

Wilmington Police are continuing their search for 30 year old Ebonee Spears of Wilmington. The local Crimestoppers organization has joined with the Wilmington Police Department in offering a reward of up to \$5,000 for information on Ebonee's whereabouts. If you know where Spears may be, call Wilmington Police at (910) 343-3600 or use Text-a-Tip.

**OUTside
Looking IN**

OUR VOICE



DR. JULIANNE MALVEAUX

“Life is valuable in Turkey, in Belgium”
BY
DR. JULIANNE MALVEAUX
PAGE 4

**BRUNSWICK
COUNTY
UPDATE**



BERNEST HEWETT

**AT THE
BOTTOM**

BY **BERNEST HEWETT**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It has become common knowledge by now on most state and national polls that Brunswick County has come in at least close to last out of one hundred counties in care for the elderly, education, sensitivity for racial diversity and equality, economic growth and help for the disabled, veterans' benefits, etc. This is very upsetting to me, particularly this day and time. Such studies are made that citizens and leaders may see what is going on and seek ways to improve our situation, even to remove those things which are of no help to the citizens of this County. There is something the citi-

Please see
BRUNSWICK/Page 2

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

VOLUME 89/No. 13

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FIFTY CENTS

HOUSE BILL 2 UNDER FIRE

**SPECIAL FROM
THE CAROLINIAN**

This past Wednesday NC House & Senate lawmakers came together in a special session to address Charlotte's Non-Discrimination Ordinance, which passed Feb. 22. That amendment allowed transgender individuals to choose which restroom and shower facilities they would like to use. Many Charlotte citizens were in an uproar about the ordinance which would have taken effect on April 1. The result of the special ses-

sion was the passing of House Bill 2, which appears to even more citizens in an uproar across the state. Senate Minority Leader Dan Blue made an immediate statement in protest of the bill as he and 10 other Democrats walked out of the session, saying they would not be a party to stripping people of their civil rights. Five major provisions of House Bill 2: (1) Requires single sex multiple occupancy bathrooms and changing facilities in public schools and public agencies. The Charlotte ordinance attempted to set restroom policy

throughout the city even in private business. The new law sets an allegedly "common sense policy" for government facilities, but leaves private business free (subject to the laws of indecent exposure).

(2) HB2 supersedes and pre-empt local ordinances, regulations, or resolutions imposing any requirements on employers pertaining to compensation of employees, with certain exceptions.

Please see **HB2/Page 2**



Harry Davis

Congress honors artist Harry Davis

BY **BEVERLY SMALLS**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Congresswoman Alma Shealey Adams (NC-12) has presented a special resolution honoring Wilmington native and artist Harry Davis.

Please see **DAVIS/Page 2**

The Legacy Continues



JOHN DAVIS PHOTO

(L-R) **ROBERT "BUTCH" BRUNSON, KAREN DAVIS BRUNSON, SADIE DAVIS GRAHAM, JENNIFER TERRELL AND JAVOKE TERRELL**

BY THE STAFF
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

The ultimate success of any business is the direct result of great leadership. Such leadership promotes and solidifies the continued growth and success of a company and its ability to be a viable entity for years to come. The lineage and longevity of the Davis Funeral Home is a true testament to the principles established by Mr. French I. Davis, Jr. and his wife, Mrs. Bennye N. Davis and now, their daughters and sons-in-law.

In consideration of their parents' legacy, Karen Y. Davis Brunson and Sadie Davis Graham knew that they had to be selective when considering a succession plan for the Davis Funeral Home. With much thought and consideration, the sisters chose Javoke S. Terrell and his wife, Jennifer to join them in the

business to ensure its continuance.

Javoke joins Davis Funeral Home with over 25 years of funeral service experience. Currently, he is a licensed funeral director and embalmer in Texas, Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina. During his career, Javoke has worked for four family owned funeral homes that exemplify the principle of providing unparalleled service to their respective communities. From his introduction to funeral service with Ross Mortuary, Inc. of Houston, Texas to his tenure as General Manager of Vaughn C. Greene Funeral Services, P.A. of Baltimore, Maryland, an assignment as General Manager of Lea Funeral Home of Raleigh, North Carolina, and his most recent assignment as Manager of Operations for Marcorp, Ltd. which serves over 3,000 families annu-

Please see **LEGACY CONTINUES / Page 2**



PATRICIA WADDELL

Howe Pre-K Principal Patricia Waddell named 2016 "Children's Champion"

SPECIAL TO
THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

Patricia Waddell, principal of Howe Pre-K Center, has been named a 2016 Smart Start "Children's Champion" for her exceptional service to young children and their families in New Hanover County.

Please see **WADDELL/Page 2**

Celebrating a 65-year legacy of excellence

BY **CYNTHIA BROWN**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In the post-World War II era of segregation in the south, African American women worked diligently to support their husbands and families while pursuing their own careers. Many were college educated women pursuing careers in education, nursing and higher education. Some were entrepreneurs striving to start new businesses or partnering with their husbands in family owned businesses.

Wilmington, N.C. and surrounding areas were not void of this same spirit within its communities of color. As African-American women forged new paths to equality, they also sought friendships that helped them endure the political and societal stress of the era.



PHOTO BY CHARLES STEPHENS

CURRENT MEMBERS WILMINGTON CHAPTER

Mrs. Celeste Burnett Eaton learned of a dynamic new social organization formed in

Philadelphia, PA in 1946 and she desired to organize a local chapter of the organization in

Wilmington. The wife of Dr. Hubert Eaton, Sr., had a first-hand understanding of the

civil rights movement and the various platforms on which social injustices needed to be remedied. Together with nine other energetic and socially conscious women, Mrs. Eaton organized the Wilmington, N. C. Chapter of The Links, Incorporated. The chapter was chartered as a branch of the national organization on April 7, 1951.

Diligent in its commitment to the local community and the high standards of the national organization, the Wilmington Chapter quickly grew to include women of color from not only New Hanover County but Columbus, Brunswick and Pender counties as well. The chapter's first president was Mrs. Elizabeth Green Holmes

Please see **LINKS, INC./Page 3**



District 4 candidate for State Senate files complaint

SPECIAL FROM THE CAROLINIAN

James E. Mills (D-Halifax) has filed a complaint against the incumbent Senator Angela Bryant (D-Rocky Mount) in the District 4 State Senate Primary Election. Mr. Mills is not only complain-



MILLS



BRYANT

ing that Ms. Bryant failed to meet the NC Election Board requirement to have a legend (Paid for by the Committee to Elect Angela Bryant), but also that the Senator misrepresented the authorization to mark candidate choices on the Flier/Ballot her campaign produced, as well as indicated endorsements with names of prominent Unions, Professional Association, non-partisan committee organization, Associations and political action committees.

The Mills complaint alleges Senator Bryant knowingly and intentionally ignored the statute mandatory requirements and she set out to plan strategy to con-

fuse, discourage, influence and target the African American Voters in Halifax, Nash Wilson, Vance, and Warren counties.

The Carolinian/ Wilmington Journal earlier reported that Senator Bryant signed a "Statement of Understanding" saying that she understood the relevant laws about election materials, as well as she took out an advertisement in a Wilson Co. newspaper saying that the fliers were distributed by the committee in error, and that the issue had been corrected. Those actions by the Senator were considered a resolution of the matter by the N.C. State Board of Elections. However, the Mills complaint

states that the SBOE "Thereafter, without exercising due diligence suggested that resolution without fully assessing the extent to what was the actual effect or prospected damages to the targeted African American community voters caused by the Flier/Ballots distributed throughout the 4th Senatorial District.

Unselected Flier/Ballot candidates included Marcus Williams, Chris Rey, Ken Spaulding, Holly Jones, Robert Earl Wilson, Franklin Williams, Ron Elmer, and Bernie Sanders. The question lingers as to whether the Flier/Ballot infringed upon the campaigning efforts of each named unselected can-

didates. The Mills complaint, reportedly filed Friday, March 25th, further asks that the District 4 N.C. Senate election results not be certified until there is a fair, unbiased final decision has been rendered. The complaint also asks "Senator Bryant should be declared void, be disqualified and ineligible to qualify for the Senate office by her own deliberate deceptive and illegal action and conduct."

Mr. Mills acknowledged that mistakes can be made in a campaign, but "to me this is unfair. He went on to say, "I thank the African American Caucus of the N.C. Democratic Party for speaking out on this issue.

LEGACY CONTINUES

Continued from Page 1

ally (Maryland, D.C., and Virginia) through seven funeral homes, a crematory and a cemetery, Javoke has gained an invaluable amount of knowledge and experience to assist him in his new role as co-owner of Davis Funeral Home.

These invaluable experiences have afforded Javoke countless opportunities to

provide education and training to his colleagues on a local, state, and national level. Most recently, he was honored to have been asked to be a speaker at the 2015 National Funeral Directors and Morticians Association's National Convention in St. Louis, MO. In the spring of last year, Javoke was invited to train the Memphis, TN Funeral Directors of M. J. Edwards Funeral Home. In the fall of 2014, he authored an article for the international publication ADEC Forum:

The quarterly publication of the Association for Death Education and Counseling titled, "A Funeral Director's Experience with Families of Traumatic Sudden Deaths".

Javoke shares that he has been blessed with the opportunity to have his wife, Jennifer, work alongside of him in the industry allowing her to become knowledgeable of and familiar with funeral service. Jennifer comes to Davis Funeral Home with over 20 years of community outreach experience. Her most recent

assignment was Director of Volunteer Services and Business Outreach for Northwest Hospital, Randallstown, MD. Besides her role as a director, Jennifer has served on several community boards in the Baltimore metropolitan area: President of the Liberty Road Business Association, Vice President of the Randallstown-Owings Mills-Glyndon Chamber of Commerce, an Advisory Board Member for the Windsor Mill Middle School and has served as Chairperson

for the Northwest Hospital United Way campaign for seven years.

Javoke says, "Jennifer and I plan to work with Karen Y. Davis Brunson and Sadie Davis Graham to pursue, build and maintain generational relationships in order to ensure that the funeral home started by Mr. French I. Davis, Jr. and Mrs. Bennye N. Davis continues to serve the citizens of Wilmington and surrounding communities with compassion, dignity and respect".

