

**OUTside**  
**Looking IN**

**OUR VOICE**



**"ONE SOLITARY LIFE"**  
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**COMMENTARY**

**"RUSHCARD EMPOWERS PEOPLE TO HELP MANAGE THEIR MONEY"**

**BY DR. BENJAMIN CHAVIS**  
**PAGE 4**

**BRUNSWICK COUNTY UPDATE**



**BERNEST HEWETT**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

**BY BERNEST HEWETT**  
**CONTRIBUTING WRITER**

This week, we come together and celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, God's gift to the world. As we come together for this reason, we must remember to take this spirit with us out in the world. We must treat our fellowman with the love of Jesus, and the world will be a better place for all people.

God has no special person. He loves us all, regardless of race or color!! **MERRY CHRISTMAS!!**

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

**THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL**



**—SALUTES—**  
**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

On January 14, 2016 *The Wilmington Journal*

will publish a Special Edition honoring our Drum Major **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** To reserve your advertising space **Call (910) 762-5502**

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**THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL**

*News from the African American perspective without fear or favor*

**VOLUME 88/No. 52**

**DECEMBER 24-DECEMBER 31, 2015**

**FIFTY CENTS**

**NC HIGH COURT SET STAGE FOR FIERY 2016**

**BY CASH MICHAELS**  
*OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL*

Those in the social activist movement got a one-two punch to their cause Dec. 18th when the NC Supreme Court announced two devastating decisions that effectively further rolled back gains achieved prior to the Republican-led takeover of state government five years ago.

First, the state High Court decided, 4-3 along party lines, to ignore instructions from the US Supreme Court, and upheld for a second time the 2011 redistricting maps by the GOP majority Legislature which critics said unconstitutionally "stacked and packed" black voters statewide into a limited number of "majority-minority" voting districts. By doing so, critics charged, African-Americans weren't able to influence in majority-white districts, and thus, were limited in vot-

ing for representatives of their choice.

"That was not a surprise, though it was a disappointment," said attorney Irving Joyner, chair of the NC NAACP's Law and Redress Committee, and one of the litigators for the plaintiffs who filed suit against the GOP redistricting plans.

Joyner said the Republican majority of the court "...was pretty much designed to uphold the Republican legislature and promote the [GOP] principle of staking and packing." Joyner added that established case law against using race to primarily draw voting districts still stands, and he's certain that the ruling will be reversed on appeal.

That appeal will most likely not

come in time to affect the 2016 elections, Joyner agreed.

Defenders of the controversial redistricting maps, which effectively guarantee Republican legislative and congressional majorities until 2020, say the majority-black voting districts comply with the 1965 Voting Rights Act by ensuring that African-Americans are able to elect candidates from among their own ranks. But critics countered that by segregating black voters, Republican candidates were able to gain an advantage over white Democratic candidates where black Democrats had been removed.

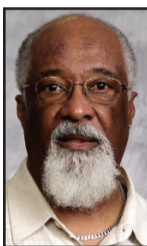
The state Supreme Court, however, rejected that argument and upheld the GOP maps in December 2014. But in April of this year, the US Supreme Court, which had gotten the case on appeal, sent it back to the state High Court, instructing it to reconsider in light of how black vot-

ers were constituted in the redistricting plan. The state of Alabama had a similar controversy, and the US justices ruled against them.

But after hearing arguments again last August, the NC Supreme Court dismissed whatever concerns expressed by the nation's High Court, and upheld for a second time the 2011 Republican redistricting maps.

Rev. Dr. William Barber, president of the NCNAACP, was not pleased.

"This bad decision ignores the advice of the US Supreme Court," Rev. Barber said in a statement. "We see it as a



**JOYNER**



**BARBER**

*Please see*  
**2016/Page 2**



**PHOTOS BY BLESSING PHOTOGRAPHY**  
**KWANISHIA NELSON AND ALQUON'S ANGELS PRESENTING GIFTS TO DAE'YION DOE AND HIS FAMILY**

**CARING AND SHARING**

**SPECIAL TO**  
*THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL*

Support The Port Foundation Inc. & Alquon's Angels brought together families from all over Wilmington to fellowship and be entertained from local talent during their Stop The Violence Holiday Talent Show and Toy Drive. The Stop The Violence Holiday Talent Show & Toy Drive took place in the heart of the community at the Martin Luther King Jr. Center, hosted by Cedric Harrison (Founder of Support The Port Foundation Inc) & Sandra "The Midday Miss" McClammy (Personality on Coast 97.3). This event was for families and friends in the community to come out, and celebrate the talent of our youth, while also giving back for a good cause. The musical experience was provided by Coast 97.3 DJ K. Grady as guests came in to grab a seat, and kids enjoyed pizza sponsored by Support The Port. The Stop The Violence Holiday Talent Show and Toy Drive started with a "Hit the Quan" contest for the kids that inspired a hilarious "Hit the Quan" contest for the parents. Following the contest was a moment of silence for all the people in our community that we have lost due to violence. Attendees enjoyed several performances during the event, in between performances they also enjoyed speeches from influential leaders within the community including Kevin Spears



**GIRLS CLUB CHEERLEADERS**



**TOYS THAT WERE COLLECTED FOR FAMILIES**

*Please see* **CARING/Page 2**



**BRIGADIER GENERAL ERVIN**

**Governor McCrory congratulates first African American promoted to general in NC Air National Guard**

**SPECIAL TO**  
*THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL*

**RALEIGH, N.C.** - The North Carolina Air National Guard recently promoted Sanford, N.C., resident Clarence Ervin to the rank of brigadier general, making him the first African American general officer in the NC Air Guard's (NCANG) 67-year history.

Ervin pinned on the rank during a ceremony at the North Carolina National Guard Joint Force Headquarters in Raleigh on Friday, December 18.

Originally from South Carolina, Ervin enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1979 as a fuels specialist and transferred to the NCANG in 1985. He earned his officer's commission in 1988 when he graduated from the Academy of Military Science at McGhee-Tyson Air National Guard Base near Knoxville, Tenn.

Ervin has served as NCANG's chief of military equal opportunity, commander of the 145th Services Flight and the 145th Mission Support Group and as vice commander of the 145th Airlift Wing, all units located at the NCANG base at Charlotte Douglas International Airport in Charlotte.

Since 2013, Ervin has served on active duty as the NCANG director of staff at the Guard's Joint Force Headquarters in Raleigh. In his new role, Brig. Gen.

*Please see* **ERVIN/Page 3**



THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

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2016 Continued from Page 1

court decision straight down partisan line which seeks to uphold the unconstitutional racially drawn districts of the ultra partisan extreme NC legislature. A 4-3 decision. We will Appeal to the US Supreme Court." Republican legislative leaders issued a reaction cheering the decision, and then added, "It's time for these left-wing groups to stop wasting taxpayer money pursuing their frivolous and politically-motivated appeals and finally accept the will of the voters."

For the three-member minority, Justice Cheri Beasley wrote the minority opinion.

"For all the complexity of VRA jurisprudence, the



BEASLEY

bottom line is that the manipulation of district lines based on race to a greater extent than necessary to comply with the VRA is unconstitutional," Justice Beasley wrote.

In its second blow to the social justice movement, the state Su-preme Court vacated the rulings by a black Cumberland County Superior Court judge three years ago who commuted the death sentences of four convicted murderers to life in prison under the now defunct Racial Justice Act, because there was evidence of racial bias in their prosecution.

The high Court ruled that Judge Gregory Weeks erred when he didn't give prosecutors adequate time to counter arguments based on a statistic study on crimes by race in North Carolina.



WEEKS

That study showed that more blacks than whites were sentenced to the death penalty in capital cases when their victims were white. The study also showed that black jurors were removed from juries hearing capital cases involving black defendants than whites.

The Republican-led NC General Assembly repealed the Racial Justice Act in 2013 after just four year.

Irv Joyner, also a law professor at NCCU School of Law, called the state Supreme Court decision "a travesty."

The Center for Death Penalty Litigation in Durham issued a statement saying, "The N.C. Supreme Court ordered new hearings in four Racial Justice Act cases because of legal technicalities, but did not overturn the key findings of these groundbreaking cases: that African-Americans have been systematically excluded from serving on capital juries, producing unfair outcomes for defendants on trial

for their lives."

"We are confident that, no matter how many hearings are held or studies completed, we will win this case. The evidence of racial bias in jury selection is simply overwhelming and undeniable," said Jay Ferguson, attorney for the defendants. "All this decision will do is add more delays and cost the state millions to conduct new studies and hold new hearings. We will be throwing more taxpayer money into a hopelessly broken death penalty."

"The powerful evidence that Judge Weeks found still stands," said Ferguson. "Nothing the Supreme Court did today challenge that in any way. As a state, we cannot ignore this troubling evidence that racial bias infects the death penalty from the very beginning of the process. When we cannot even choose the jury fairly, we surely cannot ensure fair trials and outcomes for defendants facing execution."

CARING

Continued from Page 1

(New Hanover County Board of Education Candidate) and Blanco Dinero (Rapper/Bail Bondsman.) On the way out the door, Support The Port passed pit their "Stop The Violence" signs to everyone that came out to the event.

Support The Port's Special Events Coordinator and

founder of Alquon's Angels, Kwanishia Nelson has been producing this event for the past 4 years, and it keeps getting bigger and better. Every year toys are collected for families in need during the holidays. This year we were able to help 30 plus kids, but this year there was a special presentation of presents for one child in particular, Dae' Yion Doe, a young king who lost his mother, and his 20-

month-old sister in September. So to show him love during this time of pain, Ms. Nelson made sure he got all of the presents he wanted for Christmas plus more, and presented this to him and his family during the talent show.

Special thank you to *The Wilmington Journal*, Coast 97.3, Wilmington Police Recreation Association, Brewster Bail Bonding,

Big Wave Promotions, Blessing Photography, Total Life Changes, Fearless Touch Hair Studio, Community Boys & Girls Club and The Martin Luther King Center.

Join The Conversation, IG: @SupportThePort! #SupportThePort, Twitter: @SupportThee Port Facebook: www.facebook.com/-SupportThePortFoundation, Website: www.SupportThePort.com.

**TODAY'S BLACK NEWS IS TOMORROW'S BLACK HISTORY**

# The Ford Holiday Sales Event

There are a lot of reasons to love the holidays. And now Ford, America's best-selling brand,<sup>1</sup> is giving you more with low financing on cars, trucks and SUVs. Plus, big Holiday Bonus Cash on select vehicles. So, hurry to your Ford Dealer, for the best gift ever!

