

OUTside
Looking IN

OUR VOICE



MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN

GUEST EDITORIAL
BY
MARIAN WRIGHT
EDELMAN
"The education
inequality struggle"
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**BRUNSWICK
COUNTY
UPDATE**



BERNEST HEWETT

**DR. MLK, JR.
CELEBRATIONS**

BY BERNEST HEWETT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

We are on the verge of another Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration in Wilmington. A breakfast will be held on Saturday, January 16, 2016, from 9:00 a. m. until 11:00 a. m. at the Burney Center on the campus of UNCW. The contact number for New Hanover County NAACP is 910-765-0102. Be sure to make plans to attend. The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. celebrations here in Brunswick County will start on Saturday at Southport Center from 10:00 a. m. to 12:00 noon. Special attention is being put on high school students who want to go to college, or

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PARTNER IN VOTER EFFORT**

"It's Our Time, It's Our Vote"

BY CASH MICHAELS
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

[DURHAM, NC] The NC NAACP, NNPA and African-American newspapers associated with the NC Black Publishers Association (NCBPA) have now joined forces for the most massive nonpartisan voter registration, education, mobilization and ballot protection movement in North Carolina's history for the 2016 elections.

Representatives of the NC NAACP met with NCBPA publishers Dec. 11 in Durham, along with black publishers from two South Carolina publications,

and Dr. Benjamin Chavis, President/CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association. All participants agreed that the upcoming 2016 presidential, congressional, legislative and gubernatorial elections are too critical to the African-American community across the Carolinas, and the nation, for the Black Press not to be involved in working with the NC NAACP, and also the South Carolina NAACP, in this major

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NCBPA PRESIDENT
MARY ALICE THATCHER



NC NAACP PRESIDENT
REV. DR. WM. BARBER



NNPA PRESIDENT
DR. BENJAMIN CHAVIS

HAIL TO WILLISTON
'The Best School Under the Sun'



WILLISTON CLASS OF 1970

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Class of 1970 holds 45th Reunion

BY GERALDINE WEEKS POLLOCK
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Williston Class of 1970 (The last Sophomore Class of Williston) held their 45th Class Reunion on November 27-29, 2015. Friday evening began with a Meet & Greet at the Terrances on Sir Tyler, Wilmington, NC. The president of the class, William O. Boykin opened the celebration with prayer. We had a great time playing games, taking a walk down memory lane and reminiscing about the good old days.

On Saturday morning, some of us in attendance, met on the steps of Williston to take pictures and

reminisce once again. We laughed and had fun, enjoying each other and remembering when we were on those steps. Saturday evening we had our banquet, also held at the Terrances on Sir Tyler. The theme for our 45th Class Reunion was "Stronger Than We Ever Been" which was submitted by Classmate Cynthia Jones Coke. Our secondary theme, "Social Security is REAL" was submitted by Classmate Gwendolyn Richardson Flowers. Our beautiful souvenir journal booklet was designed and produced by Classmate Eleanor M. Waddell. Our president served as Master of Ceremony. Classmate

Please see **CLASS OF 70**/Page 2



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
CECIL BROCKMAN [D-GUILFORD]

**NC trooper
association wants
Black lawmaker
to resign**

BY CASH MICHAELS
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

What first started out as a simple traffic stop involving one black state lawmaker and at least three white NC state troopers, has now ballooned into an apparent statewide effort, led by the state troopers association, to force the lawmaker to resign from office.

In the midst of the fallout, legitimate questions about why it indeed took three troopers to rush to what was just a seatbelt violation, why didn't troopers know how to

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LAWMAKER/Page 2

NC sued for failing to comply with federal voting rights law

SPECIAL TO
THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

GREENSBORO, N.C.-Widespread disenfranchisement and a steep decline in voter registration activity have led a coalition of civic organizations and voters to file a lawsuit against the state of North Carolina for violation of an important federal voting rights law.

On Dec. 16th, attorneys for Action NC, Democracy North Carolina, the North Carolina A. Philip Randolph Institute (APRI) and three individual North Carolina citizens filed suit against the state officials responsible for elections, public assistance programs and motor vehicle services for failing to provide federally mandated voter registration opportunities, in violation of the National Voter

Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA), in the U.S. District Court Middle District of North Carolina.

The NVRA, commonly referred to as the "Motor Voter" law, is aimed at increasing voting opportunities for eligible citizens by making voter registration accessible at the government locations people visit most frequently. The NVRA requires that public assistance agencies-like the agencies that run WIC, TANF, and Medicaid-and motor vehicle offices provide specific voter registration services to individuals whenever they apply for or renew public assistance benefits, driver's licenses, or state-issued identification cards, as well as when they report a change of address to the relevant state agency.