DAVIS

Continued from Page 1

She referred to Davis as a fellow artist and a living legend who has contributed to North Carolina culture and the arts community.

"I am an artist, and I understand what artists do," Adams said in a Tuesday interview.

Co-founder of the AtelierGallery in downtown Greensboro twenty-five years ago, Adams said her love of art has helped her honor African-American heritage for decades. She also chooses to highlight the works of others, especially fellow North Carolinians that might not be known by congressional colleagues.

Her Wilmington honoree began drawing and sketching as a young child.

"When I was four or five years old I loved to draw, and I turned to oils after my accident," Davis said.

A veteran, the artist served with the 82nd Airborne Division of the U.S. Army after graduating from Williston High School in 1967. The middle child of Evangelist Anna Davis was reared to be strong and over-comer adversities.

Through Adams' resolution Congress learned that Davis is self-taught and well known for his attention to details that are enhanced by deliberate uses of bright and bold colors.

Private collections throughout the United States include Davis' works. Hallie

Berry, Denzel Washington, Jayne Kennedy, Bill Cosby, and Justice Henry Frye are notable owners of his paintings.

Since the 1970s Davis' work has been honored by organizations and agencies like the Central Intelligence Agency in McLean, Virginia, the Stout Vocational Rehabilitation Institute of the University of Wisconsin, and the North Carolina Azalea Festival.

Davis was awarded Best of Show for the 2001 Azalea Festival, and by 2006 he had earned the distinct honor of being tapped as the featured artist for the events.

Seven years later he was awarded best in show for the 2013 New Orleans Jazz Festival. Such accolades are

complemented by scores of awards and special exhibitions sponsored by colleges, universities and arts guilds throughout the U.S.

He was honored locally as a Town Hall Man of the Year: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, many churches and organizations have also recognized Davis' long-term contributions in the arts community.

"When I talk to young people who really want to become an artist I let them know it is tough to make a living, especially for African-Americans, but things are changing," Davis said.

"I tell them to go to college and major in design, painting, or whatever their interest is. I don't want them to have to learn over time by trial and error like I did."

Emphasizing a strategy to always have a college degree in case there is a need for income from a different profession, Davis followed that plan. He earned a B. A. degree in Sociology from UNCW in 1979.

Congresswoman Adams said she knows well about all of the time it takes for an artist's work to be recognized in a state or nationally, especially if an individual is African-American.

"We seldom get an opportunity to showcase as other artists have," she said and added that as things are changing young people should think more about designing items or creating things that are artistic and link to income.

WADDELL

Continued from Page 1

Ms. Waddell has been an educator for the past 42

years in New Hanover County, touching the lives of thousands of students. For the last 15 years, she has worked with children ages

three through five, with 12 of those years serving as the principal at Howe Pre-K.

"We get the opportunity to introduce children to

school and the beginning of their educational journey," Ms. Waddell said. "I believe that each and every child can be successful, and the

key is to find the right way to reach and teach each child. There is no such thing as failure in our school."

HB2

Continued from Page 1

(3) It prohibits cities and counties from requiring private contractors to abide by regulations or controls on employment practices or mandate or prohibit provision of goods, services, or accommodations to an member of the public, except as required by State law.

(4) Supersedes and pre-empts local ordinances, regulations, or resolutions that regulate or impose any requirement on employers pertaining to discriminatory practices in employment, and

(5) Creates a new public policy of the state opposing discrimination on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, or biological sex in public accommodations.

NC NAACP President, Rev. Dr. William Barber II, said of HB2, "All North Carolinians, all Americans, should be deeply concerned when the constitutional rights of their compatriots are being revoked and denied. Solidarity alone should be enough of a reason for every member of a civilized democracy to feel threatened and raise a moral dissent when

certain members of society are under attack by the government that is held in place to serve them and protect their best interests.

Rev. Barber's statement continued, "The North Carolina NAACP has come out against HB2 not only because it wrongfully attacks transgender people which is bad enough. We also emphasize that HB2 will also have a disproportionate negative impact on the aged, women, people of color, youth, immigrants, religious minorities, and other people who require anti-discrimination protections because of the tradition of violence levied against.

Points Rev. Barber decried in the bill were HB2 takes away the ability of cities and counties to raise the minimum wage and demand sick leave and minority hiring requirements from their contractors. It also legalizes discrimination and then takes away the ability of citizens to file employment discrimination suits in state court.

Rev. Barber further feels HB2 is an attack on all North Carolinians who believe in the Constitution, and who believe in equal protection under the law. He went on to say that HB2 was passed in

an "Especially Hateful" session by a lawmaking body that never before called a Special Session to expand Medicaid to address unemployment or earned income tax credit, or to overturn voter suppression.

Rev. Barber ended his statement by saying that the cynical politics employed by HB2 should galvanize all who believe in justice to stand together on higher ground. Regressive, extreme legislation that hurts some of us, hurts us all. North Carolina is better than this, and it is time for us to prove it.

Others around the state have echoed their sentiments regarding the passage of HB2. NCAE President Rodney Ellis released a statement saying, "House Bill 2 goes against NCAE's core values of equality for every individual. This discriminatory law turns back decades of civil rights progress and hampers local governments from making their communities a reflection of their citizens and their beliefs. Today we stand up with educators, businesses, and local government leaders for the rights of the LGBT community and all the citizens of North Carolina from

discriminatory practices."

Congressional Senatorial Candidate Deborah Ross said in a statement, "In an unnecessary, one-day special session, the General Assembly and Governor gutted the individual civil rights of North Carolinians and rolled back decades of social progress in our state. HB2 will hurt our citizens and makes our great state less welcoming to new residents and businesses, who can help bring economic growth."

Even NC Attorney General Roy Cooper announced that he would not defend HB2 law's constitutionality. According to Cooper, House

Bill2 is in direct conflict with nondiscrimination policies at North Carolina's justice department and treasurer's office, as well as many of the state's businesses. Though the LGBT community is targeted, it could ultimately result in the discrimination of other groups as well.

NC Attorney General Cooper firmly stated, "Our office will not represent the defendants in this lawsuit, nor future lawsuits involving the constitutionality of House Bill2." Additionally, he called the new law a "national embarrassment" that will hurt North Carolina's economy if not repealed."

BRUNSWICK

Continued from Page 1

zens can do to make a difference. We need to get to know our elected officials and challenge them in what they are doing to correct these problems. We must not vote based on political party alone. Our vote must be based on ideas we hold important in moving Brunswick County forward with equality and justice for all. We cannot continue to go backwards and survive, we will fall, look around and see the programs that are being cut because of funding, but then look at the programs that are funded.

It seems to me that the ones we need the most have taken second place in today's society. If we keep our people uneducated and poor, they will be under our control!

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

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"ANTI-TRANSGENDER BILL" WILL COME AT A COST TO TAXPAYERS, SAY OPPONENTS

ASHEVILLE-While it often takes months to advance new bills through the North Carolina State Assembly, Gov. Pat McCrory has signed legislation lawmakers pushed



STATE BRIEFS

through this week with sweeping speed, passing House Bill 2, that blocks cities from allowing transgender people from using public bathrooms for the sex they identify as, as well as restricting cities from passing broader nondiscrimination laws. Rev. Jasmine Beach-Ferrara, executive director for the Campaign for Southern Equality, predicts the law will end up costing more than just people's rights. She says, "Lawyers are exploring

whether legal action would be appropriate regarding HB2," which as in the case of the defense of Amendment One, the State has spent more than \$100,000.

PAID SICK TIME PAYS OFF IN THE LONG RUN, SAYS REPORT

RALEIGH-One-point-four million North Carolina workers do not have access to paid sick leave, which a new report finds could be affecting the

health of their families. The research, from Florida Atlantic University, says families without sick-leave benefits, including those with children, are twice as likely to delay health care treatment. Working mother CarzellaMcGlothlin says she worries about the spread of illness when people come to work instead of staying home when they're sick, and because she doesn't have paid sick time, she loses money when she stays home to care for a sick child.

PAINKILLERS PIN NC, ADDICTS TURN TO HEROIN

ASHEVILLE-Thousands of North Carolinians are addicted to prescription painkillers and, as new laws limit their prescription and availability, opioid addicts are turning to the street drug heroin to feed their addiction. Dr. Chris Flanders works in the emergency department at Mission Hospital in Asheville. He says, "We're seeing far more folks

coming in with heroin overdoses. Over time what's happened is the cost of pain pills is more than the cost of heroin. That's a big part of the driving force behind this trend." According to the NC Department of Public Health, the number of heroin overdose deaths increased by more than six-fold since 1999.

COMPILED BY CASH MICHAELS

LINKS, INC.

Continued from Page 1

Saulter, and other familiar women followed her as leaders of the chapter including Mrs. B. Constance O'Dell, Mrs. Jeffrie Swain, Mrs. Bertha Boykin Todd, Mrs. Allene Drain and Mrs. Martha B. Boone.

These women launched strategic programs and events that brought them closer in friendship while providing service in the community. A very popular event launched by the organization was the annual Fine Arts Brunch, launched in 1967 and originally conceived as a platform for raising public awareness of African American artists in the performing and visual arts. Over the years, the brunch has evolved into the now popular Kaleidoscope event which includes a fashion show and serves as a fundraiser which supports the chapter's philanthropy in the community. During its first 30 years the chapter also launched significant programs that inspired and recognized talented African American youth.

After the chapter's establishment in Wilmington, the social fabric of the community changed from segregation to desegregation. However, these women still recognized the deeper need to support each other in bonds of friendship



MRS. CELESTE BURNETT EATON

while continuing to provide support to their ever-changing communities. Under the leadership of women such as Mrs. Juanita Corbin, Mrs. Janice Fennell, Mrs. Rebecca Hall and Mrs. Yvonne Adams, the vision of the national organization was fully realized in Wilmington. Embracing the national platform of struc-

tured service delivery, the chapter organized its work into four categories - services to youth, international trends, national trends and the arts. In recent years, a fifth dimension to service delivery was added, the health and human services category.