**0% APR FOR 60 MONTHS<sup>2</sup>**  
 ON 2015 F-150 & FOCUS / 2016 FUSION & ESCAPE

**\$1,000 HOLIDAY PLUS BONUS CASH<sup>2</sup>**  
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2016 Ford Fusion



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<sup>1</sup>Best-selling based on 2014 CY sales data. Not all buyers qualify for Ford Credit financing. 60 months at \$16.67 per month per \$1,000 financed, regardless of down payment. Holiday Bonus Cash requires Ford Credit financing. Offers not available on Fusion Energi. Take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 1/4/16. See dealer for qualifications and complete details.

**16 YEAR-OLD KILLED, FOUR INJURED IN DRIVE-BY SHOOTING**

[WILMINGTON] The Port City has now been added to the national 2015 Mass Shootings List by the Gun Violence Archive and Shooting Tracker.com after a 16-year-old teenager was fatally shot Sunday at 11th and Castle Street Sunday, with four others wounded. Shane Simpson, 16, was found lying dead on the corner after 11:20 p.m. by Wilmington Police. Reports say a dark-colored sedan pulled up, with shots fired on the group of teens standup there. None of the other injuries were considered serious. The list, which defines a mass shooting as four or more people shot and/or killed in a single event, notes that the Wilmington incident is

the tenth since the Dec. 2nd San Bernadino, Calif. terrorist attack which killed 16 people. There have been 321 mass shootings in the US in 2015, the Gun Violence Archive says.



STATE BRIEFS

**DMV FEES GOING UP JANUARY 1ST**

[RALEIGH] If ever there was a time to get your driver's license renewed, between now and Dec. 31st is the time before fees rise at the NC Division of Motor Vehicles in Jan. 1st, 2016. And don't count on the NCDMV website to take you right up to midnight Dec. 31st with the old fees, because it is scheduled to shutdown on New Year's Eve at 9 p.m. in order to begin reprogramming for the new schedule by 12:01 a.m. New Year's Day. So whether it's driver license renewal, vehicle registration renewal, ordering duplicates, requesting driving records, orders for personalized plates, and more, get it done now before the new year. Fee increases range from \$1 to \$8.00 or more.

**US JUSTICE DEPT. PUSHES FAYETTEVILLE POLICE DEPT. TO IMPROVE USE-OF-FORCE POLICIES**

[FAYETTEVILLE] The US Department of Justice has made a series of recommendations to the Fayetteville Police Dept. in an effort to correct their use-of-force policies. After reviewing FPD records for 2013 and 2014, in addition to interviews with police officers, community leaders and residents, federal officials determined that the department lacks accurate data maintenance. They also rejected the FPD policy of firing warning shots, indicating that innocent people could be struck. Federal officials also maintained that poor use-of-force tactics will ultimately render the officer involved responsible if something goes wrong if those policies are not corrected.

**STATE JOBLESS RATE HOLDS AT 5.7 FOR NOVEMBER**

[GREENSBORO] North Carolina added 11,400 nonfarm

jobs in November, but the unemployment remained at 5.7 percent, where it was in October. Forecasters say the state's economy looks good going into 2016, and they expect to see more full-time and higher paying jobs coming soon. North Carolina's jobless figures are .7 percent above the national unemployment rate of 5 percent.

**LIBERTARIANS FILE FOR GOVERNOR, US SENATE RACES**

[RALEIGH] As the candidate filing for the March 15th primary ended Dec. 21st, libertarian candidates for top offices added their names to the long list of office seekers. Sean Haugh of Durham is once again making a run for the US Senate. He earned the vote in 2014 when he first ran. First-timer Lon Cecil of High Point registered to run for governor, along with state Libertarian Party Chairman J. J. Summe-rell, who is running for lieutenant

governor. Libertarian candidates must earn at least two percent of the vote during a presidential year in order to maintain their official status in the state as a political party.

**RACE ALLEGED TO BE MAIN FACTOR IN WAKE REDISTRICTING**

[RALEIGH] Witnesses for the plaintiffs in a federal lawsuit against the new election maps the Republican-led NC General Assembly drew in 2013 for Wake County Commission and school board races testified last week that race was the primary factor in determining the new lines. Republicans redrew District 4 comprised of South East Raleigh, parts of Garner and Knightdale so that it resulted in 54 percent black population, thus denying African-Americans to influence races in other districts. Lawyers for the GOP counter they were trying to get more Democrats into the district so that more conservative voters in the suburban and rural areas would have a voice. The presiding federal

judge indicated that he'll make his ruling by the end of this month.

**PUBLIC WILL NOT HAVE ACCESS TO DURHAM POLICE BODY CAMERA FOOTAGE**

[DURHAM] When Durham Police Officers begin wearing body cameras when they go on patrol, the footage will be considered part of a criminal investigation in use-of-force situations and not be made public, according to a recently announced draft policy announced by the DPD. But many Durham residents say that is unacceptable because there would be no transparency, and will only add to community distrust if video evidence of a police investigation into its own actions can't be shown. The NC American Civil Liberties Union also pans the new body cam policy.

COMPILED BY CASH MICHAELS

Power 1220 WENC Presents  
**First Of The Year Annual Gospel Program**  
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 Doors open 6:00 pm • Program 7:00 pm

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World Famous Pastor H.E. Dixon & Choir Cordesville, South Carolina (Answer to your Name)	Unity Quartet Lumberton, North Carolina (He Is Coming Back)	Wendy Peterson & Friends (Last and Evil Days)
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 M.C. ~ Pastor Robert Williams & House of Mercy

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Battle for the King of WENC  
 Fight For WENC Gospel King  
 Bishop Harvey Williams vs  
 Bishop Calvin Norton

**Queen Contest!**  
 Mary Burris vs  
 Lillie McKvian, Loris, SC

Harvey Williams Calvin Norton Mary Burris Lillie McKvian

**Advanced Tickets:**  
 Adults ~ \$10.00 or \$12.00 at Door • Children Under 12 ~ \$6.00 at Door

**ERVIN**  
 Continued from Page 1

Ervin will serve as the NCANG chief of staff. In civilian life, he is the Assistant Chief for Acute and Home Care Licensure and Certification with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services.

Ervin holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Saint Leo University and a Master of Health Administration from Pfeiffer University. He is a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Air Command and Staff College and the Air War College. A highly-decorated leader, Ervin's citations include the Legion of Merit and three awards of the Meritorious Service Medal. Ervin has two sons, Clarence Ervin, Jr. and Christopher. Ervin's parents, David and Gazella Hardin, joined him and his sons for the promotion ceremony.

**GOSPEL JOY - The LIGHT**  
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**2016 MLK CELEBRATION**  
**BERNICE KING**

**Friday, Jan. 22**  
**7 p.m., Kenan Auditorium**  
**University of North Carolina Wilmington**

Admission is free, but tickets are required and available at Kenan Auditorium Box Office beginning Jan. 4.

Box office hours are noon to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. A maximum of four tickets are allowed per individual. For groups, contact 910.962.2480.

Keynote speaker Bernice A. King is the chief executive officer of The King Center, a life-changing orator, author and daughter of legendary global leaders Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King.

UNCW UPPERMAN AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER

In collaboration with the CITY OF WILMINGTON NORTH CAROLINA

EEO/AA Institution. Accommodations for disabilities may be requested by 910.962.2480 at least five days prior to the event.

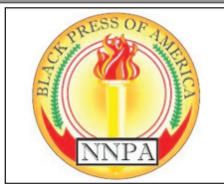
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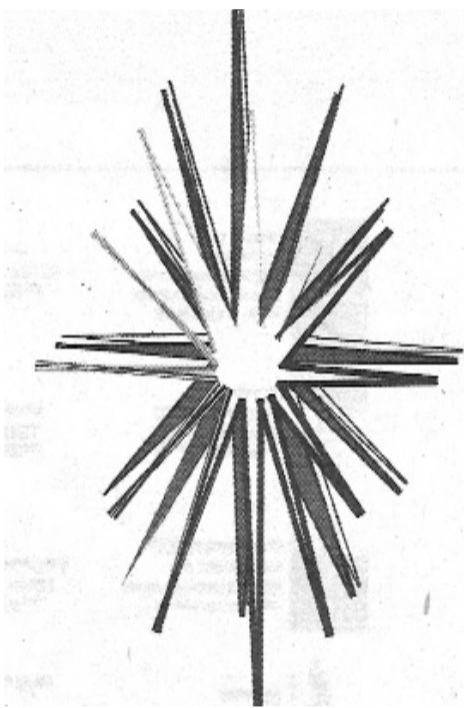


THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

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.

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

## Our Voice One Solitary Life



He was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in another obscure village, where He worked in a carpenter shop until He was thirty, then for three years He was an itinerant preacher. He never had a family or owned a home. He never set foot inside a big city. He never traveled two hundred miles from the place He was born. He never wrote a book, or held an office. He did none of the things that usually accompany greatness.

While He was still a young man, the tide of popular opinion turned against Him. His friends deserted Him. He was turned over to His enemies, and went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. While He was dying, His executioners gambled for the only piece of property He had, His coat. When He was dead, He was taken down and laid in a borrowed grave.

Twenty centuries have come and gone, and today He is the central figure for much of the human race. All the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that ever sailed, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man upon this earth as powerfully as the "One Solitary Life." --Author Unknown--

We, at *The Wilmington Journal*, wish you the very best that life has to offer today and always. We thank all of those who helped us make it through 2015. It was a tough year for us. Your prayers, kind deeds, and financial support are greatly appreciated. Even though words, alone, cannot express our gratitude to you, we still say, "Thank you! Thank you!"

Merry Christmas to all!

