for three election cycles and increasing black voting participation dramatically - along with Democrat-leaning voting districts, as strong advantages they had to get rid of once they took the NC Legislature

"But here's the thing: Over the last few decades, we've also locked up more and more nonviolent drug offenders than ever before, for longer than ever before. And that is the real reason our prison population is so high. In far too many cases, the punishment simply does not fit the crime. If you're a low-level drug dealer, or you violate your parole, you owe some debt to society. You have to be held accountable and make amends. But you don't owe 20 years. You don't owe a life sentence. That's disproportionate to the price that should be paid."

The president continued, "And by the way, the taxpayers are picking up the tab for that price. Every year, we spend \$80 billion to keep folks incarcerated -- \$80 billion. Now, just to put that in perspective, for \$80 billion, we could have universal preschool for every 3-year-old and 4-year-old in America. That's what \$80 billion buys. For \$80 billion, we could double the salary of every high school teacher in America."

"And then, of course, there are costs that can't be measured in dollars and cents. Because the statistics on who gets incarcerated show that by a wide margin, it disproportionately impacts communities of color. African Americans and Latinos make up 30 percent of our

population; they make up 60 percent of our inmates. About one in every 35 African American men, one in every 88 Latino men is serving time right now. Among white men, that number is one in 214."

"A growing body of research shows that people of color are more likely to be stopped, frisked, questioned, charged, detained..." Pres. Obama said. "African Americans are more likely to be arrested. They are more likely to be sentenced to more time for the same crime. And one of the consequences of this is, around one million fathers are behind bars. Around one in nine African American kids has a parent in prison."

"So our criminal justice system isn't as smart as it should be. It's not keeping us as safe as it should be. It is not as fair as it should be. Mass incarceration makes our country worse off, and we need to do something about it."

The president then cited signs of progress legislatively, with high profile bi-partisan efforts between Democrats and Republicans to bring about criminal justice reforms to make the system fairer. Regarding his 46 prisoner commutations, Obama said he did so because many were sentenced under the old drug

laws "...that we now recognize were unfair."

"For nonviolent drug crimes, we need to lower long mandatory minimum sentences -- or get rid of them entirely," the president told the NAACP. "Give judges some discretion around non-violent crimes so that, potentially, we can steer a young person who has made a mistake in a better direction."

"So on Thursday, I will be the first sitting President to visit a federal prison. And I'm going to shine a spotlight on this issue, because while the people in our prisons have made some mistakes -- and sometimes big mistakes -- they are also Americans, and we have to make sure that as they do their time and pay back their debt to society that we are increasing the possibility that they can turn their lives around."

Earlier this year in March, Exodus Foundation.org took a busload of supporters to Washington, D.C. to rally in front of the White House, and call for Pres. Obama to "free the non-violent." In their petition to the president, they featured the case of Kevin Washington, who is doing a life sentence after a "third strike" for being convicted having less than 3 oz. of cocaine in his possession when arrested.

The group then held a

Congressional symposium on Capital Hill with speakers such as Congressman Danny Davis of Illinois, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee of Texas, and Congressman Bobby Scott of Virginia speaking out for prison reform.

Dr. McClenney-Sadler of Exodus Foundation.org says the president must follow through with his promise to do more.

"According to data from the Federal Bureau of Prisons, there are at least 40,000 more nonviolent federal prisoners whose sentences should be commuted with all deliberate speed," McClenney-Sadler says. "They must be released immediately with housing, education and income reentry benefits. Otherwise, the stars and stripes that adorn the White House flag pole must be taken down."

"Under this flag, lynchings, discrimination, segregation, Jim Crow, the New Jim Crow and unspeakable brutality, confinement, and contempt have been meted out in a network of prison plantations against our most vulnerable youth, adults and immigrants," McClenney-Sadler continued. "We are terrorizing families and communities with impunity, an evidence-based worst practice and a disgrace to our democracy."

people across the state," attorney Judge said. "This is exactly what the Voting Rights Act was intended to prevent."

Judge adds that the Republican-led NC General Assembly, "...knew that this law would discriminate against African-American voters. Lawmakers who were presented with significant evidence that the measure would make it harder for African-American voters to participate in the electoral process, passed it any way."

Judge said repealing the previous voting improvements created "a substantial burden," given that for three election cycles, black voters had come to depend on them.

As witnesses, the plaintiffs have already presented voters who either had to wait on long lines, along with others whose votes were discounted because they voted at the wrong precincts per changes in the district lines they were unaware of. Other experts include election experts, state lawmakers and others to make the case.

For their part, attorneys for Gov. McCrory and state lawmakers argue that the voting restrictions were nondiscriminatory, and necessary in order to prevent against voter fraud, though there was little evidence of any. They also say that despite concerns that the restrictions would suppress voting, black voter turnout was strong for the 2014 midterm elections.

Plaintiffs counter that the 2014 midterms featured the US senatorial race, which spent more money than any other in getting people out to the polls. Plaintiffs say many

black voters experienced long lines and other problems long associated with the 2013 voting restrictions.

Thus far in the federal trial which started Monday in Winston-Salem, several witnesses have testified to not having their votes counted when they voted out of precinct, or being forced to re-register because of changes in their voting districts.

Attorneys for the state have challenged plaintiffs' witnesses, saying that they could have found alternate ways to ensure that their votes counted.

Rev. Barber also took the stand, and was challenged by state's attorneys as to whether he urged NAACP members to deliberately vote out of precinct. He denied the charge.

The photo identification aspect of the law is being placed on hold for now because the Legislature recently passed measures to soften its requirement, apparently anticipating it would lose in court defending it. Previously a voter had to have a government-issued photo ID. Now, a voter without one can sign a hardship affidavit, and present either a Social Security card or utility bill as proof of identity at the polls.

The outcome of this case has strong ramifications for at least 30 other states that have passed similar voting restrictions. The civil rights community is watching it closely.

US District Court Judge Thomas Schroeder will rule at the trial's completion, expected to be sometime in August.

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WSSU FOOTBALL PLAYER SAVES CHILD IN CAR CRASH

[LITTLETON] A freshman football player for Winston-Salem State University rescued a severely injured teenager after a car



STATE BRIEFS

collision in Warren County Friday night. Kenneth Sharpe Jr., 19, came across the two-car accident on US Highway 158, when he saw Benjamin Rodwell struggling to climb out of a burning vehicle. Sharpe helped him out, carried Rodwell to his car, and took him to the Halifax Regional Medical Center. Young Sharpe hails from a family of firefighters,

and says he'd do it again. Rodwell is expected to have surgery.