"Simply stated, this lawsuit is about vindicating the right of every North Carolinian who interacts with a public

assistance office or the Division of Motor Vehicles to register to vote with the confidence that when she goes to the polls, she will be able to cast a ballot and have that ballot counted," said Matthew M. D'Amore, partner at Morrison and Foerster LLP, which, along with the Southern Coalition for Social Justice, D?mos, Project Vote and the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law (Lawyers' Committee), are representing the plaintiffs on a pro bono basis.

Earlier this year, the plaintiffs sent letters to the North Carolina State Board of Elections, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) notifying them that they were violating the NVRA, and urging them to fix the problems and bring the state

into compliance with the law. According to the plaintiffs, North Carolina failed to remedy its NVRA violations in response to the letters.

"We had hoped that we could work cooperatively with the State to ensure that individuals were being provided the voter registration services federal law requires," said Bob Hall, Executive Director of Democracy North Carolina. "Unfortunately, these North Carolina agencies have dragged their feet on fixing the problems we identified in our letters, and it has become clear that federal litigation is necessary to bring North Carolina into compliance with the NVRA."

State data show a steep decline, beginning in 2012, in the number of

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THE WILMINGTON
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A Voteless People
is A Hopeless
People!
Register to Vote
And Then VOTE!!

BRUNSWICK
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who are going to college and their parents. Sunday's program will begin with a march at 2:30 p. m. The march will start at the ILA Hall in Southport, and, at 3:00 p. m., the program will start at the ILA Hall in Southport. The Rev. Quan Stewart will be the speaker for the occasion. At the conclusion of the program, there will be refreshments for the attendees. On Monday morning, the Martin Luther King Breakfast will begin at Trinity United Methodist Church in Murrow Hall, downtown Southport. It will begin at 8:00 a. m. Dr. Deontra Rose, Assistant Professor at Sanford School of Public Policy will be the speaker. The Walter Welsh Award will then be presented by one of his daughters to a person who has made a positive difference in the lives of people around in Brunswick County and the surrounding area.

CLASS OF 70

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Kojo Nantambu welcomed everyone to the reunion and the banquet. The response to the welcome for classmates was given by Gwendolyn Richardson Flowers and the response to the welcome for our invited guests was given by our former teacher, Mr. Claude Blair. Reverend Wayne A. Johnson, pastor of St. Stephen AME Church gave the prayer and grace. Remarks were given by invited guests, Mr. Claude Blair and Mrs. Marvis W. McCrimmon. A delicious dinner catered by Middle of the Island followed.

We continued with our outlined program which included; introduction of our Reunion Committee Officers: William O. Boykin, President, James "Jimmy" Holmes, Vice-President, Eleanor M. Waddell, Secretary, Lizzie Locke Johnson/Geraldine Weeks Pollock, Assistant Secretaries, Brendalyn Diane Fillyaw Brown, Treasurer, Grady Riley, Chaplain, Ahmad Rashed, Parliamentarian; Planning Committee Members, Tyrone Addison, Cynthia Jones Coke, E. Raymond Davis, Willie Dixon, Marilyn Miller Ellerby, Gwendolyn Richardson



WILLISTON CLASS OF 1970

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Flowers, Janice Hayes Harris, Shirl Shaw Jones, Sandra Bell Wilson and Faye Grady. Next, Cynthia Jones Coke, Marilyn Miller Ellerby, and Geraldine Weeks Pollock gave a tribute honoring our 82 deceased classmates. Our Path Forward was outlined by Janice Hayes Harris and James Holmes. The closing remarks were given by our president, Dancing followed the program

with music by Cape Fear Entertainment (Bryan Wilson). Our reunion banquet closed with prayer being given by Elder Charles Flowers.

On Sunday morning, our class worshipped with Macedonia FBH Church. Elder William Frazier, Pastor, rendered an uplifting and inspiring message. After church we ended our celebration with a farewell luncheon

at Elijah's Restaurant.

For each reunion, classmates are given a souvenir for attending. This year our 45th Reunion Souvenir was a beautiful Marron and Gold Wool Letter Jacket.

The core group and officers have really sacrificed to make sure this reunion was a success. We take pride in being the last Sophomore Class of Williston Senior High School,

knowing that, "We Crossed the Ramp!"

We thank God for allowing us to remain together as a group for 45 Years and it is our continued prayer that He will continue to keep us together, united as one.

Our path forward is to remain a positive group and focus on doing what it takes to keep the Williston Class of 1970 Alive.

VOTER EFFORT

Continued from Page 1

effort.

"The Carolinas is one of the largest regions for reaching African-Americans," Dr. Chavis, who called the Black Press "...the trusted print voice" in the black community, told those gathered. "North Carolina and South Carolina are key for a massive voter outcome. A partnership between the Black Press and the NAACP is critical."