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL



—SALUTES—

**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

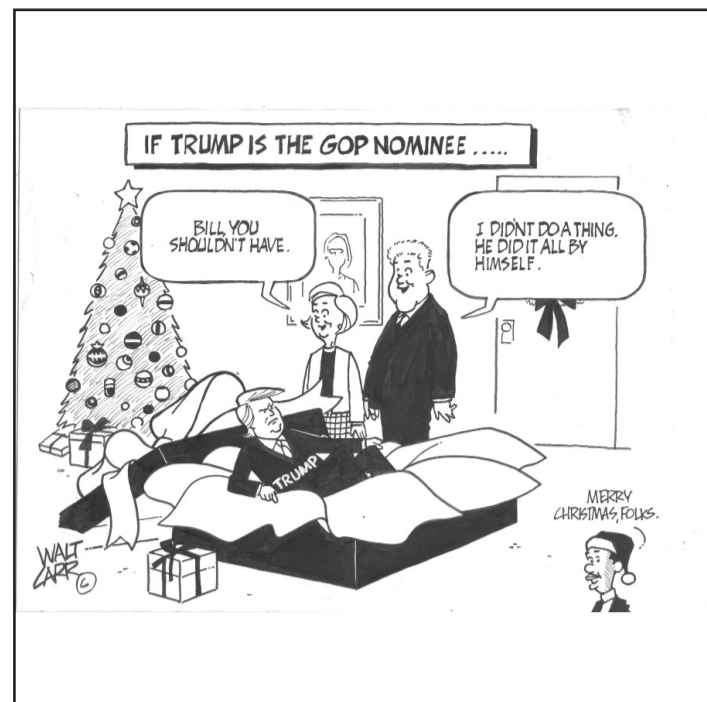
On January 14, 2016  
*The Wilmington Journal*  
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honoring our Drum Major

**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

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The deadline for reservations is January 8, 2016

## Visual Voice



## Your Voice

### City of Wilmington-Community Leader Update

#### Riverfront Park/Water Street Improvements

Work on the Water Street/Riverfront Park Improvement Project got underway in October. This work is Phase I of a multi-phase project to overhaul of Riverfront Park and Water Street. The total \$6.3 million project includes underground repairs to the riverwalk, stormwater and water/sewer infrastructure, as well as above ground renovations of Riverfront Park, expansion of the plaza in front of the Federal Courthouse, and streetscape improvements. Water Street is open to pedestrians and all businesses remain open. Visit [www.wilmingtonnc.gov/riverfrontpark](http://www.wilmingtonnc.gov/riverfrontpark) for more information.

### Paving of 41st Street

The repair and repaving of 41st Street between Oleander Drive and Shipyard Boulevard is slated to begin in mid-January and last approximately four months. This is the next project in the city's \$41 million, 5-year Infrastructure Improvement Plan; the city has already repaved more than 52 lane miles of city streets since July 2012. Click here for more information.

### WPD positive outreach

The WPD is partnering with several other local law enforcement agencies on an initiative to promote positive relationships between law enforcement officers and the citizens they serve.

Officers are being trained to listen to the citizen and then explain what they are doing if stopped on the street. Citizens can learn more about the campaign by visiting [positiveencounters.com](http://positiveencounters.com). The website includes information on citizen rights, as well as tips to help keep the interactions positive. Citizens are encouraged to comply with the officer and then complain later, if necessary.

The goal of this campaign is to make sure everyone gets home safe, and to encourage positive relationships and mutual respect. You can learn more and watch the PSA's here.

### Transportation bond update

The city has been busy working to get several voter-approved Transportation Bond Projects underway and 13 proj-

ects are now actively under design. You can read more about some of the projects we expect to start next year at the links below:

- Barclay Hills area/N. 23rd st sidewalks
  - Dawson/Wooster Streetscape and 8th Street Crosswalks
  - South College Rd. Trail
  - Wilshire Blvd Crosswalks (at Kerr Ave & College)
- A couple other significant projects that are moving forward in the design phase, including:
- Love Grove Additional Access
  - Carolina Beach Road Streetscape

As always, thank you for your interest and support of the city. Happy holidays!

**Sterling B. Cheatham**  
Wilmington City Manager  
910-341-7810

## Matters of Opinion

### Their path to freedom

Gallogay had still been in New York City, on the last leg of the tour of the North that followed his meeting with President Lincoln when the Reverend Henry Highland Garnet put out a call for a national convention of American Black leaders. In Syracuse, New York the Reverend Jermain Baguen received Garnet's call and immediately offered to host

the convention there. Black leaders soon set a date for a convention that would run from October 4th-7th. As Gallogay took his seat among the 144 delegate at the National Convention of colored



David Dowdy

men of the United States on October 4, 1864 he compelling figure and carried a special kind of moral authority.

The convention marked a crucial opportunity for self-definition for Black America. The delegates walked into the convention hall confident that the United States owed its very survival to African American soldiers. They defined the political meaning

of Black military service as a certificate of full citizenship.

We have an extremely conservative governor, Pat McCorty, a governor who has made it harder for people to vote, doesn't support raising minimum wages. If you want to send Pat McCorty home to Charlotte, you know what you have to do.

David Dowdy is the former vice-president of the New Hanover County NAACP.

## RushCard empowers people to help manage their money

The financial services industry is a vast matrix of banks, credit and debit cards products, venture capital and mortgage companies, investment firms, and other financial institutions that compete to provide services to 326,346,200 people in the United States and millions more around the world. There is a very old saying that posits: "How you manage your money will determine how well your heart will beat."

For 100.4 million African Americans and Latino Americans combined that spend in excess of \$2.4 trillion annually as consumers in the U.S. marketplace, the daily and hourly financial management of our money is an important issue. The RushCard developed by Russell Simmons is an effective and efficient money management tool potentially for millions of "unbanked" and "underbanked" people throughout the United States. According to a 2014 FDIC report, 22 percent of unbanked households used a prepaid card, compared with 13 percent of underbanked households.

I have always emphasized

and promoted greater diversity and inclusion in the financial services industry. But inclusivity also means more than limiting involvement primarily to be only customers or users of financial products and services. We also need more people of color and others to be owners and entrepreneurs in the growing financial services industry.

Russell Simmons is a global entrepreneur. I have personally known Russell for more than three decades. He continues to have the highest possible integrity and commitment to help people improve their quality of life. His entrance into the financial services industry was timely and providential. For over the past ten years the RushCard has steadily emerged as an invaluable money management prepaid debit card for hundreds of thousands of card users across the nation. RushCard is owned by Simmons' company, UniRush, LLC.

Notwithstanding recent computer software glitches that have now been resolved concerning the use of the RushCard, it is my opinion that the RushCard today will be a productive and very useful prepaid debit card to use for each member of your family. Why? First, because the RushCard meets the Visa Clear Prepaid standards for clearly communicated fees and consumer protections. Secondly, if you go to

[www.RushCard.com](http://www.RushCard.com) you will see a very user-friendly online process that explains how you can apply for the prepaid debit card. The mission of the RushCard is publicly affirmed to "Empower our members by providing products and services that enable them to achieve control and realize their personal hopes and financial goals."

Thirdly, the RushCard has been around longer than most prepaid cards and has achieved over the past decade a number of innovative first in the industry to better serve its card users including but not limited to the following:

- One of the first prepaid cards to offer Direct Deposit.
- One of the first prepaid cards to offer check-writing capabilities to its members.
- One of the first prepaid cards to offer cash loading at more than 35,000 Money Gram® locations, nationwide.
- One of the first prepaid cards to offer comprehensive money management tools that make it easier to track balances, create monthly budgets, and analyze spending.

There are a wide variety of prepaid debit cards available for people to have an opportunity to select for their personal and family use. My family members use the RushCard because it is user friendly, but importantly we use the RushCard because of Russell Simmons trustworthy leadership in the financial services

industry. The Consumer Report recently named the RushCard the 4th highest rated prepaid card used as a substitute for a bank account.

Russell recently stated, "As a thank you for sticking with us and to support your cash needs during the upcoming Holiday season, we've declared a Fee Holiday Season, meaning from November 1, 2015 to February 29, 2016, you can use your RushCard without incurring any fees from our Fee Schedule. You don't need to take any extra steps to participate in this special offer. Just pull out your RushCard and use it for all of your holiday needs."

Current and new RushCard holders don't have to pay any monthly, transaction or ATM fees for using the RushCard from now until February 29, 2016. Again, we all should strive to get better control over how we manage our money. I have found that using the RushCard does in fact help to manage savings, investments and spending. Financial empowerment will be the result of proper financial management.

Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. is the President and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) and can be reached for national advertisement sales and partnership proposals at: [dr.bchavis@nnpa.org](mailto:dr.bchavis@nnpa.org); and for lectures and other professional consultations at: <http://drbenjaminfchavisjr.wix.com/drbfj>.

RAINBOW COALITION

Leaders provide vision, not division

(George Curry Media)

Leaders provide vision. They help people understand where they are, how they got there and what they must do to go forward. They help calm nerves and strengthen courage. They are steady in times of trouble, inspiring in times of demoralization.

Donald Trump's reaction to the terrorist acts in Egypt, Lebanon, Paris and San Bernardino, Calif., both divides and weakens us. And for the most part, his rivals for the Republican presidential nomination have allowed him to lead the Republican Party and its run to the White House to ignominy.

Americans are understandably worried. We have been fighting wars in the Middle East for more than a decade. We lost thousands of lives and spent literally trillions of dol-



Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.

lars in a wrong-headed war of choice in Iraq. We toppled the Taliban in Afghanistan, Saddam Hussein in Iraq, Muammar Qaddafi in Libya, producing failed states and generating more terrorists. Now, we are trying to take out Assad in Syria even as his mortal enemy ISIS takes credit for terrorist horrors in Paris and Beirut. The violence keeps spreading; the terrorists keep reviving. And Americans grow more and more worried.

The task of leadership is to provide clarity, and a strategy that quiets fears and offers a way out. Mr. Trump has chosen instead to foster greater fear, to divide us one from another, while calling on us to abandon our own values.

It is time for people of conscience to once more stand up. We are not in a war with our brothers and sisters of the Muslim faith. They are neighbors and friends. Some volunteer to defend this country. American Muslims despise ISIS and the way the terrorists distort and disgrace their religion. We should not lock our doors or close our hearts to those who are the victims of ISIS and the terror in Syria

and Iraq whatever their religion or tribe. The threat to lock out Muslims is harmful, hurtful and divisive.

It is immoral and perversely counterproductive. There are more Muslims in the world than Christians. There are more Muslims than Americans. ISIS may declare war on Western civilization, but that just illustrates their madness. We are not at war with Islam. We are at war with terrorists who threaten our people. We want to enlist the overwhelming majority of Muslims to stand with us, not provoke them to stand against us.

In this Christmas season, we should not forget that after his birth in a manger, Jesus was a refugee, fleeing into Egypt with his parents from the threat of Roman violence. He taught us to care for the stranger on the Jericho Road, not spurn and scorn him.

I grew up under segregation, locked out because of the color of my skin. The race test was hurtful because I could never pass it. The same is true of the call to exclude all Muslims. We must speak forcefully against those who would

mindlessly impose a religion test for entry into the U.S., and those who would call for closing down Mosques or cracking down on places where Muslims gather peacefully. America will not defeat terrorism by dividing one from another.

Terror is the weapon of the weak. For a people with hope, the hate of ISIS has no attraction. For people who are integrated into a society, ISIS' call to violence goes unanswered. ISIS calls for jihad, arguing that the West is waging war on Islam. We need to isolate the terrorists, not inflate them. We need to give lie to their calumnies, not provide evidence for them.