With a new millennium approaching, the chapter



1951 WILMINGTON LINKS CHARTER MEMBERS

began to shift its focus from to digitization of records and its history, greater focus on ethics and leadership training, and a revised focus on international trends. Leadership into the new millennium included Mrs. G. Wylene Mapson Mrs. Barbara Kane, Mrs. Mercedes Newsome and Mrs. Sallye Dudley. Chapter membership increased and programming strategies became more efficient as members engaged in "umbrella programming". Through the umbrella programming approach, the chapter donated classroom supplies to children in Haiti, Belize and Liberia. And with strategic support from one of its members, Mrs. Gloria Monroe, the chapter began a substantive

relationship with the CECM School in Haiti.

Locally, the chapter has supported science, technology, engineering and math education (S.T.E.M.) initiatives to increase interest in, and awareness of technology amongst African American students. A member of the local chapter, Ms. Marva M. Robinson has engaged the chapter in student mentoring through collaborations with organizations such as DREAMS, Village at Greenfield, and the New Hanover County School System. With her artistic energy and gifts, she has facilitated partnerships between the Links and the Wilmington Symphony to encourage diversity in the arts by young and

old. In 2000 the chapter successfully sponsored GALA 2000, which benefited the Zimmer Cancer Center at New Hanover Regional Medical Center and featured Ms. Robinson and other local vocalists.

As the chapter continued its work in the local community, new friendships were formed and with new members, efforts were underway to address international issues and trends affecting people of color in other countries. Under the leadership of past presidents such as Mrs. Cynthia Brown, Mrs. Emma Jackson, Mrs.

Please see LINKS, INC./Page 7



Reflections on Herbert

Sunday, April 3, 2016 • 2:00 PM • FREE

Join historian Jan Davidson as she showcases Cape Fear Museum's Herbert Howard photographic collection. These wonderful, rarely-displayed images highlight many facets of African Americans' life experiences during the 1960s.



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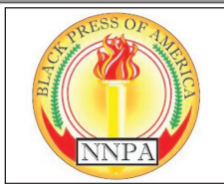
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THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

The Wilmington Journal was founded on the principle of the Black Press Credo. The Black Press believes that America can best lead the world away from racial and national antagonism when it accords to every person, regardless of race, color or creed, full human and legal rights. Hating no person in the firm belief that all are hurt as long as anyone is held back.

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Our Voice

Life is valuable in Turkey, in Belgium

(TriceEdneyWire.com) -

The ISIS attack on Brussels, Belgium strikes fear in the heart of every human being who lives in a "first world" nation rattled by random, brutal and terrorist attacks on law and order. How is it that people get into a subway car, planning to arrive at work, only to find tunnels collapsing and their lives snuffed out? How is it that you go to an airport to be engaged in the ordinary business of international travel, only to find two bombs planted at the airport and hundreds of lives imperiled. How does it feel to end a day not knowing how many perished or, days later, to write that "at least thirty", or "more than thirty" with no exact number of casualties at hand? How does the inexactitude diminish the sacredness of life?



Dr. Julianne Malveaux

It was right for the world's news gaze to focus, unrelentingly, on Brussels during the week of the ISIS attack. It made sense that we learned the harrowing details of the ways bombs were detonated, who was killed, and the details of their lives. It was important, especially, because so many saw Brussels as a "capital" of Europe, or at least of the European Zone. Several international agencies were located within walking distance of the subway station where one bomb went off. The bombs were designed to destroy and disrupt, and they did.

These were the same bombs, the same group of terrorists, who chose to destroy and disrupt Paris with November attacks that left more than 130 dead and hundreds injured. There is a solid line between the Paris attacks and those in Belgium as the arrest of one of the alleged Paris terrorists seems to have been the spark for the Belgium bombings. The world has every right to be horrified at the callous loss or attack on normality, or the massive loss of life, and of the ways these attacks have invoked the spirit of fear both in European capitals and in the United States.

(As an example, a friend told me she found her customary Washington stop both "empty and uneasy" the day after the Brussels attacks. "Should we expect an attack here," she asked, considering ways (there are none) to protect her and her family from terrorist madness. She had planned travel to London this summer and wondered if it were a good idea. How many others are sharing her apprehension?)

Even as I decry the carnage in Paris and in Belgium, I am troubled that there is a disproportionate amount of compassion for those who are "first world" victims of terrorism and those who victims live in countries deemed less important in the international order of things. March 13 attacks on a beach on the Ivory Coast, claimed as Al Qaeda's revenge against France, made headlines, but for fewer days and with reporting at less depth. Well, some might say, it was just the Ivory Coast, a Sub-Saharan African country that, though clearly a French ally, seemed less important than Belgium. So for a week we learned details of the Brussels debacle. Not so much about the Ivory Coast.

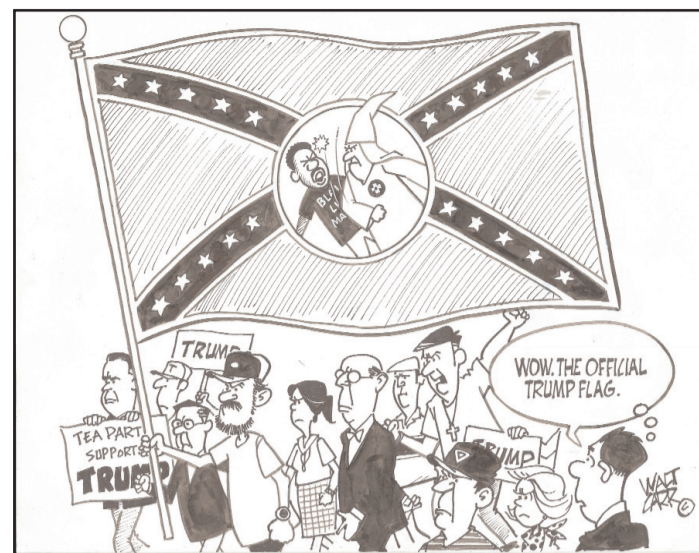
Similarly, a suicide bomber hit Ankara, Turkey on March 19. This was the fifth time since October that there has been an attack on one of Turkey's two largest cities - the other is Istanbul. Almost 200 people have been killed, and hundreds more have been injured, but in contrast to the news coverage we've seen in Brussels, coverage of the carnage in Turkey has been minuscule. The bombers in Turkey, like those in Brussels, have been linked to ISIS. As in Belgium, these bombs have disrupted "business as usual". Why did Turkey's bombing get sideline, not headline, treatment? Was it because Ankara, Turkey is not a "European capital"?

Our nation's first world, Eurocentric bias in coverage of terrorism is a bias that has the propensity to breed more terror. To publicly value some lives while ignoring the value of other lives is to send a signal that engenders resentment and dissent. If Brussels and Paris deserve headlines, so do Turkey and the Ivory Coast. A colleague told me he heard about what happened in the Ivory Coast on twitter. I learned about it only because I often look for international news on sites like allafrica.com.

The late political scientist Dr. Ron Walters talked about "foreign policy justice" as way of viewing nations through a lens that had some foundational principles, some around the sanctity of human life. In other words, while strategic concerns may shape our engagement with one or another country at a point in time, nothing should diminish the ways we value human life and mourn the loss of it. A Turkish life is as valuable as a Parisian life, an Ivorian life as valuable as a Belgian life. Our media engagement and our public statements must reflect these values. Otherwise, we may not be pleased when others hear our message and how they act on it. We cannot expect others to value our lives when we do not value theirs!

Julianne Malveaux is an author and economist based in Washington, DC. Her latest book "Are We Better Off? Race, Obama and Public Policy" is available on Amazon and www.julianmalveaux.com.

Visual Voice



Matters of Opinion

TO BE EQUAL

Obama Cares: Celebrating six years of the Affordable Care Act

(Via George Curry Media)

"T"oday, after almost a century of trying; today, after over a year of debate; today, after all the votes have been tallied - health insurance reform becomes law in the United States of America. Today. It is fitting that Congress passed this historic legislation this week. For as we mark the turning of spring, we also mark a new season in America. In a few moments, when I sign this bill, all of the overheated rhetoric over reform will finally confront the reality of reform."

Marc Morial

- President Barack Obama at Signing of Health Insurance Reform Bill, March 2010

On March 23, 2010, President Barack Obama signed the Affordable Health Care Act into law in the East Room of the White House. Six years later, 20 million people who could not afford health insurance or were

deprived of life-saving coverage because of a pre-existing condition, now have health insurance coverage. Today, our nation is actively narrowing the gap on adverse racial health care disparities. Today, under the law simultaneously loved and reviled as "Obamacare," most insurance plans fully cover preventative health care services; young adults, who might have otherwise been uninsured, get to stay on their parents' health insurance plans until age 26; and women are no longer forced to pay more for health insurance because of their gender.

And that is why this week; I will add my voice to the legion of American voices congratulating the current administration on its signature health care law as well as those calling for the necessary reforms to fix the law's shortcomings and ensure that this generation and future generations of Americans experience health care as a right, not an exclusive and elusive privilege.

From sea to shining sea, health insurance coverage gains have been shared broadly among American communities. African Americans have the highest mortality rate of any racial or ethnic group for cancer and Latino

communities also suffer from disproportionate rates of illness, like cervical cancer, according to the Department of Health and Human Services.

Since the law's hard-fought inception, the number of uninsured among African Americans and Whites has dropped by more than 50 percent. The Hispanic rate of uninsured has decreased by a quarter, with almost 4 million Hispanic adults gaining coverage under the law. More than 2 million young adults, who were particularly likely to be uninsured after losing coverage under their parent's health insurance, are now guaranteed insurance under their parent's health plans until they are 26 years old.

Despite all of these gains, Republicans have continued to label the Affordable Care Act a disaster. How can 20 more million Americans with access to life-saving health care ever be described as a disaster? Yet, the Republicans have been engaged in a five-year long effort to repeal the Affordable Care Act. The GOP has busied itself taking more than 50 votes to roll back the law and put the health of millions of Americans at risk, but has

never leveled with the American people about a GOP alternative to the Affordable Care Act. Rather than take a position of slash and burn, we need to save what works and better what doesn't.

The Affordable Care Act is not the first large-scale government program to face its share of challenges or widespread criticism. Obamacare shares company with the Social Security Act, which was described by a critic as a "fraud on the working man," and Medicare was widely seen as a threat to American freedom. Despite the heated rhetoric, both programs are still here serving the needs of Americans.