Speaking via speakerphone from Raleigh, Rev. Dr. William Barber, president of the NC NAACP, said that the civil rights organization has always had an historic relationship with the Black Press. He called black newspapers "important" in helping to get the word out about the It's Our Time, It's Our Vote mass voter engagement campaign first announced Dec. 1st, adding that he was "...excited about where we're headed."

LAWMAKER

Continued from Page 1

run legislative license plates, who tipped off a Charlotte TV station about the incident, and what, if any, political implications does the incident have?

State Rep. Cecil Brockman [D-Guilford] - who was a primary sponsor last March of a bill titled, "Prohibit Discriminatory Profiling," along with fellow Democratic representatives Rodney Moore, Jean Farmer-Butterfield and Graig R. Meyer - admitted Monday afternoon that he "...was wrong for not having worn my seat belt" when he was stopped by the state Highway Patrol on Main Street

As these celebration begin and, as people take part in, or help with, each celebration, let us not forget that there have been more restraints to the dream of equality in the last five or six years than there were 20 years ago. We must not stop working. We must not sit down and say that its going to be all right. There have been no secrets regarding what's going on before us.

Brunswick County, we have that attitude here. Our freedom is being taken slowly away from us. The Racial Justice Act! The Voter Rights Act! Rules of Conduct and Ethics! The is a great lack of equity in the convictions of minorities when compared to others! These, as well as many more inequities exist here in Brunswick County, but this celebration gives us hope that, if we hold out and continue to fight, we shall overcome these attitudes and unjust laws! Vote and expose their perpetrators for who they are! *Bernest L. Hewett is President of the Brunswick County Branch of NAACP.*

in Archdale on Nov. 30th.

"It was a moment of deep frustration that I could have handled better," the first-term High Point representative wrote on his Facebook page Monday. "However, having traveled less than a mile down the road, I was pulled over by not one, but three state troopers. I was treated with suspicion about my identity and accused of stealing my own car. All of this was due to a heightened sense of threat felt by the troopers. The heart of my issue with this incident lies with being treated with suspicion and being seen as a threat for no other reason I can figure than being black."

However, that admission of wrong didn't stop an outraged Sgt. Danny Jenkins, president of the NC Troopers Association, from blasting Rep. Brockman Monday on the group's website, saying that his behavior during that traffic stop, and "...[state] House tag does not allow you an entitlement to break our laws."

It is shameful for someone of your position to accuse these officers of treating you poorly," Sgt. Jenkins continued, "... as they were only doing their job, and the video clearly shows that the officers were polite and respectful to you the entire time. Sir, your conduct during this traffic stop would make even your supporters question your honesty and integrity. If you cannot be civil and honest about a simple traffic stop, how can the people you represent trust anything you say or do?"

After his statement under a section titled "Call to Action," Sgt. Jenkins continues on, "...that [Bman's] accusations are lies."

"I am calling for all of our Trooper and law enforcement supporters to demand his resignation," Jenkins wrote. "He falsely accused a Trooper of mistreating him when he was clearly attempting to use his position as a lawmaker to bully the Trooper into not issuing a

voter campaign. In 2008, with the blessing of then national NAACP Pres. Benjamin Jealous, both groups partnered for the Million Voter March, which helped to register a record number of black voters, ultimately winning the state for the historic election of President Barack Obama.

Same-day registration and a longer one-stop/early voting period without photo ID was in force at that time, but in 2013, a Republican-led NC Legislature changed all of that to make it harder for blacks and young people to cast their ballot.

The NC NAACP and its legal partners have fought to strike down new voter restrictions in federal court, but a federal judge still hasn't rendered his decision on the first part of the case heard last July, and a new trial focusing on stopping voter photo identification is tentatively scheduled for January, but that could be delayed. So even though an injunction against implementing photo ID has been requested, Rev.

ticket. Is this the type of person that NC needs in the state house? I think not. Please share this status to spread then (sic) word."

Jenkins finishes his missive with, "Let's make him famous." On that same page is "Contribute to NC Troopers" and a donate button.

According to news reports, in 1996, the Troopers Association "...agreed to a court order requiring the caller to tell you he or she is a paid solicitor and that the group is not affiliated with the State Highway Patrol," reported WRAL-TV in July 1999, adding that none of the funds goes to the state Highway Patrol.

The raw video of the Nov. 30th traffic stop in Archdale from the patrol car dash-cam shows the first-term Democrat from High Point acting annoyed when he is asked for his license and registration (Brockman hands over his license, but indicates that he doesn't have the car registration) by Trooper J.D. Allred, and then telling the trooper that he is a state legislator, apparently hoping that he'll be released with just a warning.

"I just think it's amazing that you can really write a ticket to a state representative who was literally at the [bank] just to here and that you guys literally think that this is any type of, I don't know what you guys think this is doing. This is very frustrating," Brockman is heard saying from behind the driver's seat.

Another trooper is seen standing on the passenger side of Rep. Brockman's vehicle looking inside and watching the driver carefully.