FORMER MAYOR CHARLES MEEKER TO RUN FOR STATE LABOR COMMISSIONER

[RALEIGH] The former mayor of Raleigh has announced that he will seek election as the state's next labor commissioner. Charles

Meeker, 61, says he will officially begin his campaign to unseat four-term incumbent Labor Commissioner Cherie Berry for 2016 beginning this September. Meeker served ten years as Raleigh from 2001 to 2011, and is credited with leading the city to unprecedented growth during that period. He says the state Dept. Of Labor should be doing a better job of pro-

moting workplace safety.

AFTER EIGHT SHARK ATTACKS, PINE KNOLLS AND EMERALD ISLE ISSUE RESTRICTIONS

[PINE KNOLL SHORES] The coastal communities of Pine Knoll Shores and Emerald Isle have instituted immediate restrictions on fishing near swimming areas after a record eight shark attacks

thus far this year. At least ten beach accesses have been marked for swimmers only in Pine Knoll Shores. In Emerald Isle, shark fishing is banned until mid-September. Experts say fishing lures the dangerous predators closer to shore where swimmers have recently been attacked.

COMPILED BY CASH MICHAELS

NAACP Convention drawing prominent speakers, making news

SPECIAL TO THE NNPA FROM THE PHILADELPHIA TRIBUNE

(NNPA) PHILADELPHIA - The NAACP's 106th annual convention is drawing a slate of notable public officials. President Barack Obama will deliver a keynote address Tuesday afternoon at the Pennsylvania Convention Center. Obama's remarks will be centered around reforming the criminal justice system.

This marks the second time that he will address the NAACP as president of the United States.

Former President Bill Clinton and founder of Clinton Foundation will address the convention's final plenary session Wednesday morning at the Pennsylvania Convention Center.

"President Clinton demonstrated his pragmatic leadership while in the White House. Today, he continues his work as a change-making leader through the Clinton Foundation. As the country is faced with challenges, we look forward to hearing the former president lend his perspective on some of the most important civil rights challenges of our time during the 106th annual convention," said NAACP Chairman Roslyn Brock.

Clinton has addressed the NAACP's national convention on multiple occasions.

"President Clinton comes to the NAACP's 106th annual convention as not merely a humanitarian or a former president but as a friend. Whether advancing civil rights nationally or combating human rights challenges globally, President Clinton has demonstrated the values of the NAACP over an arc of public service that is both long and wide," said Brock.

U.S. Attorney Loretta Lynch will speak Wednesday night at 7:30 p.m. during the Spingarn Dinner/Freedom

Fund Banquet.

During a plenary session Monday, Sen. Bob Casey (D-Pa.) discussed a bill aimed at steering people from incarceration by offering more education. He discussed how investing in Pre-K can help children earn more later in life and reduce the likelihood that a child will one day encounter the criminal justice system.

There are various events that are open to the public including a career fair held Tuesday from 12 to 6 p.m. Hiring managers will be on hand to answer questions about opportunities in: hospitality, food service, government, technology, banking, finance, sales, customer service, energy and retail.

The removal of the Confederate battle flag from state capitol grounds has caused the NAACP to lift its economic boycott of South Carolina over the weekend. The civil rights group voted to end the 15-year economic boycott against the state during its 106th annual convention.

NAACP President and CEO Cornell William Brooks said the organization's decision to lift its economic boycott on the state of South Carolina comes 15 years after exerting consistent and aggressive economic pressure on state lawmakers to bring the well-known symbol of racial oppression down.

"The removal of this emblem of hate is not only a victory for the state of South Carolina and the families of the nine students of scripture who lost their lives in a historic church, but it is a victory for the NAACP and the nation as we all work together to forge a more perfect union," Brooks said in a press statement.

"In no way does removing the Confederate flag in South Carolina fix the problems of our nation that are rooted in racism and bigotry, but the

flag's removal is a very important step in ceasing to glorify a bygone era in which African Americans were treated as second class citizens. This is a vindication of the grassroots advocacy of the NAACP."

The NAACP convention, which runs through July 15 at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, is expected to draw upwards of 8,000 attendees. The five-day convention is being held under the theme "Pursuing Liberty In the Face of Injustice."

When Brock delivered a keynote speech Sunday evening during the mass pub-

lic meeting, she said liberty must be pursued.

"The NAACP has educated; demonstrated; legislated; litigated; negotiated; and agitated to secure the liberties promised by the founders of this great nation. Because our work is not complete, I stand before you tonight seeking a sustained commitment to action to accomplish our goals," said Brock, who is the youngest person to be elected NAACP chairman.

During her speech, Brock touched on a number of issues including discrimination facing minorities around

the country, the Confederate battle flag, the Emmanuel AME shooting, voting rights, police misconduct and gun violence occurring in the community.

"We the people must double down on our efforts to end gun violence in our own neighborhoods, while we address aggressive policing by those charged to protect and serve. We want comprehensive police reform that includes training for community policing where officers reflect the communities they serve," Brock said. "We want body cameras to ensure

accountability, and we want the elimination of unconscious biases which negatively impacts how men and women in blue perceive and treat communities of color."

Brock rounded off her speech by highlighting the importance of achieving liberty.

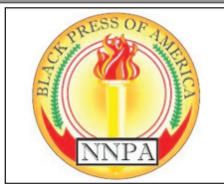
"In our pursuit of liberty, we will get bruised. We will get battered. We will get bloodied. But we will not be defeated," she said. "We are in a fight for our lives, because black lives matter. We are in a fight for our lives because all lives matter."

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<p>Hot SALE 1.89 EA MVP</p> <p>8 Pack Merita White Hamburger or Hot Dog Buns Without MVP Card Regular Retail</p>	<p>WOW! 5 \$5 MVP</p> <p>7.25-15 Oz. - Select Varieties Chef Boyardee Microwaved or Canned Pasta Without MVP Card 4/55</p>	<p>Hot SALE 2 \$4 MVP</p> <p>6-8 Oz. - Select Varieties Food Lion or my essentials Shredded or Chunk Cheese Without MVP Card Regular Retail</p>
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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 Tear down the walls of economic inequality

After a spirited debate, the South Carolina House and Senate voted overwhelmingly to remove the Confederate battle flag from Statehouse grounds at the urging of Gov. Nikki Haley, who quickly signed the measure into law. The flag was lowered for the final time on Capitol grounds Friday morning. Many South Carolinians hailed its ceremonious removal as a "new day" for their state as well as a fitting tribute to State Senator Clementa Pinckney, one of the nine massacred at Emanuel A.M.E. Church, where he was the pastor.