Anyone who aspires to lead this country ought to demonstrate that they will respect and defend the values on which it has been built. In this time of trouble, Mr. Trump and many of his rivals are denigrating the very principles that make America strong.

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](http://www.rainbow-push.org).

CURRY'S COMMENTS

The Supreme Court runs away from race

(George Curry Media)

The United States Supreme Court has always been reluctant to take on the issue of race with any sensitivity toward Blacks. In its famous Dred Scott decision, Justice Roger B. Taney, writing for the majority in 1857, said Blacks, had been "regarded as beings of an inferior order and altogether unfit to associate with the white race, either in social or political relations; and so far inferior that they had no rights which the white man was bound to respect; and that the Negro might justly and lawfully be reduced to slavery for his benefit."

That decision was not reversed until 1954 in Brown v. Board of Education.

Today, the Supreme Court is not as blatantly racist as it was in the 1850s, but has essentially decided that in order to address the question of race, an institution must first try to find solutions that ignore race.

Nowhere is that clearer than in its handling of affirmative action, including the pending case against the University of Texas.

In its 1978 Bakke ruling, the court outlawed an affirmative action program at the University of California-Davis Medical School that reserved 16 of 100 seats for members of certain minority groups.

Again in 2003, the court struck down a University of Michigan undergraduate program. In Gratz v. Bollinger, the court rejected an affirmative action program that provided a 20-point bonus to underrepresented ethnic groups, including Blacks, Latinos and Native Americans. The university used a 150-point scale, with 100 points needed to gain admission.

However, the court upheld the university's law school affirmative action program that considered race and ethnicity along with other factors.

In sending Fisher back to the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals for additional review, the Supreme Court said, "On this point, the courts below were correct in finding that Grutter calls for deference to the University's experience and expertise about its educational mission. However, once the University has established that its goal of diversity is consistent with strict scrutiny, the University must prove that the means it chose to attain that diversity are narrowly tailored to its goal."

"...The reviewing court must ultimately be satisfied that no workable race-neutral alternatives would produce the educational benefits of diversity [my emphasis]."

Rather than addressing race directly, essentially the Supreme Court requires that race be first ignored when crafting an affirmative action program and only after that effort has failed, can universities use race as one of many factors in considering applicants.

It doesn't take a rocket or social scientist to figure out that's a doomed approach.

In fact, the state of Texas created its 10 Percent Plan - whereby UT-Austin automatically admits students in the top 10 percent of each Texas high school graduating class to the flagship university - was created in the wake of an adverse affirmative action ruling.

The school's original affirmative action program was struck down by the 5th Circuit of Appeals on March 18, 1996.

The court held that "the University of Texas School of Law may not use race as a factor in deciding which applicants to admit in order to achieve a diverse student body, to combat the perceived effects of a hostile environment at the law school, to alleviate the law school's poor reputation in the minority community, or to eliminate any present effects of past discrimination by actors other than the law school."

In the wake of that defeat, the Texas legislature devised the 10 Percent Plan. In its response to Fisher, the university listed numerous race-neutral approaches it has taken, none of which has returned its Black or Latino enrollment to earlier levels.

And when the University of Michigan's Law School program was upheld by the Supreme Court in 2003, the University of Texas moved to use race among seven factors it considered when evaluating students not admitted under the 10 Percent Plan. None of the factors, including race, were given any numerical value.

Still, Fisher chose to sue solely because race was considered with the other factors. The university countered that Fisher, who did not graduate in the top 10 percent of her class, would not have been granted admission even if no affirmative action program existed.

The New York Times published a story Dec. 9 with charts showing that in every state that imposed a ban on affirmative action - California, Michigan, Texas, Washington, and Florida - Black and Latino admission subsequently declined.

Yet, even in the Fisher cases, justices were still quoting O'Connor, who said in Gratz,

"It has been 25 years since Justice Powell first approved the use of race to further an interest in student body diversity in the context of public higher education. Since that time, the number of minority applicants with high grades and test scores has indeed increased... We expect that 25 years from now, the use of racial preferences will no longer be necessary to further the interest approved today."

That was 12 years ago. And if the Supreme Court keeps seeking ways to avoid directly confronting the issue of race, that 25-year goal is nothing but a pipe dream.

George E. Curry is President and CEO of George Curry Media, LLC. He is the former editor-in-chief of Emerge magazine and the National Newspaper Publishers Association News Service (NNPA). He is a keynote speaker, moderator, and media coach. Curry can be reached through his Web site, [www.georgecurry.com](http://www.georgecurry.com). You can also follow him at [twitter.com/currygeorge](https://twitter.com/currygeorge), [George E. Curry Fan Page on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/GeorgeE.Curry), and [Periscope](http://www.periscope.com). See previous columns at <http://www.georgecurry.com/columns>.

DANIELS

Continued from This Page

rental and homeownership markets, and pay more than Whites for the housing they get; and the persistence of discrimination limits their ability to raise capital for starting or expanding businesses they own.

America's claim to greatness has always rested heavily on the promise of the opportunity to gain financial stability and comfort - of becoming "middle class."

The New Deal response to the Great Depression of the 1930s made that promise explicit government policy and ushered in a crucial decades-long period when the burgeoning American middle-class represented the best of what made America great -

expanding opportunity in a way that benefited the whole society. That, in turn, underscored the role of the middle class as a bulwark of social stability and an engine of equality. That's the role a sizable black middle class could be expected to play as well for blacks and the entire society.

That's why the final answer to the question-can the black middle class be saved? - is so vital to Black Americans and America as a whole.

Lee A. Daniels is a longtime journalist based in New York City. His essay, "Martin Luther King, Jr.: The Great Provocateur," appears in *frica's Peacemakers: Nobel Peace Laureates of African Descent (2014), Race Forward: Facing America's Racial Divide A in 2014 published by Zed Books. His new collection of columns is available at www.amazon.com.*

CHILDWATCH

Why are children less vulnerable than guns in America?

(George Curry Media)

Three years after the Sandy Hook Elementary School massacre in Newtown, Conn., where a lone 20-year-old gunman wielding an assault weapon snuffed out 26 child and teacher lives, our nation has done shamefully little to protect children instead of guns. Last week, more than 10,000 people attended more than 100 Orange Walks in 43 states to stand up and deliver a rallying cry that we must and can end gun violence in America, according to Moms Demand Action - a cry that must continue and get louder and louder until our tone deaf political leaders hear or are retired from office.



Marian W. Edelman

New data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) show 2,525 children and teens died by gunfire in our nation in 2014; one child or teen death every 3 hours and 28 minutes, nearly 7 a day, 48 a week. What is this moral perversity in our midst that values guns more than children and human life?

In the three years since Sandy Hook's nightmare, we have not passed even one common sense federal gun law to reduce gun violence and deaths and protect children from our out-of-control scourge of violence. Universal background checks work. The evidence is clear. The overwhelming majority of gun owners and non-gun owners support stricter background checks, yet the Congress has done nothing. How do we change this?

Seventy-eight children under 5 died by guns last year - 30 more than the 48 law enforcement officers killed by guns in the line of duty. Is there no shame in the shooters or in the lawmakers who protect the shooters or in the industry who makes profits off the blood of children? Shouldn't Republicans, Democrats, and Independents of every race, income, color and faith be able to agree that child gun deaths are a moral blight on our nation which we have the means but not the will to prevent and change course?

Last month our hearts at the Children's Defense Fund (CDF) were broken by the death of our extraordinarily generous, creative, and decades-long partner and board member Pat Fallon, co-founder of the award-winning Fallon Worldwide advertising agency. Some of his agency's most searing images depicted the relentless carnage of gun violence that kills and maims thousands of children year after year. CDF began our antiviolence campaign in 1994 after Peter Hart Research Associates conducted intergenerational focus groups of Black youths and

adults. We were shocked to learn their number one concern was gun violence: Black male youths didn't believe they'd live to adulthood and Black parents saw gun violence as the number one threat to their children. Then came Columbine with two White teen boys wearing trench coats who shot and killed 13 people and injured 21 others in a rampage at their school that shocked the nation. Shouldn't it be illegal to sell and buy these weapons of war in America that turn our streets, schools, and workplaces into killing fields? Surely we are better than this. How can we let our lawmakers stand by and do nothing to stop the slaughter of innocents? Since 1963, more than three times more children and teens have died from guns in America than U.S. soldiers killed in action in wars abroad.

Why is a child's right to live less important than a gunman's right to kill and the gun manufacturers' profits? Children are certainly not the only ones in danger in our gun-saturated nation that accounts for less than 5 percent of the global population but owns between 35 to 50 percent of all civilian-owned guns in the world. Recent estimates of U.S. civilian gun ownership are as high as 310 million - about one gun for each person. U.S. military and law enforcement agencies possess approximately 4 million guns. Isn't there something horribly wrong

with this picture? We must urgently push policymakers to confront and end our national gun violence epidemic as the huge public health crisis it is and there are some steps we can all take now: End the federal ban on gun research and fund research on effective gun violence prevention strategies. Continue to broaden the range of supporters for effective gun prevention action at the federal, state, and local levels. Pledge to ASK about guns in the home where your children visit. Make clear that you will not let your child play in a house with unlocked guns just as you would not let your child ride in a car without a seatbelt. Divest in gun companies. Don't invest in violence and death. Are you one of the many Americans whose retirement plans include gun manufacturers' stock? Let's ask if our religious, philanthropic, nonprofit organizations and universities with endowments are supporting gun violence through investments. Learn more.

Marian Wright Edelman is president of the Children's Defense Fund whose Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities. For more information go to [www.childrensdefense.org](http://www.childrensdefense.org).

Can Black America's middle class be saved?

I don't mean the small class of wealthy Black Americans or Black upper-middle class Americans who earn hefty salaries and whose net worth runs into the millions of dollars. In today's more open American society, they'll do fine economically. I mean that considerable number of Blacks who earn five-figure to low six-figure salaries and whose wealth consists almost completely of the value of the home they own.

Will they survive? And if many of them don't, what will that mean for Black America as a whole? That question has been hanging like a thunderclod over the American horizon ever since the recession of 2001 undermined a bright promise of the prosperity the country enjoyed during the 1990s: that significant numbers of Black Americans were finally gaining a secure foothold in the middle class.



Lee A. Daniels

Blacks as a group never recovered from that recession, and the subprime housing crisis and the Great Recession that gripped the country just before President Obama won the White House, made matters much, much worse.