Interestingly, none of the three troopers knew how to run Brockman's NC House issued license plate for a positive identification, having to refer to the vehicle identification number (VIN) inside the driver side windshield instead.

The video - which had two

Barber said it's not clear what voting rules will be in force for the March 15, 2016 North Carolina primary.

Dr. Chavis, Rev. Gatewood and all in attendance agreed the Black Press/NC NAACP partnership is needed not only to promote "real leaders" and positive movements in the African-American community, but also provide balance to the historically negative reporting by the mainstream media, which has stoked violence and confusion.

The South Carolina primary is Saturday, Feb. 20th, 2016, and even though African-Americans comprise over fifty percent of SC Democrats, it is still considered urgent to maximize voter registration, education and mobilization efforts there, NCBPA Pres. Mary Alice Thatch said in a statement.

Pres. Thatch noted, "It is essential that the message of the Black Press to Black People be delivered to every African-American in the Carolinas and the nation. Why? Because the

liaison Jarrett Burr; to whom Brockman complained to after the incident. There is speculation that WBTV was tipped off allegedly because of this connection, and immediately filed a Freedom of Information Act request for the tape as a result.

Since Gov. McCrory's Republican administration took office, media organizations have complained that it has taken months, not days, for FOIA requests to be granted, adding further to the speculation that the Republican response has been quite coordinated.

Online, supporters of the troopers blasted Rep. Brockman, saying that his behavior was wrong and he had no business using his legislative position to get out of being ticketed for a seatbelt violation.

African-Americans weighing in agreed that what Brockman did was wrong, especially not wearing his seatbelt during the annual "Click it or Ticket" campaign. They also agreed that he was wrong in his demeanor. But it still troubled many that it took three troopers to be involved in the traffic stop, especially given documented evidence that North Carolina law enforcement are more likely to stop young black males than anyone else on the road, but find more illegal contraband during white traffic stops.

And they wholeheartedly disagreed with calls for Rep. Brockman to resign, saying that all he needed to do was just apologize for his actions.

"No, he shouldn't resign," posted Steve Harrison on Facebook Tuesday, "... and somebody from the Trooper's Association needs to explain why a seatbelt violation (if they even noticed beforehand) is grounds for a reckless high-speed chase for a block-and-a-half. The Trooper driving almost smacked a pickup truck in his haste to run down the "suspect."

Rep. Burr is the brother of the Highway Patrol's legislative

NC GUBERNATORIAL RACE UPDATE

[RALEIGH] The March 15, 2016 primary race for governor is shaping up to be a contest on both sides. Former state Rep. Robert Brawley filed his papers to officially challenge incumbent Gov. Pat McCrory in the Republican primary, saying that he wanted to "bring back" honesty and integrity" to state government. Meanwhile, the NC Association of Educators formally endorsed state Attorney General Roy Cooper for governor, saying that his ideas "closely align



STATE BRIEFS

with ours." Cooper's Democratic gubernatorial opponent, former state lawmaker Ken Spaulding blasted the NCAE, saying it was yielding to Democratic Party establishment pressure. Spaulding, a Durham Attorney who recently filed for the Democratic primary in March, says Cooper is no real friend of the state's teachers, since he allowed his office to represent Republican state lawmakers in court in their bid to end teacher tenure.

FOUR WHITE WINSTON-SALEM POLICE OFFICERS PROBED FOR DEATH OF BLACK MAN IN THEIR CUSTODY

[WINSTON-SALEM] Four white Winston-Salem police

officers have been placed on administrative duty following the death of a black man in their custody after he was pepper sprayed. Travis Nevelle Page, 31m reportedly died after a brief struggle with the officers. Page's relatives say he had health problems, including high blood pressure and bronchitis. The SBI is investigating. Lab and autopsy results will take two to three months. There have been calls to release police body cam video footage.

FBI SEARCHED HOME OF ACCUSED PLANNED PARENTHOOD KILLER

[SWANNANOVA] A caravan of vehicles from the Federal Bureau of Investigation was seen pulling up to the abandoned home of Robert Dear

Tuesday to begin searching for evidence. Dear is accused of fatally shooting three people, including a police officer and a war veteran during an assault on a Planned Parenthood abortion clinic in Colorado in November. Dear has not lived at his North Carolina address for the past year, neighbors say.

DURHAM RESIDENTS WANT OPEN PROCESS IN POLICE CHIEF CHOICE

[DURHAM] With Durham Police Jose Lopez officially retiring at the end of the month, Durham City government has already hired a search firm to find who will serve as the next police chief. Monday evening that firm, Developmental Associates, told residents in a community

meeting that applications will be taken in January, with an applicant screening in February and an assessment group determining the candidates in March. Residents, however, complained that the process did not sound transparent, and demanded more community input. Officials assured that community input would weigh heavily on the final selection.