Dr. Julianne Malveaux

Revulsion from the Bible study slaughter sparked conversations all over the country about the Confederate flag. An Iowan who sold ice to Walmart with a confederate logo (go figure) was told he had to change his logo or sell his ice elsewhere. The U.S. House of Representatives has banned display of the Confederate flag on sites maintained by the National Park Service. Mississippi Senators Thad Cochran and Roger Wicker say the Mississippi flag should be redesigned to remove the Confederate symbol.

At the same time, support for the Confederate flag is unwavering. A poll conducted for CNN found that 66 percent of Whites consider the Confederate flag more of a symbol of Southern pride than racism, a view shared by only 17 percent of Blacks. While 72 percent of Blacks consider the flag a symbol of racism, only 25 percent of Whites agree, with the remainder of them saying the flag represent each point of view equally, were undecided or expressed no opinion.

Removing the flag from public places and putting it in museums is a victory for those who reject this symbol of racial subjugation. Still, every economic statistic screams racial subjugation. President Obama had it right (if belatedly) when he said that employers are more willing to employ Johnny than Jamal. Last month, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reported that Black unemployment rate was 9.5 percent, more than twice the 4.6 percent rate than Whites experienced. Some economists will say that African Americans are less educated than Whites, explaining part of the unemployment rate gap. Others will cite other factors, such as occupation and location. Race still plays a role in unemployment rate differentials.

White men and White high school dropouts have about the same unemployment rate as Black high school graduates, and highly educated Blacks always have higher unemployment rates than less well educated Whites. While education pays off for Blacks, as those with better educations are paid more than those with less education, Whites get a greater return on education than Blacks.

If we want to remove vestiges of racial subjugation, we ought to pay attention to unemployment rate differentials and work as hard to eradicate them as we did to take down that Confederate flag in South Carolina. How? President Obama could sign an executive order directing the Department of Labor and other federal departments to target money and programs to the inner city or, more specifically, to African Americans. In these closing months of his presidency, he has used executive orders for other purposes. Why not use one to ensure that Jamal gets treated the same way as Johnny?

In addition to Jamal and Johnny, how about Tamika and Theresa? Though the unemployment rate gap is smaller between Black and White women, there are gaps in pay and working conditions. Because more than 40 percent of Black families are female-headed, low pay for Black women translate to different living conditions for Black families.

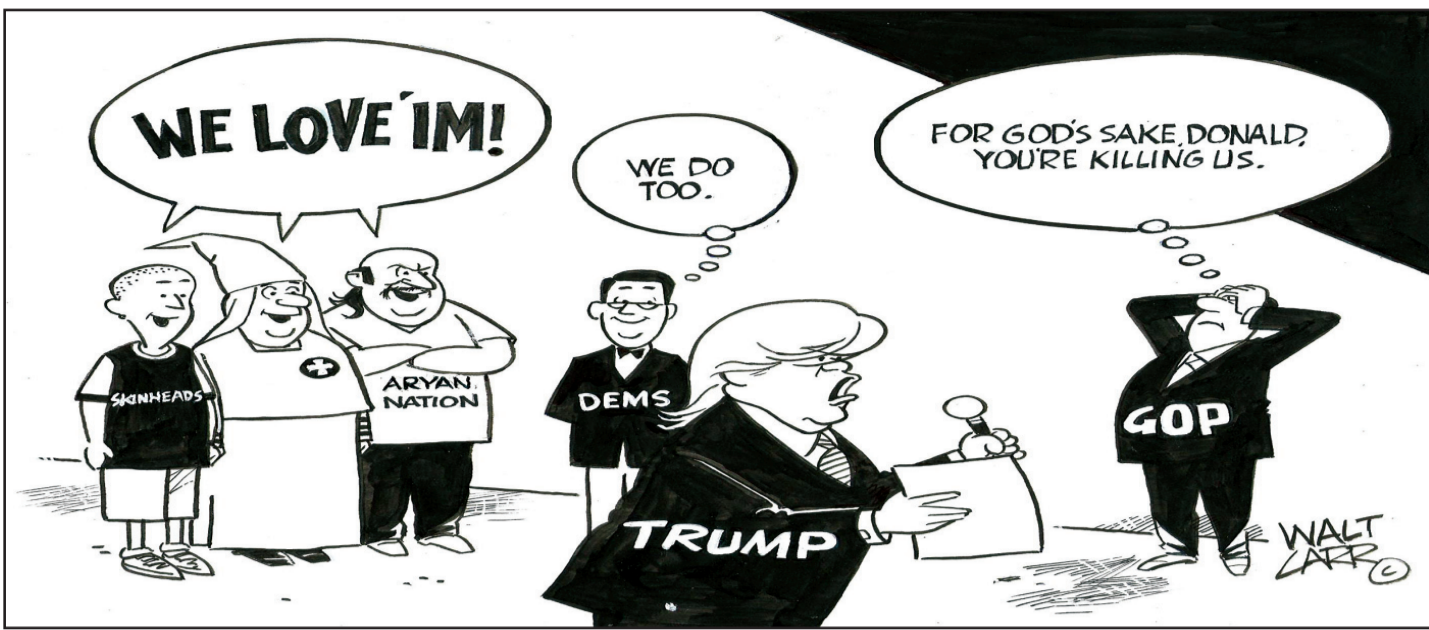
Similar differences are measured in the poverty rate, where more than a quarter of Black families live in poverty, compared to fewer than 10 percent of White families. Average pay for an African American family is about \$31,000, compared to about \$52,000 for White families. Congress has been hostile to any poverty-prevention programs, fighting to reduce food stamps programs and pushing back on Obama-backed legislation to increase the minimum wage. In the midst of legislative hostility, could President Obama do anything to lower poverty and especially the gap in the poverty rate? Certainly appointing a Presidential Commission to propose legislation on poverty prevention would be a first, if only symbolic.

The wealth gap is staggering. African Americans have a scant 2.5 percent of our nation's wealth. The median wealth for White families is \$120,000, compared to \$7,000 for Black families. The wealth gap is partly a function of the inability for African Americans to attain wealth, certainly during slavery and the Black Codes era, and beyond. There were exceptions, of course, but the gaping wealth gap affects the quality of life for African Americans. What to do? The president might consider the Institute of the Black World's proposal for a John Hope Franklin Commission for Reparatory Justice to explore the possibility of, among other things, reparations.