That was so for many, many Americans, of course - in part because the fierce economic shock intensified the dynamic of income inequality that had been shadowing the economy for decades. The title of a new study the Pew Research Center released this month makes the larger point in stark terms - "The American Middle Class Is Losing Ground: No longer the majority and falling behind financially" it declares.

If the American middle class as a whole is losing ground, the Black American middle class as a whole must be standing on the edge of a cliff - with a gale wind blowing.

The report's data and statistics from other sources confirm that notion's validity. (Using a three-person household as the standard, the study defines the middle-income range as stretching from \$42,000 to \$126,000 annually, with lower-income and upper-

income households below and above that range, respectively.)

It found in general terms that for the first time in nearly a half-century middle-income Americans no longer comprise the majority of the population. Instead, they now comprise 49.9 percent of the three broad income groups.

This may seem a minor point. But, for one thing, middle-income Americans have been steadily losing ground - as income inequality has been increasing - since 1971, when they made up 61 percent of the population. For another, not only have both the lower-income and the upper-income sectors grown in population but the growth in each of them has been concentrated at the furthest extremes of their boundaries - where the poorest of the poor and the very richest of the rich reside.

The upper-income sector has experienced the most growth; it now makes up 21 percent of the population. But even more important is the growing concentration of both income and wealth at the very top of the society. Upper-income households took in nearly half the total income realized by all households last year, while

middle-income households gained 43 percent of the total income and lower-income households took just 9 percent.

Finally, since 1983, only upper-income households recorded "notable gains" in wealth, widening the wealth gap between that sector and other Americans.

It's no coincidence that the wealth gap between Blacks and Whites has also increased during the very period that economic inequality has increased generally. The economic pressure besieging the Black middle-income sector has been the more severe because it's exacerbated by the persistence of racial discrimination in the job, housing and education markets.

Among other things, that means the Black unemployment rate (currently at 9.4 percent) is consistently close to twice the national average (5 percent); some companies remain largely closed to Blacks, especially in terms of more prestigious, better-paying positions; Blacks encounter discrimination in both the

DANIELS

See this page

### The First Lady joins Marines to give back



First lady Michelle Obama, walks in with a Marine and Retired Lt. General Henry Osman, president and CEO of the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation.



PHOTOS BY CHERISS MAY, HOWARD UNIVERSITY NEWS SERVICE  
First lady Michelle Obama speaks at Toys for Tots event at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — First lady Michelle Obama entered the auditorium at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling on Wednesday carrying a large red sack filled with toys. Obama was introduced by Retired Lt. Gen. Henry

Osman, president and CEO of the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation. As part of the Joining Forces initiative, the first lady delivered toys and gifts donated by White House staff to the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots

Campaign.

"We should all be reaching out to one another and showing compassion for those who struggle, even if they're different from us — in fact, especially if they're different from us," she said.

## International Longshoremens Association AFL-CIO, Local #1426

*Would like to wish everyone  
Christmas Blessings and  
Peace in the New Year!*



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**Merry Christmas!**  
*From Our Family to Yours*



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*Merry Christmas And  
Happy New Year*



*Wishing you the Gift of Faith  
The Blessing of Hope  
and the Peace of God's Love.*

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of  
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**The test of the years is your proof of our dependability.**

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# Worship the Newborn King



Merry Christmas to All  
From  
Rev. Anthony Watson, Pastor  
and  
The Mt. Olive A.M.E.  
Church Family  
1001 S. 7th Street  
Wilmington, NC

Central Missionary Baptist Church  
702 Red Cross Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
Prayer Meeting & Bible Study.....Wednesday  
12:00 Noon  
Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.  
Worship Service.....11:00 a.m.  
"The Lord Bless Thee, and Keep Thee: The Lord  
Make His Face Shine Upon Thee, And Be  
Gracious Unto Thee; The Lord, Lift Up His  
Countenance Upon Thee, And Give Thee Peace."  
Numbers 6:24-27  
Have A Blessed Christmas  
And A Happy New Year!  
Central Missionary Baptist Church  
Rev. Richard E. Robinson, Pastor



May the light of His love shine upon you and  
make this Christmas a season of joy.

*Jesus is the reason for the season!!*


Lighthouse Shining Ministries  
6622 Carolina Beach Road  
Wilmington, NC 28412

Reverend Dr. M. L. Benjamin, Pastor  
Elder Lenzey Benjamin, Assistant Pastor



"And the angel said unto them, fear not: for behold, I  
bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all  
people."  
-Luke 2:10

St. Matthew AME Church  
6809 Wrightsville Avenue, Wilmington, NC 28403  
Services Every 1st and 3rd Sunday  
Morning Service 11:00 a.m. ~  
Pastor Reverend Ronald Davis




Wishing peace, hope and love to all and a  
Blessed New Year!

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church  
2929 Princess Place Drive  
910-762-0580



But the angel reassured them. "Don't be  
afraid!" he said.  
"I bring you good news that will bring great joy  
to all people.  
The Savior-yes, the Messiah, the Lord - has  
been born today in Bethlehem, the city of  
David! LUKE 2:10 & 11 (NLT)

Mt. Nebo Missionary Baptist Church  
Rev. Richard W. Smith 801 S. 10th Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401



"May God's Blessings Surround You At Christmas and Throughout the New Year"

Faith Temple Church of God In Christ  
1119 South 4th Street • P. O. Box 508 • Wilmington, NC  
910-763-4399




Come Celebrate With Us!

December 31, 2015 ~ New Year's Eve High Praise  
Celebration ~10:00 pm  
January 13-15, 2015 -New Year's Revival ~7:30 pm nightly  
~Elder Shawn Maynor, Guest Evangelist~  
A church large enough to serve you...small enough to know you  
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Celebrating 145 Years of Kingdom Service

wishes for everyone  
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS  
and  
A BLESSED AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR




Reason To Rejoice!  
God Sent His Gift of Endless Love  
In Jesus' Humble Birth.

In the spirit of Christmas, we extend sincere wishes that this holiday season  
bring peace, health and happiness to all people throughout the world.



First Baptist Missionary Church  
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520 North Fifth Avenue  
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WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday School • 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service • 10:45 a.m.  
Prayer & Bible Study • Wednesdays 5:00 p.m.



Remember  
the reason  
for the season!

New Hanover County

Narconon reminds families that abuse of addictive pharmaceutical drugs is on the rise. Learn to recognize the signs of drug abuse and get your loved ones help if they are at risk.



The New Hanover County Lupus Foundation Support Group meets on the third Tuesday of each month from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00pm in Classroom D, Service Level, NHRMC.

Community Briefs

The Wilmington Prostate Cancer Support Group meets at 6:00 p.m. the first Thursday monthly in the SEAHEC Auditorium at New Hanover Regional Medical Center.

The Wilmington Symphony Orchestra will hold auditions for new members on Monday, January 11, 2016 at the UNCW Cultural Arts Building.

Brunswick County

The Belville Town Hall will be closed on Thursday, December 24th-Monday, December 28th for the Christmas Holiday.

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

Act 1 HATS AND ACCESSORIES FOR WOMEN & MEN. 419 S. College Rd. Unit 34 University Landing Wilmington, NC 28403 910-791-0909. Includes images of various hats and a list of items for men and ladies.

HOMETOWN NEWS FROM BRUNSWICK COUNTY

Holidays and true happiness

We live in the land of plenty where we can enjoy time spent with relatives and friends. We think of true happiness all the time, and now is the time for giving of gifts.



Verniece Stanley

The state of Florida is warm in the winter season. You may think people in such a glamorous, fun filled place are happier than others.

Many intelligent people still equate happiness with fun. The truth is that fun and

happiness have little, or nothing, in common. Fun is what we experience during an act. Happiness is what we experience after an act.

Watching a Christmas movie on television is a fun activity that helps us relax, temporarily forget our problems, and maybe even laugh.

Gifts are something bestowed upon one another voluntarily without any compensation in return. We are willing to give and receive gifts throughout the holiday season.

Christmas time.

Families will enjoy Christmas parades and the many happy smiling faces of our children.

Today, even amidst the happiness at Christmas time, we still face many difficult situations that will bring tears to our eyes.

We still see new factory-made Confederate flags to go on vehicles. This is not a sign of peace! The truth is that it is a sign of hatred for African Americans only because of our skin color.

kindness during the Christmas holidays and even beyond Christmas.

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.

NHCS welcomes Freedom Riders Exhibition in January

New Hanover County Schools is pleased to announce the showcase of the Freedom Riders Exhibit in conjunction with the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History in New York, to be held at Eugene Ashley High School and Charles P. Murray Middle School January 5-25, 2016.

Murray Middle School January 14-25, 2016 Community Night at Murray Middle School\* January 14th, 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

More information about the Community Nights itinerary will follow.

For further information, please contact Murray Media Specialist Roberta Aurelia Troy or Murray Social Studies Teacher Denise Summerlin at (910) 790-2363.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

THE EXHIBIT CELEBRATES THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THIS MOMENT IN CIVIL RIGHTS HISTORY.

Or contact Ashley Social Studies Teacher Russell Smith or Ashley Media Specialist Joann Absi at (910) 790-2360. Or visit http://ashley.nhcs.libguides.com/freedomriders/home.

About the Freedom Riders Exhibit

This exhibition was created in partnership with WGBH Boston/The Ameri-

can Experience, which developed a major television special of the same name to celebrate the 50th anniversary of this seminal moment in civil rights history.

groups, and sitting where they pleased on buses and trains. Demanding unrestricted access to terminal restaurants and waiting rooms, they were met with bitter racism, mob violence, and imprisonment along the way.

Shalotte Middle School students honored at good neighbor breakfast

SOUTHPORT, N.C. - Shalotte Middle School was filled with good neighbors in December as students were recognized during the Good Neighbor Breakfast hosted by Communities In Schools of Brunswick County.

CIS Success Coach, Michele

Rau, coordinated the Good Neighbor Breakfast December 15 at Shalotte Middle School. Students were selected by their teachers for representing good citizenship and being model students.

Thirteen students and parents attended the breakfast to recognize good citizenship. Jessica B. Swenck, Director of Quality Assurance & Community Engagement, for Brunswick County Schools, spoke to the students and their families in attendance about the importance of good citizenship and acknowledged the students' accomplishments.

The Good Neighbor Breakfast is a collaborative effort of Communities In

Schools of Brunswick County and Brunswick County Schools. The event was sponsored by Walmart, Hardees, BoJangles and McDonalds.

Students receiving the Good Neighbor Award included: Sidney Jones, Hayden McKeithan, Oscar Sainos, Shelby Everhart, Morgan Breedren, Caleb Vanasse, Stephen Janeda, Aaliyah Pridgen, Krystian Yates, Arlene Velasquez, Raquan Stanley, Alice Leland, and Carly Paige.