FEDERAL TRIAL BEGINS ON REDRAWN WAKE SCHOOL BOARD, COMMISSION MAPS

[RALEIGH] A trial in US District Court in Raleigh has begun in the matter of lawsuits against the Republican-led NC General Assembly's redrawing of voting districts for both the Wake County

School Board and the Wake County Commissioners. The school is majority Democrat, while the Commission board is all Democrat. Lawyers for both bodies say the districts were redrawn simply to lessen the influence of black and progressive voters in selecting local representatives to both boards. Republicans counter that the changes give suburban voters more say in how their board representatives are chosen. Those changes are scheduled to happen in 2016, unless a federal judge rules otherwise. All nine school board seats are at risk. Commission board seats have been increased from seven to nine, but have eliminated countywide seats. **COMPILED BY CASH MICHAELS**

LAWSUIT

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voter registration applications originating from public assistance agencies, far exceeding any change in the public assistance caseload.

"North Carolina's public assistance agencies are routinely failing to provide NVRA-mandated voter registration services," said Allison Riggs, Senior Attorney at Southern Coalition for Social Justice. "Extensive interviews conducted at public assistance offices in 11 counties found rampant lapses in compliance with the law, lapses that are having a huge impact on North Carolina voters."

"The recent drop in agency-based voter registration applications cannot be explained by voter apathy or a dearth of competitive elections," said Pat McCoy, Executive Director of Action NC. "In 2014 there were some highly competitive elections in North Carolina and, because the state has not been meeting its voter registration obligations, organizations like ours have had to pick up the slack and carry on the work that is and should be the state's responsibility, under the NVRA."

"The NVRA requires that public assistance agencies pro-

vide voter registration services in order to help low-income individuals and persons with disabilities-folks who are less likely to come into contact with motor vehicle agencies-get registered and participate in the American political process," said Melvin Montford, Executive Director of the North Carolina APRI.

North Carolina is also failing to place many voters on the rolls when they attempt to register at DMV offices. The state is similarly failing to offer required voter registration services to individuals who renew their driver's licenses or non-driver identification cards through the mail or on the DMV website.

"A significant number of individuals across North Carolina-including our client Sherry Holverson- were forced to vote provisionally in the most recent election, despite having requested to register or update their registration through the North Carolina DMV," said Catherine M. Flanagan, Senior Counsel for Project Vote. "For example, over 150 individuals in Mecklenburg County alone were unable to cast a regular ballot in the 2014 General Election because of apparent DMV errors in processing their voter registrations."

Ms. Holverson, one of the

individual plaintiffs in this case, is a qualified North Carolina voter who changed her registration information at a DMV office after moving from one county to another in 2014. When Ms. Holverson went to cast a ballot in the 2014 General Election, she was told that her name was not on the registration rolls and was given a provisional ballot. As a result, Ms. Holverson was disenfranchised because her provisional ballot was not counted due to DMV record-keeping errors.

"Our clients did everything right: they visited the DMV before the deadline for registering to vote; they indicated that they wanted to register to vote or update their voter information; and they left the DMV having been told that they would be registered to vote," said Stuart C. Naifeh, Senior Counsel at D?mos. "But when they showed up to vote in the 2014 election, their names were not on the list of registered voters. Because of the DMV's violations of the law, these North Carolina citizens were deprived of their right to vote."

This is not the first time North Carolina has had to bring its voter registration procedures into compliance with the law. In 2006, voting rights advocates brought compliance problems at public assistance agencies to the attention of the

Executive Director of the State Board of Elections, and cooperatively developed a plan that, until 2011, dramatically improved the state's compliance with its voter registration obligations at public assistance offices. See D?mos, Expanding Voter Registration for Low-Income Citizens: How North Carolina is Realizing the Promise of the National Voter Registration Act, April 2008.

According to today's complaint, "[t]his history shows that compliance with the NVRA is achievable and results in a substantial increase in public assistance voter applications. The survey

data and voter registration data available today demonstrate that the [state is] no longer in compliance, however, and that injunctive relief to remedy these violations is required."

"The NVRA plays an essential role in both protecting and promoting the fundamental right to vote," said Dorian Spence, associate counsel at Lawyer's Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. "We look forward to securing an expeditious remedy to North Carolina's violations of the NVRA and to seeing a more robust democratic process in North Carolina."

The defendants in the lawsuit, all named in their official capacities, are Kim Strach, the Executive Director of the North Carolina State Board of Elections (SBOE); Rick Brajer, Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, who oversees the operations of the state's public assistance agencies; Kelly Thomas, Commissioner of the North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles; and Nick Tennyson, Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Transportation, who together oversee the North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles.