Taking down the Confederate flag without tearing down the walls of racial economic inequality is a partial victory. While I am elated that South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley has expressed her opposition to the Confederate flag as a symbol of hate and White supremacy, I wonder if she will fight to end the institutional racism that results in higher unemployment rates, lower incomes, and less wealth for African Americans.

Julianne Malveaux is an author and economist. She can be reached at www.julianmalveaux.com.

Visual Voice



Matters of Opinion

RAINBOW COALITION

Will South Carolina become a leader of the new South?

On Friday, the Confederate battle flag came down on the South Carolina Statehouse grounds. This symbolic, long overdue gesture has significant meaning. The flag celebrated the sedition, slavery and secession of the Civil War. When Robert E. Lee surrendered, that flag was furled. It was raised over the statehouse in 1961 to celebrate segregation, suppression and states' rights. Previous efforts to remove it failed. Former Gov. David Beasley called for it to come down, and probably lost his re-election as a result. Even after the triumph of the Civil Rights Movement, South Carolina burnished this symbol of racial division.

This symbolic victory came in the wake of bloodshed: the murders of the Emanuel Nine, brutally slain while in church at a prayer meeting. It came because of the amazing grace of the relatives of the slain, offering forgiveness to the hateful killer who shot the

nine in cold blood. It came because of the leadership and courage of the governor, Nikki Haley, who stood up and spoke out in the wake of the horror, calling on the legislature to take the flag down. It came because of the pressure of the Chamber of Commerce and business leaders - from Boeing, Volkswagen and others - making it clear that they would find it difficult to invest in a South Carolina still intent on honoring this symbol of racial division.

The question now is whether South Carolina can discard not just the symbol of the flag but also the substance of the flag's agenda. Can the governor now grasp this moment to lead in resurrecting the South?

Bringing down the flag has opened the way. The NCAA lifted its ban on post-season championship events in South Carolina, a decision that could produce millions in tourist revenue. New investments are likely to go forward now that the flag is down. Last month, Gov. Haley signed into law a bill requiring police to wear body cameras, putting the state in the national leadership on that issue. But much more needs to be done.

South Carolina is one of the states that chose to reject the expansion of Medicaid offered by Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, even though the federal government would pick up virtually all of the expense. It turned its back on \$12 billion over the next five years, money that its hospitals and health system desperately needs. It deprived over 160,000 of its working people, more whites than blacks, from getting health insurance. Surely this is the time to reverse that decision.

South Carolina has joined other Southern states in erecting voter ID laws designed to make voting more difficult, with disproportionate impact on the elderly, people of color and the poor. This too was discriminatory in effect and in intent. The more extreme North Carolina law is now being challenged in the Supreme Court. South Carolina could lead the South in reforming its laws to ease registration and voting rather than restricting it. South Carolina's Republican representatives in Congress tend to support their party's assault on public investment. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has just announced that it plans to

go forward with a project to deepen the port at Charleston. South Carolina will benefit greatly if the ports at Charleston and Jasper are able to handle the larger modern container ships. As the state benefits from federal investment in its ports, surely it is time for its representatives to push for greater public investment in infrastructure, and not continue to starve it.

Gov. Haley could be the determining force. She has focused on jobs, driving an agenda designed to make South Carolina attractive to business. She has demonstrated leadership in regard to the flag. She's announced her commitment to save South Carolina State University, a historically black college, appointing a new board to help dig it out of the hole it is in.

She has earned the good will of the vast majority of South Carolina citizens and businesses. Now she can turn that authority to making South Carolina a leader of the new South.

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

CURRY'S COMMENTS

The Confederacy's 'heritage' of slavery

The disclosure that Dylann Roof, the admitted killer of nine unarmed African Americans attending Bible study at Emanuel A.M.E. Church June 17 in Charleston, S.C., was photographed dozens of times holstering the rebel flag ignited a long overdue discussion on what that flag represents and prompted the removal of the flag from the state Capitol grounds in Columbia, S.C. after more than 50 years.

An examination of the documents of the states that seceded from the Union, beginning with South Carolina, as well as the statements and documents surrounding those traitorous acts made clear the rebels were primarily worried about one thing - their ability to maintain and expand the institution of slavery.

But Americans, including many Blacks, casually toss about the term "slavery" without comprehending the extent of its cruelty. Below are excerpts from the website history.com that will serve as a reminder:

Slavery in America began when the first African slaves were brought to the North American colony of Jamestown, Virginia, in 1619, to aid in the production of such lucrative crops as tobacco. Slavery was practiced throughout the American colonies in the 17th and 18th centuries, and African-American slaves

helped build the economic foundations of the new nation. The invention of the cotton gin in 1793 solidified the central importance of slavery to the South's economy. By the mid-19th century, America's westward expansion, along with a growing abolition movement in the North, would provoke a great debate over slavery that would tear the nation apart in the bloody American Civil War (1861-65).

Though it is impossible to give accurate figures, some historians have estimated that 6 to 7 million slaves were imported to the New World during the 18th century alone, depriving the African continent of some of its healthiest and ablest men and women.

In the 17th and 18th centuries, black slaves worked mainly on the tobacco, rice and indigo plantations of the southern coast. After the American Revolution (1775-83), many colonists (particularly in the North, where slavery was relatively unimportant to the economy) began to link the oppression of black slaves to their own oppression by the British, and to call for slavery's abolition.

Slavery did not dominate the economy of the North like it did the South. Over a 30-year period from 1774 until 1804, each northern state abolished slavery.

Though the U.S. Congress outlawed the African slave trade in 1808, the domestic trade flourished, and the slave population in the U.S. nearly tripled over the next 50 years. By 1860 it had reached nearly 4 million, with more than half living in the cotton-producing states of the South.

Slave owners sought to make their slaves completely dependent on them, and a system of restrictive codes governed life among slaves. They were prohibited from learning to read and write, and their behavior and movement was restricted. Many masters took sexual liberties with slave women, and rewarded obedient slave behavior with favors, while rebellious slaves were brutally punished.

Even against tremendous odds and at a distinct disadvantage, enslaved Africans rebelled every way possible, including taking up arms. The most famous rebellions involved

Gabriel Prosser in Richmond, Va.; Denmark Vesey in Charleston, S.C. and the most famous was one led by Nat Turner in 1831. Turner's group, which grew to approximately 75 men, went from farm to farm in Southampton County, Va., killing more than 50 White slaveholders over two days. When they were captured, the men were immediately killed by White slave owners who had formed militias. Turner eluded capture for two months. When caught, he was quickly tried and hung.