The Affordable Care Act is in its sixth year of infancy and while the program is nowhere near perfect it is saving lives and putting an end to insurance practices that unfairly deny Americans insurance coverage. Obamacare has a long, bumpy road of reforms to travel, but in year six, it has also come a long way in providing better health choices for the American people.

Marc H. Morial, former mayor of New Orleans, is president and CEO of the National Urban League.

BLACKONOMICS

Clamoring for a piece of Cuba

(Via George Curry Media)

I remember a line from Gil Scott-Heron, whom I often quote in my articles. In his rendering called "The Bicentennial Blues," he was discussing the Nixon administration and this nation's penchant for getting in on the economic action of other nations. He called Henry

James Clingman

Kissinger the "International Godfather of Peace, a 'piece' of Viet Nam, a 'piece' of Laos, a 'piece' of Angola, a 'piece' of Cuba." That line is so fitting 40 years later as the POTUS returns from Cuba, accompanied by a dozen business executives.

I certainly support entrepreneurship and business development, especially for Black people, and the opportunities for such abound in Cuba if the militaristic government allows it to flourish unfettered. After all, the monthly income for Cubans is around \$20, so they could use the sales and marketing opportunities that will surely come with increased tourism and business.

Additionally, forward-thinking entrepreneurs from the U.S. can take advantage of these opportunities as well; I trust that many Black business persons will act accordingly. The protracted embargo against Cuba can now be reversed to such a degree that all sides can win. But there

are caveats.

An article in the International Business Times by Elizabeth Whitman, stated, "Some American businesses are positively salivating at the prospect of finally tapping into Cuban markets, and now, U.S. President Barack Obama's three-day trip to the island nation is offering a tantalizing taste of the possibilities - particularly for the select crew of business leaders who are tagging along."

That statement conjures up visions of lions going to visit a few sheep to show them how to take better care of themselves. Black Cubans have suffered discrimination and mistreatment for decades. They are at the bottom level of the Cuban economic strata. If our revised friendship fails to bring positive economic change to Black Cubans, baseball, boxing, and entertainment notwithstanding, then once again, as we saw in South Africa, Black folks will be relegated to a narrow and crowded path to Cuba's new prosperity.

Haiti and the Dominican Republic are examples of what happens to Black people, especially when it comes to economic discrimination, preference, and skin tone. The island, historically called Hispaniola, is now divided into two countries, separated by a mountain range and skin tone, those who are lighter skinned and those who use bleaching cream to get that way versus darker people. The Dominican Republic has flourishing tourism and accommodating infrastructure, far from what we see across the border in Haiti. But, you do remember who

stepped in to "help" Haitians, don't you?

In January 2010, Time magazine featured an article by Alexandra Silver, Haiti and the Dominican Republic: A Tale of Two Countries, which stated, "Haiti had long been exploited, by foreign powers, neighbors, and its own rulers. France not only milked Haiti for coffee and sugar production but also extracted an indemnity from it: the young nation had to pay a burdensome sum [reparations] to its former colonizer in order to achieve France's diplomatic recognition. The lighter-skinned Dominicans looked down on the darker-skinned Haitians: in 1965, even as the Dominican Republic was embroiled in civil war, Haitians were working in Dominican fields and not the other way around."

Jalisco Lancer wrote, "Today, to be a Dominican is above all else not to be a Haitian. Schools and newspapers spread propaganda with the goal of dismissing the African heritage of the Dominican Republic and to distinguish between Dominicans and Haitians. The Dominican people are described as a White people of Hispanic descent."

Cuba and Black Cubans especially, should be wary and of what is being proposed as help for their island and be prepared to take advantage of the opportunities when they appear; so also should small Black business owners in this country.

Charlie Rangel said, "As soon as our multi-national corporations start receiving the benefits of the profits that will be made with trade, I

think in the next election we will move any impediments to bring peace, tranquility, and trade to our brothers and sisters in Cuba." Really?

An article by Julia Cooke of Aljazeera America last year headlined, "Amid sweeping changes in US relations, Cuba's race problem persists," observed, "When Soviet subsidies ended, racial inequality became more pronounced...[Employees] in the country's lucrative tourism industry were also white."

The article continued, "Blacks spearheaded more black-market activities; jails held 85% darker-skinned Cubans. In Cuba's particular version of stop-and-frisk, Blacks were stopped on streets at far higher rates than whites."

Cuban expert James Early offers an outstanding perspective on the opportunities that exist in Cuba for Black entrepreneurs: "Despite much racial progress since 1959, the period...has revealed the yet unbridged fissures around racial identity and racism in today's Cuba."

The lions are at the Sheep Gate. Be prepared to get your "piece" of the action.

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

The BLACK PRESS USE IT or LOSE IT!

REALITY CHECK

Donald Trump's whining low-income and working class supporters have limited influence in the U.S.

(TriceEdneyWire.com) -

It's very disturbing to see and hear Black television and radio commentators, newspaper columnists, politicians, and civil rights "leaders" talk and write about Donald Trump's most ardent low-income and working-class White supporters as though they have real power in this country. Those Whites, we are told with certainty, are the biggest threat



A. Peter Bailey

to our efforts for equal rights, equal justice and equal opportunity. It just ain't so. Throughout this country's history, Whites from those classes consistently voted their racial prejudices over their own economic interests. "You may be low-income or working class," they are repeatedly told, "but you are superior to any Black man or woman because you are White." All any power force had to do when opposing government assistance programs was to tell low-income, working class Whites that the chief beneficiaries of such programs will be Black folks. Look at the Affordable Care Act. Practically every White

family in the above mentioned classes are one catastrophic family illness away from having to declare bankruptcy. Yet many, if not most of them, strongly opposed universal health care because they have been convinced that such programs mainly help Black folks. They believe this despite the fact that the United States government has never created assistance programs designed specifically for us. The real deal is that low-income, working class Whites have limited influence over how this country operates. They don't have real power. That is in the slick hands of the big banks, big oil compa-

nies, big insurance companies, big drug companies, big investment houses, big think tanks, big colleges and universities, big internet companies, big agricultural combines and big construction companies. They are the powerful forces that are denying equal rights, equal justice and equal opportunity to Black folks. These are the puppeteers who run this country; not the whining low-income, working-class White puppets who swoon over Donald Trump. A. Peter Bailey, whose latest book is *Witnessing Brother Malcolm X, the Master Teacher*, can be reached at apeterb@verizon.net.

RAINBOW COALITION

Americans often see Cuba upside down

(Via George Curry Media)

President Obama's historic trip to Havana, Cuba - the first American president to visit since Calvin Coolidge in 1928 - opens the door to a new era in relations not only with Cuba, but with our neighbors across the hemisphere. Extensive press coverage of the trip featured the president's meeting with Cuban leader Raul Castro, the Tuesday baseball game pitting the Cuban national team against Tampa Bay, the president's meetings with business leaders and with Cuban dissidents. We'll get pictures of aged Chevy's held together by duct tape, of lovely but crumbling Havana mansions, of Cuba's lively culture and its widespread poverty. Cuba surely is a poor country. Its government, while still enjoying popular support, is a far remove from a democracy. Freedom of speech and assembly are greater than most realize, but still severely policed. But much of what we think about Cuba is upside down, and inside out. First, in many ways, the president's initiative to nor-



Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.

malize relations with Cuba isn't so much ending their isolation as ending ours. Cuba has enjoyed good and growing relations with our neighbors across the hemisphere for years. In recent years, those countries have threatened to exclude the U.S. from hemispheric meetings if we continued to demand that Cuba's exclusion. We have sought to isolate Cuba for over 50 years; we ended up isolating ourselves. Second, for many across the world, Cuba, not the U.S., has been on the right side of history. Cuba stood with Nelson Mandela and the African National Congress while the U.S. was supporting the apartheid government and labeling Mandela a terrorist. When South Africa invaded Angola in the mid-1970s to block the independence movement there, it was Cuba, not the U.S. that sent troops to force South Africa's withdrawal. One of the first visits Mandela made after he was freed was to Havana to thank Fidel Castro for his support, hailing the Cuban revolution as "a source of inspiration to all freedom-loving peoples." Similarly, for many across Africa and Latin America, Cuba is known for supplying doctors and teachers, aiding in the development of nations emerging from colonialism. America, too often, has been either allied with the former colonialists or

hostile to the emerging independent movements. Third, while some of Cuba's poverty is self-inflicted, some is also the direct result of 50 years of the embargo. Cuba is a small island, 90 miles off our coast, without its own oil. Before the revolution, tourism was a leading industry; foreign investors were central to the economy. The revolution upended that order. The embargo severed those and any new ties. In the Cold War years, the Soviet Union alone provided a lifeline for the regime. Since the end of the Cold War, more and more countries have chafed at the American embargo and begun to deal with Cuba. Fourth, most popular leaders in South America see Cuba as an example of proud, national independence. In many ways, our hostility to Castro elevated his stature across the world. Emerging populist leaders in South America don't plan to imitate Cuban socialism, which is being slowly reformed. But they are envious of Cuba's health care and education systems that provide Cubans with a standard of health and educational opportunity far above most developing countries. Fifth, Cuba has not been closed to us; we have been closed to Cuba. The Cubans have been looking for a dialogue for years. When I went to Cuba in 1984, I met with

Fidel Castro and even took him to church. We negotiated the release of 22 American and 26 Cuban political prisoners. He was ready for a dialogue then, but the U.S. continued its no-talk policy until President Obama finally launched his historic initiative. Reform will come slowly in a Cuba that is still proud of its revolution and anxious to preserve its gains in health care and education. Its foreign policy will remain proudly independent. The regime remains on guard against U.S. efforts to undermine it from within. But reform also will come slowly here. To this day, Congress refuses to lift an embargo that punishes a small neighbor off our coast. To this day, our arrogance and ideological blinders make it hard for us to see Cuba whole. The president has opened the door. Increased travel, cultural exchanges and the beginnings of business investment will push it open further. Most Americans already support normal relations and an end to a policy that has failed for over half a century. And one day, we can hope, even the ideologues and zealots in the Congress will get the message. Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. is founder and president of the Chicago-based Rainbow PUSH Coalition. You can keep up with his work at www.rainbowpush.org.