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Where We Come From
I'm proud of my contribution to music, but I didn't create hip-hop. My proudest achievement is much more personal, because it's something I did create and I believe it will help make the world a better place for my kids. It's what we've done at RushCard. I started RushCard for people who weren't able to participate in the banking system. When someone can't get serviced by a bank, they get shut out of the economy, they spend hours in line getting their checks cashed and paying bills. It means they can't do business online. As the world speeds up, they are forced to slow down, and I wanted to do something about it.

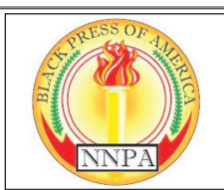
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At RushCard we've always been an industry leader in product innovations that make your life easier. Now, in addition to our award-winning low fees structure we're giving all of our customers a fee holiday through February 29, 2016 so anyone can enjoy the full benefits of RushCard. For this upcoming tax season, if you direct deposit a \$3,000 tax refund, we'll add \$30 to your account. We never stop innovating for all of our customers old and new. That's why I started this company in the first place. Sign up today by visiting RushCard.com

-Russell







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

GUEST EDITORIAL

CHILDWATCH

The education inequality struggle

(George Curry Media)

This has been a hard year for poor children and children of color in a gridlocked and cantankerous Congress. The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) replacing the No Child Left Behind Act was enacted after gutting a strong federal role in education policy designed to protect these children and jeopardizing their opportunity for a fair and adequate education to prepare them for work in our globalizing economy.



Marian W. Edelman

Over the past 50 years under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act too many states violated their responsibility to serve their poor and non-White children equitably, did not comply with the law and misused huge amounts of the funds intended for poor children for other purposes. With the loss of federal accountability in the new Act, I hope we will not see the mistakes of the past repeated and poor children fall further behind.

In 1969 the Children's Defense Fund's parent body the Washington Research Project and the Legal Defense Fund conducted a thorough study of how funds from Title I of the landmark Elementary and Secondary Education Act were being spent through on-the-ground monitoring and examination of federal audit reports from states. In our report, Title I ESEA: Is It Helping Poor Children?, we answered a resounding "no" as states widely used federal money as general state aid for all their children without targeting it to eligible children most in need, sometimes to maintain still segregated and unequal schools, and squandered money intended to lift achievement levels of poor children on things like swimming pools in suburban White schools.

Massive and continuing state and local violations of accountability and poor achievement levels for the neediest children resulted in passage during the George W. Bush administration of the No Child Left Behind Act with bipartisan support, including Senator Ted Kennedy and Congressman George Miller, that attempted to build in a much needed stronger federal accountability role.

The new Every Student Succeeds Act begins a new era but without needed federal accountability and relying on hopes that all states will fulfill their crucial responsibility to educate all their children fairly and prepare them for work and life. To ensure we do not repeat the mistakes of the past, all of us - every parent, child and community advocate who cares about our nation's future - will have to work very, very hard.

It is nation threatening when we look at how our children in public schools are performing in the fourth and eighth grades in 2015 and see more than 75 percent of lower income children, more than 80 percent of Black children and more than 73 percent of Latino children cannot read or compute at grade level. What is a child going to do in a competitive globalizing world if he or she cannot read and compute at very basic levels, is unable to graduate from high school, or is shunted into a Cradle to Prison Pipeline™ accelerated by unjust zero tolerance school discipline and misdirected special education policies?

There is some good news in the new Act. Thanks to the leadership of Senator Patty Murray and Rep. Bobby Scott, working with Senator Lamar Alexander and Rep. John Kline, some of the most harmful proposals were excluded including one that would have diverted Title I funds from high poverty to low poverty schools - the portability provision. The new law requires states to continue to track the performance of all children and subgroups of children by race, ethnicity, disability, and English language learners, with data breakdowns by gender.

While states will set their own goals and timelines for academic progress, their plans will require federal approval. States will be required to help fix schools where student test scores are in the lowest 5 percent, where achievement gaps are greatest, and in all high schools where fewer than 67 percent of students graduate on time using evidence-based programs approved by the U.S. Department of Education.

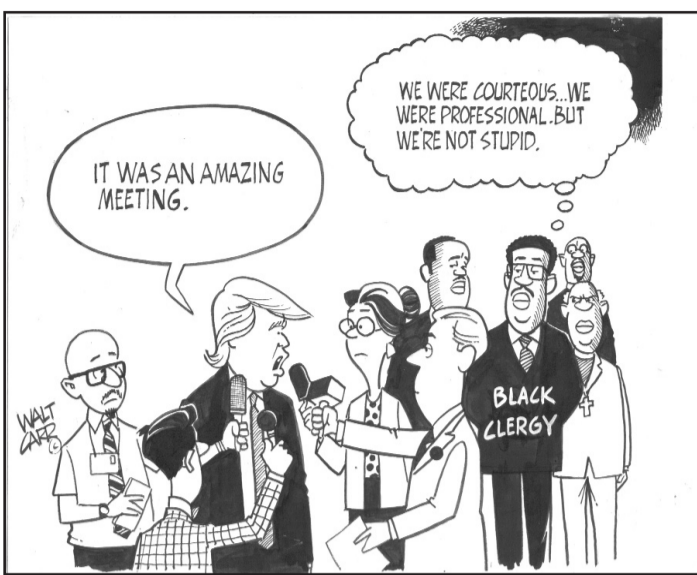
The Act takes significant positive steps to help students in foster care who have not had targeted attention before by state and local education agencies. Although public child welfare agencies have had obligations for ensuring educational stability for these children for a number of years, the new law helps ensure their school stability and educational success.