For more information about CIS programming, please call Michelle Rau, Shalotte Middle School Success Coach at 910-253-5327 ext. 1531 or visit www.cisbrunswick.org.

About Communities In

Schools of Brunswick County: Communities In Schools of Brunswick County is part of the national Communities In Schools network. Communities In Schools operates programs in 17 schools in Brunswick County.

2016 HBCU EXPERIENCE. HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE FAIR AND BATTLE OF THE BANDS. SUNDAY JANUARY 17TH, 2016. FEATURING: WINSTON SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY 'RED SEA OF SOUND' VS. ELIZABETH CITY STATE UNIVERSITY 'SOUND OF CLASS'. HEAD TO HEAD DRUMLINE BATTLE: NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY VS NORTH CAROLINA A&T STATE UNIVERSITY DRUMLINES. COLLEGE FAIR AND VENDORS: 1:00-3:00. BATTLE OF THE BANDS BEGINS AT 4:00 PM. Includes logos for NC A&T, NCCU, and R-A-M-S.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Students and parents honored at the Shalotte Middle School Good Neighbor Breakfast.

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**Mrs. Hattie Jean Brown** Home.

Sixty-five years ago, was born on November 3, 1950 to the late Rosa Lee and Frances Thompson. She departed this life on December 11, 2015. Hattie Jean Brown funeral was held Wednesday, December 16, 2015 at 1:00 pm at Adkins-Drain Funeral Service Chapel in Wilmington, NC.

Mrs. Hattie J. Brown was a dedicated employee of the Corbett Farming Company located in Castle Hayne, North Carolina. Not only was she a dedicated worker, she was also dedicated to her family and everyone she came in contact with. Our loss is heaven's gain.

Hattie is in heaven awaiting her husband, Joe Brown, Jr, her loving daughters, Erica Thompson (Andre), Lawanda Gause, Roberta Clay (Carlos), her sisters, Mamie Vaught (Gene), Mary Ann Thompson, her brothers, Rev. Billy Thompson (Rita), Paul Thompson (Angie), Eddie Thompson (Barbara), Lacy Thompson, and Charles Thompson, 16 grandchildren and a multitude of family and friends.

Arrangements by Adkins-Drain Funeral Service, 515 South Eighth Street, Wilmington, North Carolina 28401. Condolences may be shared at [www.adkinsdrainfuneralservice.com](http://www.adkinsdrainfuneralservice.com).

**Hazel G. Jones**

Hazel G. Jones died in New York. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 19th at Willie L. Shaw Jr. Memorial Chapel. Burial followed in the Pellom Cemetery, Maco.

She was born in Brunswick County, NC on January 27, 1911 to Evelyn Greene. She was married to James Jordan and there were no children born to this union. She was preceded in death by her mother, husband, sisters: Marie Moore, Adelaide and Bessie Allen and a brother Oscar Allen. She was among the original founders of Mount Pisgah Baptist Church of Brooklyn, New York where she remained all of her life, until her health failed. She was a member of the Victory Gospel Singers of Brooklyn and Past Most Worthy Grand Matron, Daughter of Sphinx, Easter Stars.

She leaves cherished memories to an exceptional niece, N. Inez Wright and her dedicated caretaker, Sharon Lightfoot as well as other special nieces, cousins and friends. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

**Kingston Jackson**

Kingston Jackson infant son of Kenya Morman & Marlon Jackson died December 15, 2015 at NHRMC. Graveside services were held Saturday, December 19, 2015 at Evergreen Cemetery, Evergreen, NC. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral

**Shann Simpson**

Shann Simpson died Sunday, December 20, 2015. Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced later by John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

**Frank Ballard**

Frank Ballard died Sunday, December 20, 2015. Funeral services will be 2:00 PM on Saturday, December 26, 2015 at Johnson Chapel AMW Zion Church. Burial in the Ballard Family Cemetery. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

**Card Of Thanks**

At this special season of the year, I wish to extend a heartfelt thanks to all of my friends and family in Wilmington, NC for your cards, gifts, and get-well wishes during my period of illness and recovery. A special "thank you" is extended to my sisters in the Wilmington Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. for the very special support and kindness that you've shown me. I hope and pray to see you all very soon.

Merry Christmas!  
Ruthy R. Davis

**In Loving Memory of**



**Ezmas Juanita "Jackie" Carmichael**

This is always his season to be happy for the birth of Jesus Christ. In spite of our joyful celebrations, we also have a heavy heart because your physical presence is no longer with us. Spiritually, we know you never left us but we miss your laughter, touches, cooking and peeling shrimps at 'Cape Fear'.

Seventeen years, how time flies but, you are still in our memory and will be forever apart of this season. A special ornament will be hung on the tree for you and if by chance we see it swaying in the stillness of the day or night, we will know that you are touching to say 'keep your faith in our Savior, cheer up, I am always near'.

Love you and may you forever rest in peace.  
The Family

**Memories of My Mother**



**Retha Barnhill**

Christmas is the most beautiful and wonderful time of the year, for most of us. The meaning of Christmas will always be, the memories of you especially are immensely wonderful. Through deep within me, my grief remains, missing you, not only when our Savior was born, but every day of my life. There was no one like you, my dear Mom.

My love, my heart to you,  
Your daughter, Brenda  
Son, Arnold (Deceased)



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**President Obama grants Christmas clemency to almost 100 prisoners**

BY ZENITHA PRINCE OF THE AFRO AMERICAN NEWSPAPER

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - Christmas came early to 97 felons granted commutations and pardons by President Barack Obama Dec. 18.

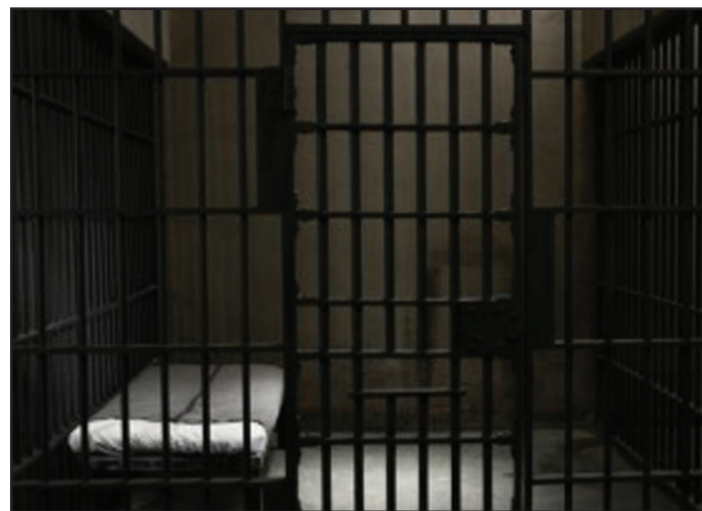
Most of the prisoners were behind bars for non-violent drug-related offenses: at least 74 of the 95 commutations involved possession or distribution of either crack or cocaine, nine involved only methamphetamine, five involved only marijuana, and five others involved unspecified drugs.

Another two of the commutations were for non-drug-associated crimes: one involving armed bank robbery and another involving possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

The president also used his constitutional power to grant pardons to an Ohio physician convicted of counterfeiting in 2002 and a New Kent, Va., woman convicted of aiding and abetting bank fraud.

The commutations were the third set Obama has given this year and the most awarded at one time. In all, this administration has granted 184 commutations, which exceeds the total grants by the previous six presidents combined.

The commutations are part of the White House's clemency initiative - launched in 2014 - which reflects Obama's commitment to criminal justice reform, including parity in



**PRESIDENT OBAMA GRANTS CHRISTMAS CLEMENCY TO ALMOST 100 PRISONERS.**

sentencing.

Civil and human rights groups hailed the move.

"American presidents have had the power to show mercy since the founding of our Republic. President Obama is the first president in decades to use it as the founders intended," said Julie Stewart, president and founder of Families Against Mandatory Minimums, in a statement. "For that reason, we commend him for showing more mercy than his predecessors. But his work is not done.... Far too many others are still serving excessively long sentences that should be commuted as well."

Under the clemency initiative, qualified federal prisoners were encouraged to apply to have their sentences commuted. But of the 36,000 offenders that have applied, fewer than 200 have received clemency in the past two years, according to the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights

Under Law, which helped coordinate the efforts of attorneys who have been working pro bono to assist those prisoners.

The group is calling on the administration to intensify its efforts and is also charging Congress to play its part in reforming the nation's racially unjust criminal justice system, including its archaic, counterproductive sentencing laws.

"Legislation to reform these laws have drawn unprecedented bipartisan support, such as the Sentencing Reform and Corrections Act of 2015, S. 2123, passed by the Senate Judiciary Committee in October," said Jon Greenbaum, chief counsel for the Lawyers' Committee, in a statement. "The House Judiciary Committee passed a similar bill reforming federal sentencing laws in November. Both chambers need to bring these bills to the floor as soon as possible in 2016."

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## New Hanover County

St. Stephen AME Church Christian Education Commission will hold a breakfast discussion on Saturday December 26, 2015 entitled "Kwanzaa Why It's Important to African American Christians". The community is invited to attend. 10:00 a.m. - 12 noon in Sloan Chapel.



## Bladen County

## Religious Briefs

The twenty-eighth (28th) annual parade honoring the birthday of

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. will be held in Elizabethtown, North Carolina on Monday, January 18, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. Martin Luther King Day celebrates the life and accomplishment of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. MLK promoted Civil Rights through nonviolent civil disobedience. He is perhaps best known for his "I have a dream..." speech in 1963. He was assassinated in 1968. Martin Luther King, Jr. day became a federally recognized holiday in 1983. The first year this holiday was observed was 1986, and not by all states. In 2000 it became a nationally observed holiday in all states. Martin Luther King Jr. Day takes place on the third Monday of January each year. Everyone but not limited to civic and religious organizations, bands, step-teams, antique vehicles and farm equipment, queens etc. are invited to participate. The public can send requests to participate in the parade to abullock001@ec.rr.com. There is no fee involved. Individuals, groups or organizations that want a float should call (910) 645-4995 for float information. The line-up starts 9:00 a.m. at 805 West Broad Street; Elizabethtown, North Carolina.

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

## Faith Temple's New Year's Eve celebration

Faith Temple Church of God in Christ will hold a New year's eve celebration Thursday, December 31st at 10:00 p.m. at 1119 South 4th Street, Wilmington NC. Just before the clock strike 12 midnight, Pastor Lorenzo Edge will deliver a special message from the Lord to you for 2016. Everyone is invited.