Free blacks and other anti-slavery northerners had begun helping fugitive slaves escape from southern plantations to the North via a loose network of safe houses as early as the 1780s. This practice, known as the Underground Railroad, gained real momentum in the 1830s and although estimates vary widely, it may have helped anywhere from 40,000 to 100,000 slaves reach free-

dom.

The South would reach the breaking point ...when Republican candidate Abraham Lincoln was elected as president. Within three months, seven southern states had seceded to form the Confederate States of America; four more would follow after the Civil War (1861-65) began. Though Lincoln's antislavery views were well established, the central Union war aim at first was not to abolish slavery, but to preserve the United States as a nation. Abolition became a war aim only later, due to military necessity, growing anti-slavery sentiment in the North and the self-emancipation of many African Americans who fled enslavement as Union troops swept through the South. Five days after the bloody Union victory at Antietam in September 1862, Lincoln issued a preliminary emancipation proclamation, and on January 1, 1863, he made it official that "slaves within any State, or designated part of a State...in rebellion...shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free."

George E. Curry, former editor-in-chief of *Emerge* magazine, is editor-in-chief of the *National Newspaper Publishers Association News Service* (NNPA) and *BlackPressUSA.com*. He is a keynote speaker, moderator, and media coach. Curry can be reached through his Web site, www.georgecurry.com. You can also follow him at www.twitter.com/georgecurry and www.facebook.com/georgecurry. See previous columns at <http://www.georgecurry.com/columns>.

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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.

Style Of 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.

Community Briefs

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.

Williston Senior High Class of '61 will hold its third quarter 2015 quarterly meeting on Sunday, July 26th at Mount Olive AME Church Fellowship Hall, 1001 South 7th Street. The meeting will begin at 4:00 p.m.

Policies for briefs, news, & photos on page 2.
Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

HOMETOWN NEWS FROM BRUNSWICK COUNTY

I will be alone only when it's necessary

There are times when senior citizens want to be alone and think of happy times in life. Those happy times can come back again many times in different situations. There is a social gathering for senior citizens in Shallotte, N. C. We hope it's beneficial to all senior citizens in that area because more people from out of state are moving to Brunswick County to live.



Verniece Stanley

Southport, N. C. is near the ocean and has been selected as

a top retirement location. They offer the best information on where to retire. The beaches bring happiness and relaxation one walks in the sand. You can enjoy what nature has to offer whether alone or with friends. The summer season is here, and visitors and others can bring significant economic benefits to Brunswick County and hometown locations.

There is little time to do what needs to be done. We want more information on meeting places, such as there are in Southport, Shallotte, Supply, and Ocean Isle, N. C. for such organizations as Narcotics Anonymous. It does help make life better for some, not for others. We feel that there is a num-

ber of addicts seeking help in more than one specific way. They can avoid people known to be on drugs and places known as meeting places for drug activity. Some will go to the meetings and take a friend. They must keep going to meetings and not stop. They may arrive early and stay late and get and use a sponsor. They may use the phone when it's necessary. Some may want to get home groups going and get involved in religious activities.

In order to beat the addiction, one must make every effort to stay away from drugs and stay in school or go back to school. He or she needs to seek and find a better job because it is possible. A clean is the life for

everyone to live every day.

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.

PEOPLE'S CLINIC

Summer fun: Staying safe in the water and the heat

Already it is time for spring and summer, and many families are preparing to enjoy sunny days on North Carolina's beaches, lakes, and pools. Unfortunately, sometimes these happy occasions turn tragic because of an accident in the water, particularly if someone drowns. Extreme heat can also turn summer fun into an emergency. Read on to learn how you can protect your family and community and still have fun in the sun!

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) there are more than 3,500 fatal unintentional drownings in the United States (US) every year, which means approximately 10 deaths a day! Did you know that 1 out of every 4 drowning victims are children aged 14 years or younger? And, it is estimated that for every child that dies, four receive emergency care for water-related injuries! African Americans of all ages suffer a fatal drowning rate of 30% higher than the rate of whites, and African American children [age 14 and younger] have a fatal drowning rate of more than 3 times the rate of white children.

What are the risk factors for unintentional drowning?

According to the CDC, the major risk factors for children are lack of supervision and lack of barriers (such as pool fencing or locked bathroom doors). According to the national Safe Kids Campaign, a study revealed that many parents who say they are supervising their children while swimming are not putting their full attention on the children and are doing something else, like talking to another person, reading, eating, or talking on the telephone. Among adults, the risk factor of alcohol use is involved in many water and boating

fatalities. Other risk factors that can occur in children and adults are:

- Not wearing a life vest / life jacket
- Not practicing safety around recreational watercraft
- Lack of swimming knowledge - The CDC has found in a national study, that African Americans self-report being the most limited with regard to swimming ability
- Seizure disorders - persons with these illnesses should be monitored when around bathtubs, pools, lakes, rivers, the ocean or any open water.

How can I reduce my and my family's risk?

- NEVER leave children alone in any water - this means bathtubs, pools, or natural water
- ALWAYS swim with someone else - at least have someone watching you while you are swimming in case of emergency
- Teach your children not to run, push, or jump over others near the water
- Learn the steps of C a r d i o - P u l m o n a r y Resuscitation (CPR) - CPR has been shown to save lives, when often it can take a few minutes for paramedics to arrive. Your local Red Cross offers these classes.
- Make sure you and your family always use life vests that are approved by the US Coast Guard
- Avoid drinking alcohol before swimming, boating or other water sports.
- Inflatable floats are not designed to keep swimmers safe or save lives.
- Make sure that you and your family swim in safe areas of rivers, lakes, and oceans
- Take yourself and your family to swimming and water safety classes - Most local swimming pools and YMCAs/YWCAs, as well as some parks, offer these types of classes.

•If someone is watching your children, make sure they knows how to swim, know CPR, and have a telephone close by for an emergency.

•If you have a pool at your house, make sure that the area is properly protected with locked doors so that children cannot go into the pool without adult supervision.

•If you go to the beach, make sure you do not drift away from shore when there is a riptide

•If you do get caught in a riptide, swim parallel to shore and you will eventually swim out of the riptide, and then you can swim toward shore.

•Know the weather conditions before swimming or boating on lakes, rivers or the ocean

How can sun and heat exposure harm me?

Over-exposure to the heat can cause serious health problems, even death. Most often the victims of heat-related illnesses are those who work outside, remain in the heat for long periods of time, or are dehydrated.