This should help prevent students from needlessly changing schools - falling further and further behind with each move. It ensures they can remain in their same school when they enter foster care and change placements unless it is not in their best interest. It also requires these children be immediately enrolled in a new school without the typically required records when a school change is necessary to eliminate gaps in their education, and encourages the prompt transfer of records when a child in foster care enters a new school.

There are important improvements in the Act for more than 1.3 million children and youth experiencing homelessness also focusing on school stability and success.

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

Visual Voice



Your Voice

PUBLICATION OF PALAVER'S FALL 2015 ISSUE

UNC Wilmington's Graduate Liberal Studies program is proud to announce the publication of the Fall 2015 issue of Palaver, an interdisciplinary online journal. Palaver issue releases are thrilling to us because we have the opportunity to showcase wonderful creative and academic pieces to the world and bring the interdisciplinary spectrum to light through our student-run

journal. We would like to say thank you to those who submitted to our journal and to the talented contributors in these pages. Contributors featured in our Fall 2015 issue include writers and artists from all over the nation, including local talent. Alec Johnsson's "Peach Melba" is a dark fall into the last meal of a murderer; Stephanie Dickinson's "Fabio of Third Street: A Liver Epistle" explores a mysterious disease and its impact on a family; and Dallas Woodburn's "Flannery

O'Connor and Aimee Bender: Pushing the Boundaries of Disabilities in Fiction" contemplates what it means to have a fresh look at how one views the disabled body in writing and real life. These are but a few of the diverse pieces in the Fall 2015 issue of Palaver. Visit www.palaver-journal.com to read the new issue and consider submitting your work!

ERIN BALL, MANAGING EDITOR OF PALAVER
UNCW



PALAVER'S FALL 2015 ISSUE

Matters of Opinion

WHAT WE BLACKS NEED TO DO

Are they selling wolf tickets or working for positive changes?

THE PROBLEMS: A small boat with no lifejackets was taking twelve people on a ten mile trip from the west shore of a lake to the east shore. About half way, the boat was hit by a large log floating in the water. The boat was quickly taking in water and there were no buckets in the boat. The driver of the boat ordered the ladies to dump the contents of their pocketbook in the water and use them as a bucket to throw the water out of the boat. He ordered the men to use their hats, caps and boots to do the same. All pitched in except one man. The driver did not want to waste his energy on him and all the others were busy trying to save their



James Hankins

lives, they did not notice him. When they safely reached the east shore, the driver hollered at the man and asked why you didn't help us get the water out of the boat. The man said "the hole was on the left side and I was on the right side."
#NOTE-Far too many of us are refusing to take part in getting as many of our people as possible to register and vote simply because it is not their plan. They think they are the smartest and most experienced leader, so they refuse to help others. Some of the old and young, haves and have not, non-profit grass root and well-funded national organizations do not trust each other. These type of selfish attitudes, divide and conquer, will leave us fighting each other thereby helping elect and re-elect the extreme conservatives we, our children and grandchildren now suffer under.
THE SOLUTIONS: We are all in the same boat

together. We can float like we did in 2008 and 2012 or sink like we did in 2010 and 2014. We all have been blessed with time, talents or treasures. Some of us have all three, some two and some only one. We must share what we have been given to make life better for us, our brother and sisters. I am calling on all churches, men and woman of the cloth in all denominations, atheists, agnostics, Sororities, Fraternities, alumni associations, teachers, students, Black media, unions, clubs, groups, salespeople, parents, LBGT, caregivers, veterans, military, aunts, uncles, grandparents, doctors, lawyers, honest elected offloads, social workers, athletes, entertainers, community organizers, food service workers and all other employed and under-paid to encourage at least three or more to register and vote in our 2016 life changing election.

Do you know someone in your community that is selling wolf tickets? Please support and read our local Black Newspapers. They are our trusted research reference for under \$30 a year. Hebrews 10:24-25 (Paraphrased) And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another and all the more as you see the Day approaching. James J. Hankins is a graduate of Williston Senior high school, Army veteran, A&T State University alumni, retired vocational education teacher, past president on the New Hanover County Branch NAACP, member of friends of Abraham Galloway and author of the book "What We Blacks Need To Do". To comment, buy his book or contact information-go to his web site-www.jhankinsrealty.com.