PASTOR LORENZO EDGE

## SENIOR MOMENTS

## Christianity is not a dictatorship

My Fellow Seniors:

As we continue to consider widening the door of the church, surely we realize that Christianity is not a dictatorship. The members should have something to say about the various programs. We want everyone to understand what it means to be a



Ruth Johnson

stand what it means to be a

Christian, but sometimes we have to do something extra just to get them into the building.

Eventually, we want everyone to know about the birth, death and the resurrection of Jesus Christ, but that's not all it takes to be a Christian. There are hundreds of rules and regulations in the Bible, but our basic concept is the Golden Rule, and that covers everything. We don't have to say, "Thou shall not spit in thy brother's face," if we have already said, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." I call that being

redundant. I'm sure there is a better word, but it's not in my vocabulary.

If you have been reading the Bible for the past fifty years, you have learned quite a lot, but it's not about what you know. It's about how you live. Now is the time to let your light shine. It's time to lead by example. Don't just say, "I love everybody." Say, "I will do for others what I would want done for me."

So when we talk about widening the doors of the church or bringing something more to the table, that means

we have to reach out and touch someone. It's not enough to be a child of the King. We must also be his boots on the ground.

In order to instill the Golden Rule in little children, we have to do whatever is necessary to get them into the church. Then we have to give them examples they can understand. Raise up a child in the way he should go, and he might depart from it, but he will always have something to which to come back.

Ruth Johnson is a First Baptist Church Ministry Worker.

## TELL SOMEBODY

## "The Gift"

*"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16*

It all started with a gift! God manifested his great love for the world, by giving to the world a miraculous, and wonderful gift! This gift supercedes any other gift the world has ever known. This gift of love to a sinful and dying world, was given by God himself. He gave his only begotten Son,



Sylvia Hooper

to save his people from their sins. This gift is so powerful, that whosoever believes in him, will not perish, but have everlasting life! This gift is the reason for the season. This gift is in the person of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

"Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the King, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him." Matthew 2:12

"And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and

worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, frankincense, and myrrh." Matthew 2:11

In the true spirit of Christmas, we should take note of how to celebrate the birth of our savior, by the way it was done in the beginning. First of all, note how the wise men searched for the Lord until they found him. Each of us have the same opportunity to launch a personal search for the savior: The good news is, he can be found! Jeremiah 29:13 says, "And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart."

The wise men told the king they were looking for the new born king, so they could worship him. "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." John 4:23-24. Psalm 95:6, "O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker."

After the wise men found Jesus, they fell down and worshipped him, opened their treasures, and gave gifts (presents) to him. They did

not give presents to each other, they gave presents to Jesus!

How far have we drifted from that first Christmas! The world has commercialized Christmas to the point that it has become the season for giving gifts to one another, and not wanting to give glory to God for his wonderful Son. The Body of Christ, some 2000 years later, must not condescend to the way of the world, but should seize each and every opportunity to tell the "story" and give God the glory! And, if the world does not give God glory, the church should, can, and will!

What gift can we give the Saviour to celebrate his birth? Do we present him gold, frankincense, or myrrh? What can we give him? What gift do we even have to offer a great King? What kind of present can we give to Jesus, that would give him glory, and honor? Romans 12:1 tells us exactly what to give him for his present." I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what

is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Prayer: Dear Father, we thank you for the greatest gift ever known to mankind. The gift of your Son Jesus. We give you glory and honor, by receiving your Great gift, as our Lord and Savior, and by praising him daily. Bless us to be a blessing, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Your life is a "gift" from God, and what you do with it, is your "gift" to him!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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 PWE. 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!

## Presidential candidate Bernie Sanders meets with Black pastors

BY FREDDIE ALLEN  
SENIOR WASHINGTON  
CORRESPONDENT

When presidential hopeful Bernie Sanders (D-Vt.) met with a group of Black civic and religious leaders in Baltimore, Md., Jamal Bryant, the pastor and founder of Empowerment Temple Church said that it was critical for the senator to have a conversation with those who are the eyes and ears of the Black community.

Bryant said that Sanders needed to see the realities of Baltimore and the struggles of everyday working people and not just the rejuvenated Inner Harbor.

During a walking tour through the poverty-stricken Sandtown-Winchester neighborhood, Sanders noted the boarded up row houses and the lack of grocery stores in the community, as residents shouted, "Don't forget Freddie Gray!" and "Can you bring some jobs down here?"

After a questionable arrest last April, Gray, 25 suffered a severe spinal cord injury while in police custody and died a week later. As residents took to the streets in peaceful protests against police brutality, others looted and burned stores drawing national media attention.

Following the walking tour, Sanders joined social justice and faith leaders for a round table discussion where they discussed a number of issues including education, housing and mass incarceration.

"You know how much money we're spending a year locking people up? Eighty billion dol-

lars a year, locking up fellow Americans," said Sanders. "So, it seems to me to be an absolute no-brainer that you take some of that money, you rebuild the housing here in Baltimore putting people to work and when you put people to work they're not going to end up in jail, because they have some pride, they have some income."

Sanders said that his support for tuition-free public colleges and universities may seem like a radical idea, but it isn't.

But Lezli Baskerville, the president and CEO of the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO), a group that advocates for historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and predominantly Black institutions (PBIs), expressed concerns that Sanders' vision for tuition-free public colleges may have unintended adverse effects on enrollment at HBCUs.

Baskerville said that HBCUs account for three percent of America's colleges and universities, but graduate 50 percent of African American teaching professionals, 60 percent of African American health professionals and 42 percent of the Blacks who pursue careers in Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM).

Baskerville suggested implementing a program that invested more in those schools that are educating the lion share of the growing population of minority students.

Sanders said that he visited a number of HBCUs in South

Carolina and that he was aware of the extraordinary role HBCUs played in educating Black students, but that they have to be adequately funding and supported. Sanders recommended a major expansion in funding for Pell grants, admitting that it would cost money initially, but save money later by cutting the unemployment rate in the long run.

The group also discussed the need for greater economic equality and empowerment in the Black community.

"It's easy for African Americans to get a loan for a used car, but very hard for us to get a loan to start a business," said Bryant.

Rev. S. Todd Yearly agreed.

Yearly, the senior pastor of the Douglas Memorial Community Church in Baltimore, Md., and an adjunct professor in the College of Public Affairs at the University of Baltimore said that access to capital is the new redlining.

"If we go back to the genesis of the Great Recession, one of the byproducts was that the 'Big Banks' survived and now thrive and community banks which have often been the anchors and the facilitators to access capital...got stretched out of business," said Yearly.

Yearly said that bank branches are lacking in the Sandtown-Winchester community, but liquor stores and corner stores where residents often endure high transaction fees to cash paychecks are plentiful.

Yearly wanted to know what Sanders could do from the executive branch to force a different kind compliance and applica-



PHOTO FREDDIE ALLEN/AMG/NNPA NEWS WIRE

Left to right, Lisa M. Weah, president of the Freddie Gray Community Association, Senator Bernie Sanders (D-Vt.), and Reverend Jamal Bryant, the pastor and founder of Empowerment Temple Church walk through the Sandtown-Winchester neighborhood in Baltimore, Md.

tion to the access to capital.

"It is very expensive to be poor," said Sanders, adding, "Clearly, we need a revolution in financial services. After we bailed out the major financial institutions, because they were too big to fail, the three largest are now bigger than they were when we bailed them out."

Sanders continued: "I would be lying to you if I didn't tell you that we are living in a political system which, in a lot of ways, is corrupt, which is designed to benefit the people on top and an economic system that is rigged to benefit the people on top. If the goal of this whole thing is to create quality, affordable housing those prob-

lems can be solved, but that is not the goal then those problems will never be solved."

Sanders said that the U.S. has the intelligence, the resources and the workers to invest in low-income communities.

"But the bottom line is there has to be a will to make that happen, and right now in America, there is not that will," Sanders said.

Sanders lamented the trillions of dollars wasted on what he called "perpetual warfare" that some members of Congress have embraced.

"Think about if we had a fraction of that energy and that interest in Congress, where

people were giving passionate speeches about the Sandtown-Winchester] community that we just saw and communities like that all over this country," said Sanders. "Think we could solve the problems? I think we could."

Sanders also said that he supported greater investments in early childhood education, an urban jobs program centered on housing construction, dismantling the for-profit, private prison industry, and reinvesting in community banks.

"When there's no will, there are a hundred different impediments that are placed in front of us to do nothing," said Sanders. "I have the will."

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**LEGAL NOTICES**

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

Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **Dianna B. Gasquez** late of Wilmington, NC, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **17th day of March, 2016**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to undersigned.

This the 3rd day of December, 2015

Kimber L. Hoelen, Executrix  
4606 Ripley Dr.  
Wilmington, NC 28405

December 10, 17, 24, 31, 2015

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

The undersigned BROOKE THOMPSON, having qualified on the 5th day of November, 2015, as Administrator of the estate of **ROBERT W. TAYLOR, SR.**, deceased, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate that they must present them to the undersigned at GRAVES MAY PLLC, c/o Attorney David Anderson, 5700 Oleander Dr., Wilmington, North Carolina, 28403, on or before the **15th day of March, 2016**, or the claims will be forever barred thereafter, and this notice will be pleaded in bar of your recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the Estate will please make prompt payments to the undersigned at the above address.

This 7th of December, 2015.

BROOKE THOMPSON., Administrator  
ESTATE OF ROBERT W. TAYLOR, SR.  
David Anderson  
GRAVES MAY, PLLC  
5700 Oleander Dr.  
Wilmington, NC 28403

December 10, 17, 24, 31, 2015

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF  
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER  
IN THE DISTRICT COURT  
JUVENILE SESSION  
FILE NO. 14 JT 207, 208**

**IN THE MATTER OF:  
J.G.H. (DOB: 9/9/2014)  
K.R.H. (DOB: 9/9/2014)**

**TO: RESPONDENT-MOTHER, TAMMY T. KING, BIOLOGICAL MOTHER OF THE ABOVE CAPTIONED MALE AND FEMALE TWINS BORN IN WILMINGTON, NEW HANOVER COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Termination of all parental rights you have to the above-captioned minor children.

You are required to make defense to such pleading within forty (40) days following December 24, 2015, which date is the date of first publication of this Notice. Upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought. You have the right to attend this hearing and you have the right to be represented by counsel and can apply for court appointed counsel.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT A HEARING ON THE PETITION TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS IS SCHEDULED FOR March 14, 2016, AT 9:30 A.M. or as soon thereafter as it may be heard, at the Office of Juvenile Justice, 138 N 4th Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401.

This the 24th day of December, 2015.