Sunburn is a burn on the skin caused by the rays of the sun. ANYONE can get sunburned; those people at the highest risk include infants and children, the elderly, and people taking medications that increase sensitivity to sunlight, like antibiotics and oral contraceptives (birth control pills). Common symptoms of sunburn can include: pain / redness of the skin (most common), swelling of the skin, blistering of the skin, nausea, headaches, and fever. Severe reactions, such as fever, chills, nausea, or rash may indicate sun poisoning; seek medical treatment.

How can I prevent sunburn?

•When possible, avoid the sun between 10am and 4pm, when the sun's rays are strongest.

- Seek shade.
- Cover up with protective clothing when exposed.
- Use sunscreen of at least 30 SPF or higher [SPF means Sun Protection Factor; how well it protects you from the sun.]
- Children should wear at least 45 SPF sunscreen.
- Sunscreen should be applied generously and re-applied after swimming, tanning, or sweating.
- Wear a hat to protect your face, ears, and neck.
- Wear sunglasses to protect your eyes.

Heat exhaustion is the most common type of heat-related illness. If not treated, it can lead to a much more dangerous condition: heat stroke. Symptoms of heat exhaustion include: Cool, moist, pale, or flushed skin, heavy sweating, headache, nausea or vomiting, dizziness, and exhaustion. To treat heat exhaustion, remove or loosen the person's clothing and apply cool, wet cloths. Give them a ½ glass of cool water every 15 minutes. Let the person rest in a comfortable position and watch them carefully. If the person develops a fever of 102 degrees or higher, fainting, confusion, or seizures, you should get medical help right away.

Heat stroke is a life-threatening condition that can lead to death, if not treated promptly. If you think someone has heat stroke, act quickly to get medical help. Symptoms include: hot, red skin, disorientation or changes in consciousness, hallucinations, rapid or weak pulse, rapid and/or shallow breathing, and fever. To treat heat stroke: Call

911 immediately!! Move the person to a cooler place and quickly cool their body with a cool bath or wet cloths and a fan. Watch for signs of breathing problems. Give the person small amounts of water to drink, and keep them lying down.

How can I prevent heat-related illness?

- Drink plenty of fluids, even if you don't feel thirsty. Water is the safest liquid to drink during heat emergencies. Your body needs water to keep cool. Two to four glasses of water every hour are recommended. Don't drink liquids that contain caffeine (i.e. coffee, sodas), alcohol, or large amounts of sugar. They may make you feel better briefly, but may worsen dehydration.
- Stay indoors and in an air-conditioned location, if possible. If your home does not have airconditioning, go to a public place.
- Use fans to help circulate air.
- Take cool showers or baths periodically throughout the day.
- Wear lightweight, light-

colored, loose fitting clothing.

•NEVER leave any person or animal in a closed, parked vehicle.

•Always check on infants and children, the elderly, and those who are sick for signs of heat exhaustion or heat stroke.

•Limit outdoor activity to morning and evening hours.

•Rest often in shady areas.

•Wear a hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen (SPF 30 or higher).

Enjoy the North Carolina summers with your family, but do so using common sense and observing safety rules so that this beautiful time does not turn into a tragedy!

Do you need further information or have questions or comments about this article? Please check out the American Red Cross at www.redcross.org or call The People's Clinic toll-free 1-877-530-1824. Or, for more information about the Maya Angelou Center for Health Equity, please visit our website: <http://www.wakehealth.edu/MACHE>.

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Please return all application materials by August 10, 2015.

Ms. Barbara Ann Brown

A resident of Wilmington, North Carolina, Barbara Ann Brown was born on October 6, 1938 in Cartersville, South Carolina. The eldest child of seven children born to the late James Otis Brown and Bertha Sanders Brown-Hansley, departed this life on July 4, 2015. The funeral service was held at 1:00 PM Saturday, July 11, 2015 at Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church. Burial was in Pine Forest Cemetery.

At an early age, Barbara confessed Christ as her Savior and joined the First Baptist Church in Wilmington, North Carolina and during the summer would serve faithfully as a Junior Missionary at the Lee Street Church of God in Christ State Meeting in Darlington, South Carolina.

Barbara was an honors graduate of Williston Senior High School, Class of 1957, and was Editor-in-Chief of the Williston Newspaper. Having a passion for music, she played the flute and clarinet in the band, directed by Mr. Robert Floyd and sang contralto in the Williston Glee Club, directed by Mrs. B. Constance O'Dell.

After graduation, Barbara left home and at age 18, headed to New York for better opportunities and to pursue her education at Columbia University. She was employed by the United States Postal Service, retiring after 30 years of exemplary service. After retiring, she returned to Wilmington where she grew up, and cared for her mother with untiring love and dedication.

A voracious reader, with a warm and generous personality, Barbara loved traveling and cooking. She was a "no nonsense" person who had that special knack for finding the right words to make even the most difficult truths palatable and easier to accept. She will be remembered for her "heated discussions" and words of wisdom, and a civic and community leader who spoke out against racial injustice and inequality.

Barbara was a member of Convent Baptist Church in New York City for many years where she served tirelessly assisting the elders and the community - always with love, faith and spirit. She read and kept abreast of local, state, national and global issues, and was excited and enthusiastic when a black president was elected.

Barbara stated: "I love President Barack Obama and am grateful to have lived to see a black man serve as President of the United States."

We mourn Barbara's passing and we miss her physical presence. In time, however, we will hear her laughter at the family gatherings or feel her presence while reading one of the many books she passed down. We may hear her wise counsel - softly comforting and loving; we will love her deeply and eternally. Barbara, like her mother, realized that she needed to continue to seek salvation, and recommitted herself to God as she united with Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church. Barbara was preceded in death by her parents and a sister, Clementine.

Barbara is survived by her son, Keith Brown (Telina); sisters Joyce Brown McIver (Willie) of Queens, New York, and Jacqueline Delores Brown of Anchorage, Alaska; brothers Clayton Brown of Leland, North Carolina, Arthur Brown of Wilmington, North Carolina and Harold Brown of New Haven, Connecticut, several grandchildren and great grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives 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. Diana Kelly Mack

Ms. Diana Kelly Keyarma Yvonne Chavonne Faraha Robinson Mack was born in Harlem Hospital on the twenty-second day of February, nineteen hundred and sixty-one, the second of four children born to the late Annie E. Powell and Raymond "Duke" Robinson. Kelly was always full of joy, which is the meaning of the name "Faraha" in Swahili, given to her as a child. She had the gift of knowing how to spread that joy to whomever she came in contact with. The funeral service was held at 2:00 PM Thursday, July 9, 2015 at Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church.