Vote for Democracy's sake

This year's presidential election has cast the importance of voting and of American citizens' right to vote in the sharpest relief - and no more so than this month. One reason is our contemporary drama: Donald Trump's success in wrecking much of the "old" Republican Party; the popularity among GOP voters of the "platform" of bigotry both Trump and Ted Cruz are running on; the continuing efforts of GOP-controlled state legislatures to block Black and Hispanic voters from voting; and the Republican effort to prevent President Obama's nominee to the Supreme Court from even being considered by the Senate. All these are rooted in conservatives' "long-game" strategy to preserve White conservative control of state governments and the Congress by denying as many Americans of color as possible their right to vote. But a second reason is because March itself has an extraordinary history in the post-World War II freedom struggle. That history underscores the point that not since the struggle for Black Americans' voting rights in the South - which reached its dramatic climax 51 years ago in Selma, Ala. - has the fundamental question Americans have always grappled with been so clear and so stark: Is America



Lee A. Daniels

to be a democracy or not? Before 1965, it was a democracy for Whites only. Negro Slavery; the decimation of First Nations' peoples; rampant discrimination against Hispanic Americans and Asian Americans and Asian immigrants characterized the horrible flip-side reality of White Americans' incessant boasting of their commitment to "liberty and justice for all." The Selma Movement, building on decades of struggle across the South, set in motion a dramatic expansion of democracy that is still producing progress - and provoking fierce resistance - today. On March 15, 1965, eight days after the infamous "Bloody Sunday" assault of civil rights marchers at the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, President Lyndon Baines Johnson stood before Congress to declare that within days he would submit the legislation that became the landmark Voting Rights Act of 1965 (VRA). LBJ opened his great speech, "The American Promise," with these resounding words: "I speak tonight for the dignity of man and the destiny of democracy." He was doing so, he proclaimed midway through the speech, "... because it is not just Negroes, but really it is all of us, who must overcome the crippling legacy of bigotry and injustice." And then, for emphasis, he repeated words that were the signature declaration of the Civil Rights Movement: "And we shall overcome." A decade earlier no one would likely have imagined an

American president speaking those words. Instead, civil rights forces had to brace for the fundamental message of the Southern Manifesto of 1956. That document, signed by nearly all the Southern Senators and Representatives in Congress and made public on March 12, 1956, was the White South's answer to the 1954 Supreme Court Brown decision outlawing racial segregation in public schools: That white Southerners' "massive resistance" to equal rights for Blacks should include violence. (Among those who didn't sign the statement was Lyndon Baines Johnson, then the Senate Majority Leader.) It was White Southerners' allegiance to the Southern Manifesto that made the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (VRA) necessary that year - and ever since. The law's protections enabled Black voters to marshal their voting power and play smart politics in the only party open to them, the Democratic Party. That four-decade-long effort reached a pinnacle in President Obama's 2012 re-election. Then, for the first time in American history, the Black voter-turnout rate surpassed that of Whites. The massive voting-booth support Black, Hispanic, and Asian-American voters (along with Jewish- and Muslim-American voters) gave the president, underwrote his victory. The swift racist reaction that exercise in democracy provoked led the following year to the Supreme Court's then-majority conservative bloc gutting the VRA's most important protection, the so-called pre-clearance clause.

That violation of democracy, in turn, inspired a substantial increase in the efforts of Republican-dominated state legislatures to enact voter identification laws and other measures to limit the number of Democratic-leaning voters from reaching the ballot box. Those efforts are sure to increase between now and November, as Trump and Cruz, for their part, make it more and more clear how threatening a Republican in the White House would be to Americans of color and the interests of democracy. That reality has intensified campaigns by a constellation of Hispanic-American, Asian-American and Muslim-American groups, respectively, to increase their representation on the nation's voting lists. Those campaigns, along with similar efforts to get more blacks registered and confident of their ability to overcome states' voter identification laws, are the bedrock of this year's voting-rights movement. They underscore what is righteous Americans' most important responsibility in 2016: to vote Democratic - for democracy's sake. Lee A. Daniels, a former reporter for *The Washington Post* and *The New York Times*, is also a former editor of *The National Urban League's The State of Black America*. He is a keynote speaker and author whose books include *Last Chance: The Political Threat to Black America*. He is writing a book on the Obama years and the 2016 election. He can be reached at leedanielsjournalist@gmail.com.

CURRY'S COMMENTS

After attacks on Brussels, more personal attacks on Obama

(Via George Curry Media)

Not even President Obama would argue it was the best of timing. While he was on the first leg of a two-stop trip to mend a 50-year non-relationship with Cuba and a 20-isolation from Argentina, terrorists attacked Brussels. Instead of rushing home, which would serve as propaganda for terrorists, Obama continued his scheduled journey. But instead of being applauded for his resolve, the president was attacked for everything from attending a baseball game in Cuba to dancing the tango at State Dinner in Argentina. Andrew Napolitano said on Fox News Channel's *Fox & Friends*, "At a time when we have a crisis, is that the impression that he wants to convey? He's a great dancer and maybe he didn't want to change his plans. But I'm not so sure he should be doing that when everybody else is worried about where ISIS is, who they're going to kill next, and are they going to come over here. Perhaps he should be giving a different impression of strength and preservation of freedom and safety." Aside from the reality of President Obama having access to the same tools he would have had if he had returned to Washington, he is being held to a different standard. Bernard Goldberg, a former CBS broadcaster, acknowledged, "...too often conservatives on radio and television wouldn't give Barack Obama credit if he found a cure for cancer. Look, we need honest analysis, and too often what we're getting is not honest opinion journalism." That's the understatement of the year. As was pointed out by this website, "A particularly intolerable meme continues to play out in the news media and online: apparently U.S. history began on January 20, 2009 when Barack Obama was inaugurated. In case you were unaware, President Obama is evidently the first president to take vacations; he's the first president to play golf; he's the first president to be photographed without a suit or tie; and he's the first president to routinely use a teleprompter. If you believe any of that, then you're a moron who needs to refresh your memory about all things pre-2009. There you'll find that not only are Obama's vacations and so forth in line with most previous presidents, but in terms of overall time off, he's taken the fewest vacation days of any modern president other than Bill Clinton. "The latest round of outrage directed at the president has to do with his so-called 'bad optics' - allegedly inappropriate non-presidential behavior. In this latest case, Obama's crazy decision to remain in Cuba for his historic reopening of U.S./Cuban relations following the dual terrorist attacks in Brussels on Tuesday. A cursory check of AM talk radio, Fox News Channel and conservative Twitter reveals the usual double-standard and historical amnesia we've seen over and over again." To refresh their memories: EVENT, October 10, 1981 - The funeral of assassinated Egyptian President Anwar Sadat. REAGAN OPTICS, October 10, 1981 - Reagan went horseback riding at Camp David. EVENT, August 29, 1983 - Two Marines were killed and 14 wounded in Beirut. REAGAN OPTICS, August 29, 1983 - Reagan remained on vacation at Rancho Del Cielo, California. EVENT, September 1, 1983 - Reagan was still on vacation in California when the Soviets shot down Korean Airlines Flight 007. REAGAN OPTICS, September 1, 1983 - According to Fox News Channel's Chris Wallace, as well as contemporaneous accounts, Reagan planned to remain on vacation until he was photographed horseback riding and was convinced to return to the White House. EVENT, October 22, 1983 - The administration began planning its military incursion into Grenada. REAGAN OPTICS, October 22, 1983 - Reagan remained on vacation at the Augusta National Golf Club in Georgia. Repeat: golf resort. EVENT, July 18, 1984 - 21 people were killed and 19 wounded when a gunman entered a San Ysidro, California McDonald's and opened fire. REAGAN OPTICS, July 21, 1984 - On the day when many of the gun massacre victims were to be buried, Reagan went horseback riding at Camp David. EVENT, April 2, 1986 - Four Americans were killed in a terrorist attack at a TWA counter at the Athens Airport, Greece. REAGAN OPTICS, April 4, 1986 - Two days later, here's Reagan's uber-presidential optics, while on vacation (!) at Rancho Del Cielo. EVENT, September 5, 1986 - The Pakistani military stormed the hijacked Pan Am Flight 73. 22 people were killed, including two Americans, and 150 were injured. REAGAN OPTICS, September 6, 1986 - Again, while on vacation at his California ranch, Reagan went horseback riding with the First Lady and was photographed with a "Just Say No" sign. On top of that, conservatives had the temerity to criticize First Lady Michelle Obama's decision to showcase her well-sculptured shoulders early in the Obama presidency. Yet Donald Trump's wife can expose more intimate body parts on the cover of magazines and expect to receive a pass. George E. Curry, former editor-in-chief of *Emerge: Black America's Newsmagazine*, is editor-in-chief of *EmergeNews Online.com*, an African American-oriented news website and monthly digital magazine. A popular keynote speaker, Curry can be reached through his Web site, georgecurry.com. You can also follow him at www.twitter.com/currygeorge, www.facebook.com/GeorgeE.Curry Fan Page on Facebook, and *Periscope*.



George Curry

VOICE YOUR OPINION!

write a letter to the editor!

New Hanover County

DNA and Genealogy Interest Group meets once a month before the Old New Hanover Genealogical Society meeting to discuss how DNA can help your genealogy research. Beginners are welcome. The next meeting will be held on April 11th from 5:30 p.m.-6:15 p.m. at the Northeast Library Pine Room. Also Fred Willard, Director of the Lost Colony Center for Science and Research, will speak on solving one of America's greatest historic mysteries: what happened to the colonists of Roanoke Island in 1590. Revealing secrets hidden on old maps, using satellite imaging and metal detecting, performing archeological digs, and administering a DNA project have all led to Willard's team making some startling discoveries that may change the way we think about the "lost" colony. The big question is, "Was it ever lost?"

Community Briefs

11th 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Northeast Library Branch, Pine Room.

Myrtle Grove Middle School, 901 Piner Rd., will be holding a Career and College Fair on Friday, April 1, 2016 from 8:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.. The fair is a great opportunity for local businesses to build community relations and allow students to explore future career aspirations. There is no cost for an organization to participate. Food will be provided by the school, and no setup is required. Participating businesses are asked to speak to middle school students about what the company does, why their field is an interesting career path, and how a college education can prepare someone for this type of career. All efforts will be made to arrange tables by career categories, not by companies (i.e. there will be healthcare tables, marketing/sales tables, arts/entertainment tables, and so forth.) The school is requesting that businesses provide copies of job descriptions, company brochures, displays, and other relevant material that represent the organization. Interested businesses can register here: Career/College Fair Registration Form.