Dean W. Hollandsworth  
Senior Staff Attorney - New Hanover Co. Dept. of Social Services  
1650 Greenfield Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
PO Drawer 1559  
Wilmington, NC 28402-1559  
(910) 798-3511  
(910) 798-3772 \* fax

December 24, 31, 2015, January 7, 2016

**LEGAL NOTICES**

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

Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **Elizabeth Williams** late of Wilmington, NC, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **17th day of March, 2016**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to undersigned.

This the 20th day of November, 2015

Alfonso Williams, Executor  
5012 Crosswinds Dr.  
Wilmington, NC 28412

December 17, 24, 31, 2015,  
January 7, 2016

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER  
In the Matter of the Estate of  
Evelyn G. Bullard, Deceased**

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **Evelyn G. Bullard**, deceased, late of New Hanover County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before **March 13, 2016**, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. All persons indebted to the said decedent or estate shall please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 3rd day of December, 2015.

Frances R. Bullard  
Executor of the Estate  
of Evelyn G. Bullard  
c/o Anthony L. Register  
Alley, Register & McEachern  
701 North 4th Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401

December 3, 10, 17, 24, 2015

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE  
OF ALBERT ROGERS**

The undersigned having qualified as Administratrix of the Estate **Albert Rogers**, deceased, late of New Hanover County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate to present such claims to the undersigned C/O Terry B. Richardson, Attorney at Law, 209 Princess Street, Wilmington, NC 28401 on or before the **22nd day of March, 2016**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of your recovery. All persons indebted to the estate will please make immediate payment.

This 11th of December, 2015.

Thelma Thompson Rogers,  
Administratrix  
Terry B. Richardson  
Attorney for the Estate  
209 Princess Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401

December 17, 24, 31, 2015,  
January 7, 2016

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE  
OF ALBERT ROGERS**

The undersigned having qualified as Administrator of the Estate **Dorothy Mae Rouse Sidbury**, deceased, late of New Hanover County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate to present such claims to the undersigned C/O Terry B. Richardson, Attorney at Law, 209 Princess Street, Wilmington, NC 28401 on or before the **22nd day of March, 2016**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of your recovery. All persons indebted to the estate will please make immediate payment.

This 9th of December, 2015.

Freddie W. Sidbury, Jr, Administrator  
Terry B. Richardson  
Attorney for the Estate  
209 Princess Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401

December 17, 24, 31, 2015,  
January 7, 2016

**LEGAL NOTICES**

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

The undersigned **DONALD DOUGLAS GILSTRAP, JR.**, having qualified on the 4th day of December, 2015, as Administrator of the estate of DONALD DOUGLAS GILSTRAP, SR., deceased, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate that they must present them to the undersigned at GRAVES MAY PLLC, c/o Attorney David Anderson, 5700 Oleander Dr., Wilmington, North Carolina, 28403, on or before the **17th day of March, 2016**, or the claims will be forever barred thereafter, and this notice will be pleaded in bar of your recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the Estate will please make prompt payments to the undersigned at the above address.

This the 7th day of December, 2015.

Donald Douglas Gilstrap, Jr., Administrator  
ESTATE OF DONALD DOUGLAS GILSTRAP, SR.  
David Anderson  
GRAVES MAY, PLLC  
5700 Oleander Dr.  
Wilmington, NC 28403

December 10, 17, 24, 31, 2015

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS  
AMBULANCE**

Brunswick County is seeking proposals from qualified Vendors for the purchase of One (1), Type III, Class One (4 x 2), Configuration of an Ambulance. Sealed proposals must be received on or before 2:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, January 4, 2016. To obtain a copy of the RFP, please visit the County's website at [www.brunswickcountync.gov](http://www.brunswickcountync.gov) or contact Phillip Britt at 910-754-8245 Ext. 1015, 910-770-3379, or [phillip.britt@brunswickcountync.gov](mailto:phillip.britt@brunswickcountync.gov).

December 17, 24, 31, 2015

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the estate of **Lawrence A. Quintman**, deceased, of the New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **4th day of January, 2016**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This 1st day of October, 2015

Judith Hoover Quintman, Executrix  
Of the Estate of Lawrence A. Quintman  
6226 Ingleside Drive  
Wilmington, NC 28409  
Murchison, Taylor & Gibson, PLLC  
16 North Fifth Avenue  
Wilmington, NC 28401

December 17, 24, 31 2015, January 7, 2016

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS  
NEW DATACENTER  
EQUIPMENT**

Brunswick County Government is seeking proposals from qualified vendors for the purchase and installation of a Storage Area Network (SAN) with Host Servers, Firewalls, and Switches for a new datacenter. Sealed proposals must be received on or before 2:00 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, January 14, 2016. Details of the proposal requirements and contact information can be obtained from the Brunswick County website at <http://www.brunswickcountync.gov/info/bid/> or by contacting Andrew Byron at [Andrew.byron@brunswickcountync.gov](mailto:Andrew.byron@brunswickcountync.gov).

December 17, 24, 31, 2015,  
January 7, 2016

**LEGAL NOTICES**

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF  
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER  
IN THE DISTRICT COURT  
JUVENILE SESSION  
File No. 15 JT 296**

**IN THE MATTER OF:  
A.B.M. (DOB: 03-19-2008)**

**TO: ANY UNKNOWN  
BIOLOGICAL FATHER OF THE  
ABOVE CAPTIONED MALE  
CHILD BORN IN NEW HAVEN,  
CONNECTICUT**

Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Termination of all parental rights you have to the above-captioned minor children.

You are required to make defense to such pleading within thirty (30) days following **December 17, 2015**, which date is the date of first publication of this Notice. Upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT A HEARING ON THE PETITION TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS IS SCHEDULED FOR **January 11, 2015**, AT 9:30 A.M. or as soon thereafter as it may be heard, at the Office of Juvenile Justice, 138 N 4th Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401.

This the 11th day of December, 2015.

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

December 17, 24, 31, 2015

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF  
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER  
IN THE DISTRICT COURT  
JUVENILE SESSION  
File No. 15 JT 297**

**IN THE MATTER OF:  
A.J.F. (DOB: 12-21-2012)**

**TO: ANY UNKNOWN  
BIOLOGICAL FATHER OF THE  
ABOVE CAPTIONED MALE  
CHILD BORN IN NEW HAVEN,  
CONNECTICUT**

Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Termination of all parental rights you have to the above-captioned minor children.

You are required to make defense to such pleading within thirty (30) days following **December 17, 2015**, which date is the date of first publication of this Notice. Upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT A HEARING ON THE PETITION TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS IS SCHEDULED FOR **January 11, 2015**, AT 9:30 A.M. or as soon thereafter as it may be heard, at the Office of Juvenile Justice, 138 N 4th Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401.

This the 11th day of December, 2015.

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

December 17, 24, 31, 2015

**LEGAL NOTICES**

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

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **Jacey Brown** late of Wilmington, NC, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **17th day of March, 2016**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to undersigned.

This 3rd of December, 2015

Cleo Brown, Administrator  
5008 Weybridge Lane  
Wilmington, NC 28409

December 17, 24, 31, 2015,  
January 7, 2016

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF  
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER  
IN THE DISTRICT COURT  
JUVENILE SESSION  
FILE NO. 14 JT 48,49,50,51**

**IN THE MATTER OF:  
M.W.N. (DOB: 8/3/2007)  
K.V.F. (DOB: 5/17/2005)  
T.D.F. (DOB: 12/27/2001)  
C.J.F. (DOB: 8/14/2000)**

**TO: RESPONDENT AN  
UNKNOWN BIOLOGICAL  
FATHER OF THE ABOVE  
CAPTIONED K.V.F., FEMALE  
CHILD BORN IN WILMINGTON,  
NEW HANOVER COUNTY,  
NORTH CAROLINA**

**RESPONDENT-FATHER,  
CHRISTOPHER FINE, BIOLOGICAL  
FATHER TO C.J.F.  
AND T.D.F., MALE CHILDREN  
BORN IN WILMINGTON, NEW  
HANOVER COUNTY, NORTH  
CAROLINA AND LEGAL  
FATHER TO K.V.F. AND  
M.W.N., MALE AND FEMALE  
CHILDREN BORN IN WILMINGTON,  
NEW HANOVER COUNTY,  
NORTH CAROLINA**

Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Termination of all parental rights you have to the above-captioned minor child.

You are required to make defense to such pleading within forty (40) days following December 17, 2015, which date is the date of first publication of this Notice. Upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought. You have the right to attend this hearing and you have the right to be represented by counsel and can apply for court appointed counsel.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT A HEARING ON THE PETITION TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS IS SCHEDULED FOR **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2016**, AT 9:30 A.M. or as soon thereafter, at the Office of Juvenile Justice, 138 N 4th Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401.

This the 17th day of December, 2015.

Dean W. Hollandsworth  
Senior Staff Attorney - New Hanover Co. Dept. of Social Services  
1650 Greenfield Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
PO Drawer 1559  
Wilmington, NC 28402-1559  
(910) 798-3511  
(910) 798-3772 \* fax

December 17, 24, 31, 2015

**LEGAL NOTICES**

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

Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **Marvin Brown Shoemaker, Jr.**, late of Wilmington, NC, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **24th day of March, 2016**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to undersigned.

This 24th of December, 2015

Marion Lynn Shoemaker-Younce,  
Executor  
325 Wayne Drive  
Wilmington, NC 28403

December 24, 31, 2015, January 7, 14, 2016

**EMPLOYMENT**

The Housing Authority of the City Wilmington (WHA) is accepting applications for the following Maintenance positions. As a member of the Maintenance team, the following positions will be directly responsible for:

**Licensed HVAC Maintenance Technician-** The repairs, maintenance & replacements of all HVAC equipment Authority wide. This position will be responsible for organizing the preventative maintenance HVAC schedule and cost effective inventory control of all required equipment per property.

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**Maintenance Technician** - The physical condition and appearance to the assigned apartment community. Organize, coordinate and manage the overall maintenance programs including; interior and exterior property appearance, preventative maintenance, quality make-ready program, and cost effective inventory control of the property.

All positions are required to be "On Call" 24 hours. For detailed information visit [www.wha.net](http://www.wha.net) The Authority is an EOE and offers competitive wage and benefits. Salary is commensurate on qualifications and experience. Applicants must submit a letter of interest and a current resume to: Search Committee, Human Resources Department, PO Box 899, Wilmington, NC 28402 or email to [jobs@wha.net](mailto:jobs@wha.net). Applications will be accepted until the positions are filled. Applicants that are determined to be of interest after the initial screening will then be required to submit more detailed application materials.

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