In nineteen hundred seventy-one, the family left Harlem and moved to Queens, where she met Mr. Robert Bellino and presented Duke with his first grandchild, LaConya, in nineteen hundred seventy-seven. In nineteen hundred seventy-eight, the family

moved to the Bronx, where she met Mr. Daniel Mack. They produced a son, DayQuan in nineteen hundred eighty-six.

She was educated in the public school system and attended Bronx Community College. Her chosen profession was working with the mentally challenged. She was exceptional at her job and adored her patients as much as they adored her. Kelly had many talents: cooking, hair braiding and dancing, just to name a few.

In nineteen hundred ninety-nine, Kelly, Daniel and DayQuan moved to Wilmington, North Carolina. They married in two thousand and made their home in Wilmington. She continued to work in her chosen field and spread her love, wisdom and knowledge throughout the community. In two thousand one, she became a surrogate mother to Hasuan Johnson. He made North Carolina his home.

You could write a book on all the good Kelly brought to the world. All the lives she touched and the wisdom that she shared. She was a remarkable woman and will truly be missed.

Her husband, Daniel, her daughter, LaConya, her sons, DayQuan and Hasuan survive her. Her aunt, Matilda, and her uncle Johnny; her son-in-law, Ahrieff; five grandchildren, CharDia, TreZian, Hasaun, Jr., Shyla and Gabrielle; seven sisters, Raydell, Margaret, Marcia, Anna, Theresa, Keisha and Mecca; ten nieces; Tanyetta, Annieka, Tamitra, Willema, Anlatish, Eddesha, Chanice, Monique, Ajeenah and Latisha; three nephews, Ali, Jr., Kasim and Willie, Jr.; Mother-in law, Victoria; two brothers-in-law, Willie, Sr. and Bernard; three sisters-in-law, Joan, Flo, April and daughter-in-law, Tiffany; two very close friends, Christie and Val, and a host of other relatives, godchildren and friends who will miss her dearly. Arrangements by Adkins-Drain Funeral Service, 515 South Eighth Street, Wilmington, North Carolina 28401. Condolences may be shared at www.adkinsdrainfuneralservice.com.

Ms. Alice Green Smith

Ms. Alice Green Smith, daughter of the late Haywood and Martha Green was born November 5, 1926 in Wrightsville Sound, NC. Our Heavenly Father took her

into His loving arms and granted her rest from her labor and earthly cares on Tuesday, July 7, 2015 at the Lower Cape Fear Hospice and Life Care Center in Wilmington, NC.

She was preceded in death by her father and mother along with two sisters, four brothers and three sons.

She accepted Christ as her personal Savior at an early age and served as a member of St. Mathew AME Church for over 60 years. She was a faithful member of Class No. 3, the Senior Choir and was a co-founder of the Rev. H. A. Mattocks Choir. She was a kind and loving person.

Alice leaves to cherish her fond memories: two sons, Lewis Smith (Shirley) of Bronx, NY and William Douglas Smith, Sr. (Glendell) of Chesterfield, VA; three daughters, Rev. Lenora Willis of Clarksville, TN, Janice Jinwright of the city and Angelia Scales of Leland, NC; 25 grandchildren; 68 great-grandchildren; 13 great-great grandchildren; extended family of the late Mr. & Mrs. Roger Beale; and a host of nephews, nieces, other relatives and dear friends.

Funeral services were held on Sunday, July 12, 2015 at St. Matthew AME Church in the Wrightsville Sound Community. Burial followed in the Mt. Ararat AME Church Cemetery. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.



In Loving Memory Of Our Beloved Mr. Theodore R. Smith, who entered into rest, July 13, 1976.

He was a faithful member of Warner's Temple Church. Our hearts still ache as the years pass by. Your loving smile is sadly missed from our home and your chair is still vacant. We are so happy that we can look back at all the good memories you shared with us down through the years. You were always here when we needed you. You fought the fight and kept the faith. Another good soldier is gone to rest in Heaven. We love you but God loves you best.

Your wife,
Mrs. Edna Smith, children,
grandchildren and
great grands

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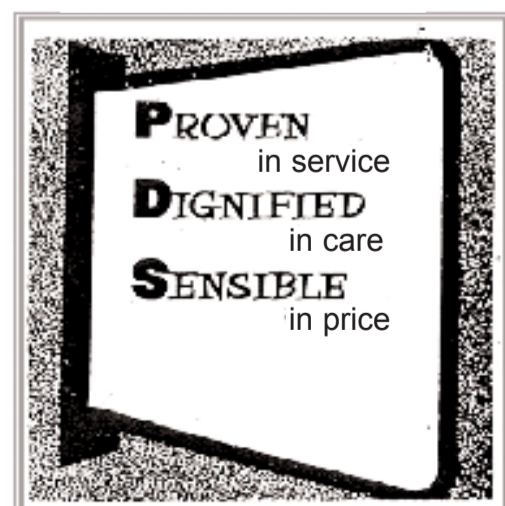
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New Hanover County

Chords Across America, 1020 Rankin St., will hold have The Singing Aires of Jacksonville in concert on Saturday, July 25th at 3:00 p.m. There will be a television giveaway during the concert. 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.

Religious Briefs

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 hold Ordination Service for Deacons Elect, Cleo Brown and Alvin Blanks. Dr. Roosevelt Baxter, Jr., will officiate.

Sampson County

Ecumenical Fellowship Worship and Praise Convention, Inc., will hold it's 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*

Leaders urge patience in achieving change after Emanuel Nine

BY BARNEY BLAKENEY OF THE CHARLESTON CHRONICLE

(NNPA)- It's been some three weeks since nine worshippers at Emanuel AME Church were gunned down at a Bible study session in the church. After the shootings the community and nation displayed an unprecedented outpouring of compassion for the victims and survivors as well as outrage at the racism that prompted the atrocity.

Since the shootings the state and nation has bonded to remove the Confederate Flag as a political and social symbol of the racist hatred made evident by the atrocity. And now after Emanuel's dead has been buried, local civil rights leaders say the substance of the racism and hatred the flag represents will take more time and patience.

As the nation learned of the July 17 atrocity at Emanuel immediate calls to stop the racism led to the action on the Confederate Flag, an action that began in 1999. Charleston NAACP President Dot Scott said her organization already has started to hold discussions with local businesses and institutions to address discrimination.

But she cautions that the community shouldn't think that racial discrimination that's existed centuries will change in three weeks.