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. Call Narconon for a free brochure on the signs of addiction for all types of drugs. Narconon also offers free screenings and referrals. 800-431-1754 or Prescription-abuse.org. Narconon can help you take steps to overcome addiction in your family. Call today for free screenings or referrals. 800-431-1754.

The **New Hanover County Lupus Foundation Support Group** meets on the third Thursday of each month from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00pm in Classroom D, Service Level, NHRMC. There is no charge to attend the meeting, and drop-ins are welcome. Contact the LFANC at info@lupusnc.org or at 877-849-8271, ext. 1. For more information, visit www.lupusnc.org. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 21, 2016 from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

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, 17th Street, Wilmington, NC. Invited are men and their partners—who are newly diagnosed and researching treatments, those previously treated, those who are experiencing a recurrence, and those who are undergoing advanced treatment for prostate cancer. Support is available from those previously treated and formal programs and literature supply information about all stages of prostate cancer and recovery.

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

Compiled By *Wilmington Journal Staff*

HOMETOWN NEWS FROM BRUNSWICK COUNTY

Brunswick County

There are one hundred counties in North Carolina. Brunswick County was once known to be one of the poorest counties in N. C. The poor farmers had to struggle on the farm and many were successful in taking care of large families. They lived during depression years (1929-1939) in the US under President Herbert Hoover (1929-1933). A lumber mill in Bolivia and a fish factory in Southport were helpful to very low income families.



Verniece Stanley

Now, we have a different view of Brunswick County. Retirees from out of state now make Brunswick County home. The population on the

beaches has increased. They include, to a large degree, White registered Republicans. There has been a low increase of African Americans with beach homes. We enjoy the beauty of the beaches and this is something which cannot be taken away from a any of us. One great benefit of having access to the beaches is seafood fishing. Our fore parents taught their children safe ways of fishing for sea food.

One of the drawbacks of living on, or near, the beach is the intensity of the weather in tornado hurricane season. We think of the tornadoes, which can cause violent weather and great destruction. Hurricanes can be devastating to homes and lives. It can happen all over the nation, especially in some of the most celebrated beach communities. Even a weak

hurricane can cause unusually high tides that can destroy homes.

Today, we are living in changing times. We think of the homeless and poor living in Brunswick County. How beneficial is the healthcare for these people? When a disease is spreading across the country will there be enough financial support to help the poor, or will they be left out to suffer their hardships with very little, or no, assistance? I understand that the handicapped children's services will close in the near future. We are waiting to see if other organizations will help the children in need of special education programs. These children will be more acceptable in society with happy smiling faces. The money spent on improving the playground for children in the summertime for new outdoor activities. Some of the

money spent on playground improvement could be used in helping special education and handicapped children live a better life in today's society.

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

2016 North Carolina Azalea Festival Parade and Street Fair

The 2016 North Carolina Azalea Festival would like to invite visitors to two of our most popular, family-friendly, and free events of the Azalea Festival – the annual Parade and Street Fair.

The 69th annual Azalea Festival Parade kicks off at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 9th at the corner of Market and 3rd Street. The route will mirror last year's new route, traveling straight North on 3rd Street and ending at Red Cross Street.

New this year will be the Azalea Festival's first helium balloon, Abby Cadabby's. Also confirmation from 13 high school bands from across the state, a Multicultural March of Nations, and Cape Fear Garden Club Azalea Belles on

hand to welcome in the weekend of festivities.

Pre-Parade entertainment consists of a Parade Mile being run directly on the Parade route (starting and ending in front of the Reviewing Stand) at approximately 9:00 am.

The Parade itself will kick off around 9:25 a.m. with the National Anthem, a flyover by the Bandit Flight Team Presented by Wilmington International Airport (ILM), and a ribbon cutting at the corner of Market and 3rd Street to start the Parade! Viewing areas will be along 3rd Street, from Market Street to Red Cross Street. Viewing along the route is always free, though reserved Festival bleacher tickets are available for purchase at the

North Carolina Azalea Festival Ticket Office for \$5-8 in advance, \$7-10 day of. Parking is available in all public parking decks downtown; access to the decks is on Chestnut Street only, and only until 8:15 am. Once in the parking deck, cars will not be permitted to leave until after the Parade is over. ADA parking is on the corner of Chestnut and 3rd Street, and is accessible via Chestnut Street until 8:15 am.

The Street Fair kicks off Friday, April 8th and continues through Sunday, April 10th.

The Street Fair is a free, family event with over 330 arts and craft vendors, 50 food vendors, 2 stages, an interactive children's area and a whole lot of fun!

The Street Fair is located in downtown Wilmington on Water, Front, and Market Streets.

The fun starts on Friday night, April 8th with the Music and Multicultural Stage hosting the City RockFest Tour Presented by McDonald's and McAnderson's.

The stage show starts at 6:00 p.m. at the corner of Princess and Water Streets. Food vendors will be open as well on Friday night.

The fun continues on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m., and Sunday 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Entertainment will be on stages both days, food and arts and crafts vendors will be open, and roving street performers will abound.



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WILMINGTON LINKS 1970'S

LINKS, INC.

from page 3

Constance Drain Greene and Mrs. Yolanda Norwood, the chapter engaged in a two-fold strategy to address education and health issues at home and internationally. At home, the membership encouraged writing and literacy skill development through after school partnerships with Girls, Incorporated and the Community Boys and Girls Club. Candidates' forums were sponsored to increase adult awareness of civic and political issues and a migrant was received to support the elimination of childhood obesity. This was used to sponsor intergenerational family training at multiple sites in Wilmington that encouraged healthy eating and physical activity. For many years, the group also supported a local heart disease awareness project - From Our Hearts to Yours, joining the fight against heart disease in African American women and assisting with distribution of food items to families courtesy of the Kellogg Corporation. Internationally, the group collaborated with other

organizations to expand its impact in Haiti, again through strategic efforts by Mrs. Gloria P. Monroe a local chapter member. A water purification system was purchased and ultimately installed at CECM in Haiti to ensure clean drinking water for its students and staff. During this time, the first lady of South Africa visited Wilmington and spoke to the community about her work in fighting not only HIV-AIDS, but the ravaging effects of diabetes in her country. Upon the installation of Mrs. Yolanda Norwood as chapter president in 2013, the chapter expanded its collaboration with the United Nations Association of the Coastal Carolinas. Following the sudden and untimely death of Mrs. Norwood, Ms. Dorothy DeShields led the chapter to a renewed focus on youth, with after school programming at the Village at Greenfield. Today, under current president Mrs. Emma Jackson, the chapter is continuing to place a focus on education of youth and has adopted Freeman Elementary School as its focal point for service delivery.

For 65 years, the chapter has displayed measurable and excellent commitment to friendship and service. Members are corporate and civic leaders; lawmakers and judiciary; medical professionals and healthcare providers; role models; mentors; activists; and volunteers who work toward the organization's common vision by engaging like-minded organizations and individuals for partnership. Through the years, each generation of Links in the local chapter has worked diligently to improve the quality of life for people of African descent who make Wilmington, N.C. and surrounding areas their home. The organization stands upon a legacy of friends providing service that changes lives. The chapter will celebrate its 65th anniversary with a brunch and fashion show on Saturday April 16, 2016. The event, Kaleidoscope XXXIII will be held at the Wilmington Convention Center and begins at 11 a.m. Ms. Frances Weller, evening anchor for WECT, TV-6 will serve as mistress of ceremonies and Ms. Marva Robinson will be this year's fashion commentator. Tickets may be purchased by contacting the chapter at wilmingtonlinks51@gmail.com or by see-

ing any member of the organization. The public is invited to join

in on this memorable occasion as the chapter reflects on its 65 year Legacy of Excellence! For

more information about The Links, Incorporated please visit www.linksinc.org.

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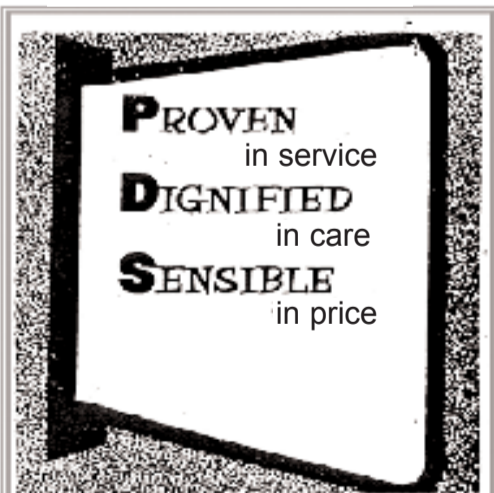
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 USE IT or LOSE IT

New Hanover County

Church Women United will hold their Spring Forum on April 1st at St. Andrews AME Zion, 1201 S. 9th St. 9:30 a.m. coffee and registration and 10:00 a.m. meeting.



Religious Briefs

The Daughters of Zion of New Jerusalem will hold their Annual Candle Light Service on Sunday, April 10th at 3:00 p.m. The guest church will be Rev. James Malloy and Mt. Pilgrim of Wilmington.

Bladen County

Brunswick County

Crystal Spring Missionary Baptist Church will celebrate their pastor's 17th anniversary on Sunday, April 10th at 11:30 a.m. Rev. Samuel Stallings, pastor and Friendship Missionary Baptist Church Family, Rose Hill, NC will be the special guests to render service. Dinner will be served immediately following the service.

Moore's Chapel will hold their Women's Day Program on Sunday, April 10th at 3:00 p.m. First Lady Linda Brown and New Hope Missionary Baptist Church will be the guests.

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff



EARLY WILLIAMSON
1886-1964

To whom it may concern,
We are in search of descendants of
Early and Lucinda Williamson.

Please contact the following numbers with any information.

Earl Cotton:
Phone: 336-803-4029, Email: soleilnnc@gmail.com

Norma People:
Phone: 612-916-2580, Email: kimya_ny@yahoo.com

Rufus Cotton:
Phone: 774-279-4690, Email: ruftheman@yahoo.com

SENIOR CITIZENS' FELLOWSHIP

Retirement for Lt. Yolanda Sparrow: Women first

BY FANNIE ALLEN AND SHELIA ROSS
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Tuesday, March 29, 2016, was a beautiful day, as the Senior Citizens' Fellowship met together for their regular weekly meeting! The sun was bright! The air was crisp! We were thankful to be in the midst! Our meeting was called to order by President Eloise Purdie. She asked the choir to come forward in the absence of Mr. George Hill and Mr. Lemanuel Boykin. We opened with "God Is

Real". A fervent prayer was given by Deacon John Green. Our chant was "He Is Lord." Minister Doris McQuillan reminded us of how wonderful a God we serve. She asked Mrs. Emma Saunders to come forward. Mr. Timothy Johnson, a mime and graduate student at UNCW, gave a mime performance which encouraged us not to keep quiet. He also did a rendition of "More of You." He was thanked and given a great round of applause.

Our speaker for today was Mrs. Yolanda Sparrow, the

first African American female with the Wilmington Police Department to retire after 30 years. She asked all to pray for Wilmington and the Wilmington Police Department need prayer. Mrs. Sparrow is a native of Wilmington and was raised in a poor section of town. She thanked her grandmother for her support and encouragement. She said that, if it had not been for the Lord, she did not know where she would be. Her retirement celebration will be at 3:00 p. m. on Thursday, March 31, 2016, at

City Hall. Lt. Sparrow was given a round of applause and a standing ovation.

We had encouraging expressions. The meeting was then turned over to Vice President Gladys Taylor. There were no visitors. The minutes were read and approved. The roll was called report. The "Callers" came, and each one was given a round of applause. There was a tie. All of the sick was reported as doing well. "Smiles" were shared by Mrs. Mary Martin.

There were 42 present.

TELL SOMEBODY

"A Clarion Call For Prayer"

God is calling his people to a lifestyle and a lifetime of prayer. Phillipians 4:6 says, "Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." He knows all about our trials and our struggles;



Sylvia Hooper

and he does not want us to worry about a thing! Yes, he knows about our frustrations that come with trying to fix a failing economy; and in the midst of it all, he is ready, willing, and able to hear and answer our call.

Our nation and world problems are too enormous for one man, be he the President of the United States, or the Prime Minister of England. Kings and queens should bow before God in prayer, seeking wisdom and guidance to bless and benefit the people they lead. Yes, things are

bad, but we are not without HOPE. If it's going to be done, God is going to have to do it! "For with God, nothing shall be impossible." Luke 1:37 says, "With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible."

As God's people, we realize that though we are in the world, we are not of this world, and we have a responsibility to be a part of the solution, not just the "problem." Our job is to live a life that is pleasing in His sight, and to pray until something happens! As a nation, without prayer we are powerless to survive, and cannot defeat our enemies. On the other hand, prayer changes things! Somebody's got to Pray!

If My people "But know that the Lord has set apart him that is godly for himself: the Lord will hear when I call unto him." Psalm 4:3 Psalm 107:2, "Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy." We have a responsibility to rally to the call of God upon us to intercede in prayer for the needs

of our nation and world.

Which are called by my name

"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light." I Peter 2:9, Our calling is high, holy, and heavenly! We were called out of darkness to do his will and to walk in the light of his Word. We were called according to his purpose, to do his will on earth as it is in heaven. (Romans 8:28)

Shall Humble themselves and Pray

James 4:10, "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up." Humility in prayer prepares us to be in the presence of the Lord. Isaiah 57:15b, "I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones."

And Seek My Face

"Seek ye the Lord, while he may be found, call ye upon

him while he is near...Isaiah 55:6 "And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart." Jeremiah 29:13 This is a promise of God, which will not fail, and which cannot lie. God said it. That settles it! Tell Somebody!!!

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

Tell them
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WILMINGTON
JOURNAL

Historic St. Stephen A. M. E. Church
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Presents the Port City Gospel Concert
Featuring the North Carolina A & T State University Gospel Choir
Azalea Festival Saturday, April 9 at 5:00pm
In the Sanctuary
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Rev. Dr. Mary C. Nixon, Pastor
2913 Acorn Branch Rd Wilmington, NC
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Saturday, April 2, 2016
12:30 P.M.

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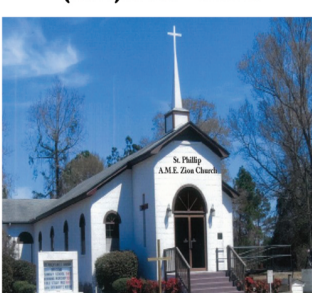
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LEGAL NOTICES

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

Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **JoAnn Durner Hoyt**, New Hanover County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said JoAnn Durner Hoyt to present them to John K. Hoyt, 6733 Cable Carr Lane, Wilmington, NC 28403 as Executor by **June 15, 2016** or same will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment.

This 10th of March, 2016

R.V. Biberstein, Jr. Executrix
Attorney For John K. Hoyt, Executor
P.O. Box 428
Burgaw, NC 28425

March 10, 17, 24, 31, 2016

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

The undersigned, **Ricky W. Simpson**, having qualified on the 24th day of March, 2016, as Executor of the Estate of **Mary P. Schickert**, deceased, this is to notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the 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 **1st day of April, 2016**, or the claims will be forever barred thereafter, and this notice will be pleaded in bar recovery. All persons, firms, and corporations indebted to said Estate will please make prompt payment to the undersigned at the above address.

This 24th of March, 2016.

Ricky W. Simpson, Executor
David Anderson
GRAVES MAY, PLLC
5700 Oleander Dr.
Wilmington, NC 28403

March 31, April 7, 14, 21, 2016

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER
IN THE DISTRICT COURT
JUVENILE SESSION
File No. 16 JT 39**

**IN THE MATTER OF:
J.C.D.W. (DOB: 12-03-2015)**

TO: ANY UNKNOWN BIOLOGICAL FATHER OF THE ABOVE CAPTIONED FEMALE CHILD BORN IN WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA.

Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-captioned 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 **March 24, 2016**, 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 **April 25, 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 March, 2016.

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

March 24, 31, April 7, 2016

LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE
SALE OF REAL PROPERTY
NEW HANOVER COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA
File No. 15-SP-865**

Under and by virtue of the Declaration recorded in Book 1301 at Page 909, New Hanover County Register of Deeds, and the provisions of Chapter 47C of the North Carolina General Statutes, and because of the Respondent's failure to pay assessments duly assessed by Savannah Court Condominium Homeowners' Association, Inc. ("Association") as shown by the Claim of Lien for Assessments filed on September 11, 2015, File No. 15-M-1121, in the Office of the New Hanover County Clerk of Superior Court, and pursuant to an Order Allowing Foreclosure of Claim of Lien for Assessments entered by the New Hanover County Clerk of Court on January 27, 2016, the Trustee will expose for public sale at auction, to the highest bidder for cash, on April 6, 2016 at 11:00 am, at the usual place of sale in the New Hanover County Judicial Building in Wilmington, North Carolina, the following property (including any improvements thereon) located in New Hanover County, North Carolina:

A Unit Ownership in Real Property pursuant to Chapter 47A of the North Carolina General Statutes, in and to Unit 9-D of Savannah Court Condominium as the same is shown on a plat or plats thereof recorded in Condominium Plat Book 7, Pages 134 through 144 of the New Hanover County Registry, reference to which said map is hereby made for a more particular description of said real property.

To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the current owner(s) of the property is/are Susan C. Combs.

The above-described property will be sold "AS IS, WHERE IS," and is subject to any and all superior mortgages, deeds of trust, liens, unpaid taxes, easements, conditions, restrictions, and other matters of record. There are no representations of warranty relating to the title or any physical, environmental, health or safety conditions existing in, on, at or relating to the property being offered for sale.

The successful bidder will be required to deposit with the Trustee immediately upon the conclusion of the sale a cash deposit of five percent (5%) of the amount of the bid or Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$750.00), whichever is greater. Following the expiration of the statutory upset bid period, all the remaining amounts are immediately due and owing. If for any reason the Trustee does not tender a deed for the property, the successful bidder's sole remedy shall be a return of the deposit.

To the extent this sale involves residential property with less than fifteen (15) units, you are hereby notified of the following:

(a)An order for possession of the property may be issued pursuant to § 45-21.29 of the North Carolina General Statutes in favor of the purchaser and against the party or parties in possession by the Clerk of Superior Court of the county in which the property is sold; and

(b)Any person who occupies the property pursuant to a rental agreement entered into or renewed on or after October 1, 2007, may, after receiving the Notice of Sale, terminate the rental agreement by providing written notice of termination to the landlord, to be effective on a date stated in the notice that is at least 10 days, but no more than 90 days, after the sale date contained in the notice of sale, provided that the mortgagor has not cured the default at the time the tenant provides the notice of termination. Upon termination of a rental agreement, the tenant is liable for rent due under the rental agreement prorated to the effective date of the termination.

This the 16th day of March, 2016.

Bonnie M. Braudway, Trustee
Craig & Fox, PLLC
N. C. State Bar No. 35183
701 Market Street
Wilmington, North Carolina 28401
Telephone: (910) 815-0085
Facsimile: (910) 815-1095
E-Mail: bbraudway@craigandfox.com

March 24, 31, 2016

LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER
In the Matter of the Estate of
James Wilson McCarthy, Deceased**

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **James Wilson McCarthy**, 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 **June 10, 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 10th day of March, 2016.

John F. McCarthy, III
Executor of the Estate of
James Wilson McCarthy
c/o Anthony L. Register
Alley, Register & McEachern
701 North 4th Street
Wilmington, NC 28401

March 10, 17, 24, 31, 2016

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator CTA of the estate of **Marvin David Newton**, 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 **10th day of June, 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 the 10th day of March, 2016

Marvin David Newton Pustanio (aka Marvin David Newton, Jr.)
Administrator CTA of Marvin David Newton
P.O. Box 31326
San Francisco, CA 94131
Murchison, Taylor & Gibson, PLLC
16 North Fifth Avenue
Wilmington, NC 28403

March 10, 17, 24, 31, 2016

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

Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **Naomi Chance**, 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 June, 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 17th of May, 2016

Tibbitt Chance, Executor
627 Colony Circle N.
Wilmington, NC 28409

March 17, 24, 31, April 7, 2016

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ENTERTAINMENT

Reel-ality
TV Talk
By
Marquesa
LaDawn



5 top reasons drama in the Real housewives world is getting crazier?