"We need to change some things like what happens in employment and public education and we need concrete change. But we must remember it hasn't even been a month since those nine people were killed at Emanuel. That was a game changer and things are changing as evidenced by the removal of the flag. Two weeks before July 17 we wouldn't even have had that discussion."

"Now we're beginning to see people like Gov. Nikki Haley and others working to make a difference. But we shouldn't delude ourselves to think things will be fixed overnight," Scott said.

Rev. Nelson B. Rivers, pastor of Charity Missionary Baptist Church in North Charleston and vice president of Operations and Religious Affairs for the National Action Network said economic empowerment is a change that must become a reality for African Americans after the sacrifice of the Emanuel Nine.



DOT SCOTT

While Blacks today have more money and education than ever before in American history, as a group they still don't possess economic opportunity.

Citing the outpouring of compassion from whites after the atrocity at Emanuel, Rivers said, "We have to ask is this just a guilt trip or an opportunity to change the dynamics of racism in America." He pointed to Charleston County School Board's decision to name a candidate overwhelmingly opposed by Blacks and others as its new superintendent as an example of some people's refusal to change.

"The deaths of the nine people at Emanuel didn't mean jack to the school board. If they didn't respect us in a time of our worst crisis, can we expect them to change in good times?" However he optimistically added, "We fought for the removal of the flag for 15 years and in just two weeks after Emanuel it's coming down."

But like Scott, Rivers said issues such as expanding Medicare, ceasing attacks on voting rights, employment discrimination and discrimination in criminal justice and incarceration will require patience. And renegotiating the relationship between Blacks and whites, he said.

"Renegotiating means if they don't do business with us, we won't do business with them. Collectively, as a community, we have to renegotiate a relationship that requires making structural changes in how things operate. First we must have that conversation within the Black community and ask ourselves if we are ready to renegotiate. Then we can go to others and let them know we don't want more conversation. We want renegotiating."

SENIOR MOMENTS

Are we carrying too much baggage for our children?

My Fellow Seniors:

My mother's favorite Bible story was the Book of Ruth. That's where she got my name. If you don't know the story, that's ok. You can never follow the example of Ruth because you will never be in her situation.

Ruth Johnson

You could name a million examples of good behavior; but why would you say, "Thou shall not spit in thy brothers face if you have already said, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you"? Say no more. The Golden Rule cov-

ers everything. It is the essence of Christianity, but you don't get a chance to use it in the church. You put it into your heart and take it wherever you go.

Is it possible that we are carrying too much baggage for our children to follow? Most of the stories in the Old Testament have nothing to do with Christianity. They were written long before the birth of Jesus. I once knew a devout Christian woman who had never heard of Jonah and the whale. Did I tell her the story? Of course not. She had been devoted to the Catholic church all her life. If the priest didn't mention it, why should I?

Jesus said over and over again that men of God have said unto us one thing, but

that He said something else. To me, that says that He didn't accept everything in the Old Testament as the Word of God.

We know about the sun's standing still for a whole day and the man who went to heaven in a horse drawn carriage. We know about the oldest man that ever lived, and we know Jesus was born of a virgin woman. So what? I'm not asking, but your children will.

If you tell them they must believe all of it in order to go to heaven, they are going to ask you what will happen to the billions of people who never heard any of it? How will they spend eternity?

Even in the New Testament, you will notice that two writers list the

ancestors of Jesus, but they do not agree. Maybe you didn't catch that, but the enemy will. and he will use it to downgrade Christianity. However, no one can disagree with the Golden Rule. That speaks for itself. It needs no proof.

All I'm saying is that, if we carry too much baggage, our children will drop out. So now is the time to think about what will happen to the church in the future. We need to talk less about the past and deal with the present. If we agree to abide by the Golden Rule, we can make this world a better place, and Christianity will reign forever in a world without end.

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

TELL SOMEBODY

"Rebellion: Idolatry in America"

"Thou shalt have no other gods before me." Exodus 20:3

"For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry." I S a m u e l 15:23a

Sylvia Hooper

Rebellion - resistance to authority

Sedition - Causing of discontent against a government

Seduction - To persuade to disobedience and disloyalty

Idol - An image; A false god; Object of passionate devotion

Those who would cringe at the thought of idolatry in our American society should take another look at the changing of the laws of the land. When something has been declared legal and lawful, and is in direct resistance to the authority of God's word, we are legalizing idolatry in the form of rebellion. We, as a society and nation have made many advances, scientifically, socially, technologically, and medically. Yes, glory to God, we have come a long way! But Spiritually, there are some of us who feel, that we as a nation, have "backslid"!

When we pass bills and sign laws that resist and defy or deny the authority of God

Almighty, we embrace a form of spiritual idolatry in the form of religious rebellion!

In too many cases, we see where rebellion started in the home when children were allowed to disrespect the authority of the parents with no discipline, training or correction. Proverbs 22:6 says, "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it." When some parents rebel and fail to train their children as God's word decrees, it breeds a generation that knows not about the True and Living God. Sometimes these same children go into society and rebel because they were never taught or "trained" to respect authority in the community, in the school, or even in the House of God. Where rebellion and lack of knowledge coexist, there will be a form of idolatry.

Rebellion has spread across the land because many people in authority have abused their power, with a reckless abandonment of right and wrong, with much prejudice and malice shown towards those they were sworn to protect or to represent. As a result, there are growing numbers of law abiding citizens who are losing hope and respect for a system which protects the guilty and persecutes the innocent. It is the abuse of

authority which has created a breeding ground for idolatry, and contempt in the form of rebellion!

Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people. Rebellion in government is escalating with little regard or respect for high office. Rebellion in the house of God is unacceptable. The church must not sway on the side of error which questions the integrity of God's Word. The true church will forever uphold the sovereignty and finality of God's word in spite of society's trend to doubt and unbelief. The true church will forever seek to please the Lord, and not to please men. The True church will walk in love and practice forgiveness. The True church will let its light so shine, that men will see its good works in spite of the spiritual darkness spreading across the land! The True church will praise, magnify, and glorify the name of the Lord Jesus Christ! The fact is, that God will always have a nation and a people that will obey him! Jesus said, "Upon this rock, I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it!"

I Timothy 2:1,2,3 says, "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, and intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all

that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour."

Prayer:

Lord, keep your true church unspotted from the world. Keep our eyes upon you, so we may forever bless your holy Name. Give us a pure heart, and set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth; keep the doors of my lips. Psalm 141:3 Give us a praying spirit, and fill us with your love. For your glory and In Jesus's Name we pray, 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!"

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