1- It's Reunion time for the Real Housewives of Atlanta and the truth on several levels finally comes out! Truth Fact #1 - Why can't Phaedra seem to get along with Kandi? Phaedra is mad and irked that her husband (soon to be ex) being locked up for eight years. She needs someone to be equally angry. She's miserable watching the happy Kandi, that includes, a happy marriage (finally), new baby, peace on the mom front (Mama Joyce is acting right these days); on top of that Kandi is looking fierce. You've heard the phrase, "Hurt People Hurt" and this seems to apply to the people closest to them.

Of course Phaedra is too proud to ever admit it but she knows this situation will get easier but it will take a lot of healing. In the meantime, she needs to get her aggression out and Porsha is her BFF these days, Cynthia is having her own troubles, and Phaedra already gloated over that at the beginning of the season. That leaves Kenya, from experience she knows not to go after Kenya without expecting a war. Newbie Kim, is just too nice and that would make Phaedra look bad. So that leaves, Kandi a plus in Phaedra's mind; she deserves it since her husband is friends with Todd.

So, its reunion time and Phaedra is sharing her "why" for spreading major Todd and Kandi hate. As always, Kandi responds speaking emotionally with little jabs but you can tell she's holding back. According to her blog, she does not want to blow Phaedra out of the water by sharing the real deal. So frustrating to viewers! If you're going to be on a reality show, speak the truth because it will come out eventually.

2- Kim is finally becoming a Real Housewife, but is it too late? Truth Fact #2 - Kim never felt comfortable being on the housewives stage but is smart enough to know that it makes her relevant. We saw the Hollywood legend with a non-Hollywood life; this is surprising considering how elaborate you can live in Atlanta in comparison with N.Y. and L.A. Anyway, she was very simple and pretty much took care of her children all day. During major Atlanta trips the other housewives bought along nannies and family members to care for their kids but Kim, did it herself.

On one hand you couldn't help but admire her hands on commitment. As a viewer, it was annoying, we wanted to see the Kim the total person and not just the mom. That being said, Kim defined classy and handled Kenya like no other. Kenya's goal is to upset you so much that you lose yourself and become a fighting fool. Kim never took the bait. When she came close, she just left the room. Eventually, Kenya just looked like a bully. This back and forth only continued at the reunion! It got to the point where Kim, told Kenya to shut up and stop talking over people. Even the famous host, Andy Cohen, lost patience with Kenya. It was interesting to watch.

The question is: Will Kim's classy manner and non-confrontational style allow her to stay in the RHOA world? According to the gossip sites, she's leaving. Some say it was her choice, some say she was fired. I just think she's smart. She got what she needed - to again become relevant and open up new opportunities - in record time. Heck, I watched her on "Dancing with the Stars" and she was in her glory. She loves being around normal people. She can also celebrate the fact, she was cast on the show after appearing on RHOA for season; for others, it takes years! You go

girl. PS: I think Kim's presence woke up the sleeping giant Nene, and made her realize, that if she wants to remain the queen bee of RHOA, she'd better bring it! Looks like she plans too, according to reports, she's getting the biggest paycheck in housewives history for the upcoming seasons!

3- Porsha gets the heat, no matter what! Truth Fact #3 - She will never be a stepford wife again. Her first season was all about pleasing her man and showing the world how happy she was as a married lady. She was hoping to get pregnant and become famous! Little did she know, she had an entirely different future. The marriage blew to pieces, and so did her dream of being a mother right now. She did try to replace him and that blew up in her face within a few months.

All of this drama in her life is clearly impacting her. She seems to get in a lot of physical fights post divorce. Any one would be angry with this reality, I just hope she finds another way to express it. She's finally carved out a nice place for herself on RHOA and getting too physical could end that according to the blogs. I was surprised to see her a bit dressed conservatively on the reunion. Her hair was simple, I hope she's ok, because we've come to know and love, the wild and out there Porsha!

4- There's drama over in Beverly Hills, too! Lisa Rinna is on fire, I like how real she's become. I'll admit at times, too real. She seems to share every single thought that's in her head - she needs an edit button. She seems to lack empathy for Yolanda Foster and her illness. I will say this, Yolanda is not being authentic during this season, because she's trying to hide the tension in her marriage - not all of it is about illness.

I have to say Rinna called it! I heard Yolanda is still very sensitive during the reunion and cannot talk about the demise.

On a lighter note, I love the Dubai trip, I now want to go! The ladies arriving in Dubai reminded me of when the ladies of Sex and the City (#2 movie) visited. It was magical.

I'm also enjoying Erica, one of the newest cast members, I think giving some time, her real deal will be exposed. I love that this is one season where the other ladies are not falling in line with everything Lisa Vanderpump says. Yes, she was criticized a lot last season but Vanderpump ran and never addressed it until the reunion. She knows that will not work this time around, so it's interesting seeing her being put in her place, so to speak!

5- The Real Housewives of Potomac, I'm finally liking it sort of..

The ladies are a bit too petty for my tastes, but I love how the young chicks are standing up for themselves and not allowing the crazy, older, bitter ladies run the show.

The one that looks a bit like Tina Knowles, Karen Huger, is a drama queen. If it's not her way, she's pissed for days! Her husband may let her control everything but not the other ladies. Ashley, a newlywed and one of the younger cast members cannot do anything right in some of the other ladies eyes. For example, her husband arrived at the girlfriends' weekend out of the blue and all hell broke loose. It did not matter that it was his house, or that he arrived the night before they planned to depart. Not only did they go left on Ashley, they expected her to throw her husband out, really? Now, drama lady, Gizelle is full of surprises. Initially I liked her and thought others over reacted in response to her, but my mind has changed. She's so mean to be so pretty! I will say it's getting better and the new cast is growing on me with every episode.

Marquesa LaDawn is a professional businesswoman who escapes the pressures of living in New York City by retreating into the real world of reality TV. Follow her on twitter @realityshowgirl, Periscope and subscribe to her podcast at www.RealitytvGirl.com.

**FILM REVIEW:
BATMAN V SUPERMAN:
DAWN OF JUSTICE**

Director Christopher Nolan, gone. Oscar-winning actor Christian Bale, gone. There will never be another "The Dark Knight Rises." That iconic, once-in-a-lifetime action trilogy is over. If you can wrap your head around that, and get past the first sluggish minutes of this Batman derivative, you just may find some instances of wonder in between the baffling moments.

First, the elephant in the room. Ben Affleck, aka Gigli. He isn't totally miscast. However, his stiff performance does nothing to elevate the Batman character or this movie. And his toupee, a distraction that should get second billing, steals his scenes. Henry Cavill as Superman looks more comfortable in his tights. Both actors' characters are sourpusses most of the film. The incessant brooding is off-putting. It's like watching teenagers pout because they can't go to the mall. Blame the screenwriters Chris Terrio and David S. Goyer for handcuffing them. And even those scribes deserve a pass because the task of writing a script about two normally centered heroes, who now want to destroy each other, is a tad preposterous.

An alien force, Zod, is in the midst of destroying downtown Metropolis where Bruce Wayne has an office building full of employees. Zod is facing the brutal force of Superman, who is, of course, out to save the world. In the process, their fight causes Wayne's building to crumble. The eerie similarities to 9/11 border on bad taste.

That incident strikes a nerve with Bruce Wayne/Batman. He becomes enraged and obsessed with wiping out Superman. Meanwhile, Superman's repeated collateral damage as he saves lives becomes a cause célèbre for Senator Finch (Holly Hunter) and her Congressional Superman Committee. A mouthy jittery and obscenely wealthy tech entrepreneur named Alexander "Lex" Luthor (Jesse Eisenberg) has a beef with Superman, too. He's plotting to bring kryptonite into the country. It's a weapon Bruce Wayne also wants. The Man of Steel had better watch his cape.

Batman hating Superman never really gels. The congressional committee subplot is equally suspect. The only person who logically hates the Superman is Lex Luthor; and that's just comic book legend. But as played by the mousy Eisenberg, who acts with the verve of a pesky mosquito, even Luthor is lame.

Ben Affleck (left) and Henry Cavill star in "Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice." (Warner Bros.)

Ben Affleck (left) and Henry Cavill star in "Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice." (Warner Bros.)

Director Zack Snyder (Man of Steel) has his hands full trying to make the silly plotline work. He does himself no favors by starting the film with a funeral that is poorly directed and filmed with too many overhead shots (cinematographer Larry Fong, '300'). The graveyard scene with the young Wayne running off into the woods is like watching an outtake from a B-movie. Not an auspicious beginning.

The obliteration of downtown Metropolis is a bit better, but not excellent. Perhaps the best action sequences are when Batman, in his natty Batmobile, chases a truck that is transporting the kryptonite. It's fun to watch. The film almost should have stopped there. It doesn't. Subsequent action scenes aren't as imaginative. The finale, involving a huge monster that looks like an electrified Hulk on steroids, is no better than a scene from any generic sci-fi/action movie. That beast is a poor effect (visual effects supervisor John "DJ" DesJardin). The loud score (Hans Zimmer and Junkie XL) doesn't help either.

Visually (set decoration Carolyn 'Cal' Loucks; art direction Patricio M. Farrell, '900: Rise of an Empire'; production design Patrick Tatopoulos, '300: Rise of an Empire') the film has high and low points: Lex Luthor's party, perfect. The Bat Cave, dull. At least the pacing (editor David Brenner; Man of Steel) is tight, which makes the two-hour and thirty-three minutes roll by at a decent clip.

Amy Adams as Lois Lane is great, but her character is not pivotal. Diane Lane is far better as Superman's mom. Laurence Fishburne as Perry White overacts. Gal Gadot, the sultry mystery woman who is always two steps ahead of Bruce Wayne, is gorgeous and bold as she morphs into Wonder Woman. She deserves her own franchise.

As this uneven film grinds to an end, it sets itself up for more shenanigans in more episodes with more super heroes.

Comic book fans will flock to this movie regardless. Whether they come back to see it a second or third time, like they did for The Dark Knight Rises or Deadpool, is the question. If they do, Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice will make a dent at the box office. If they don't, Christopher Nolan and Christian Bale will look even better in hindsight.

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