Is Trump destroying the Republican Party?

(George Curry Media)

Donald Trump is bad news. If the Republican Party selects Donald Trump as their nominee for the president of these United States of America, in my humble opinion, he will not become the 45th president. He does not have the experience, the temperament, the respect for all people, the knowledge of domestic and foreign policies, the power of truth-telling, the fairness, nor does he even have the vision to "make America great again." This man will further divide America; this man will fight everybody who disagrees with him; and this man will bully this country into Armageddon. It is a sad commentary to know that in this 21st century, that Donald Trump can actually become the nominee for the Republican Party. To elect a man who clearly and purposefully tells "big lies"



Rev. R.B. Holmes, Jr.

that he saw "thousands of Muslims cheering when the Twin Towers buildings were falling and on fire" after the horrific 9-11 attacks, would be a travesty. He tells these lies with no proof and repeats them after reputable news outlets and reporters have said this is not true. How can the Republican Party nominate a man who consistently insults women? He calls them fat, ugly, stupid and distastefully mimics normal /functions unique to the female physiology. How can the Republican electorate nominate a man to lead this country who lambasts Hispanics, Latinos, African Americans, refugees, a P.O.W. hero, and led the "birther movement" against President Obama? Donald Trump's personality, his appeal and his divisive policies have reincarnated the likes of George C. Wallace, Bull Conner, Joe McCarthy, David Duke, etc. "The Donald" appeals to the worse side of us. Unfortunately, there is perhaps, 25 to 30 percent of the Republican electorate, who can and will stay with Trump, no matter what he says or does. He probably can

call folks the N-word and continues to rise in the polls. All of this is bad stuff, and any other person who has made these outrageous, atrocious, and disgraceful comments would have been long gone from the political process. But not Donald Trump. The more shameful, pitiful, notorious and inglorious his comments are, he advances higher in the polls. Trump's candidacy really is a dark, sad and grave indication of where this country is headed in race relations and how low our civility has fallen. December 1, 2015, was the 60th anniversary of the courageous act of Rosa Parks' refusal to give up her bus seat to a White man. Sunday, December 6, 2015, was the 150th anniversary of the 13th Amendment that abolished Black slavery. Now, we have a candidate by the name of Donald Trump as the leader in the Republican presidential primary aspiring to become the leader of this country and the world. America, it is praying time! Fellow Americans, this is a terrible day in our country. My friends, it is true: free speech is a part of our free-

dom, but "Trump speech" should be a part of our past. It is a catastrophe that many of my friends in the Republican Party perhaps, have laryngitis, and will allow Donald Trump to destroy the party. Let me be very clear: Donald Trump will not become the next president of this country. You cannot make fun of the disabled and handicapped; you cannot demean women, immigrants, minorities, the frail, the weak and play on people's fears; and thank God, you cannot bully your way to the White House. He may win the Republican nomination in the primary, but he will not get enough votes to win in the general election; and to the Donald 's surprise, most people in this great America are not "dumb, ignorant nor stupid." If Donald Trump should manage to win the Republican nomination, then let me be the first to say: "Congratulations! President Hillary Clinton!" Rev. R.B. Holmes, Jr. is pastor of is pastor of the Bethel Missionary Baptist Church in Tallahassee, Fla. and publisher of the Capital Outlook.

VOICE YOUR OPINION! WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR!

RAINBOW COALITION

Gun bans once had bipartisan support

(George Curry Media)

In the horror in San Bernardino, Calif., a husband and wife walked into a social services center armed with two AR-15 style semiautomatic assault rifles and two 9 mm semiautomatic handguns, with 1,400 rounds of ammunition for the rifles. They opened fire, leaving 14 dead and 23 wounded. We now know that they had apparently committed themselves to the Islamic State. This was an act of terror.

In Colorado Springs, Colo., Robert Dear walked into a Planned Parenthood clinic armed with a "long gun" and started shooting, leaving three dead and nine injured. This, too, was an act of terror.

Mass shootings - with more than four victims - occur in this

country at the rate of more than one a day. There are more guns now in private hands in America than there are people. Our weak gun laws make it "just too easy," as President Obama put it, for terrorists or the mentally unbalanced or the irate to walk in and buy an assault weapon, designed explicitly to kill lots of people in battle.

The San Bernardino killings have triggered a fierce political debate. Republican presidential candidates are using the occasion to indict President Obama for being too passive or too weak. Jeb Bush and Marco Rubio condemn the modest reforms to limit the National Security Agency (NSA) access to private telephone records, suggesting that the right to privacy and the Fourth Amendment must be sacrificed in order to counter terrorism. They call for a war on all fronts against terror - except on guns.

Rubio joined with his Republican senators to kill a modest bill seeking to close the loophole that allows people on

the terrorist watch lists to buy guns in America. While the fight against terror requires sacrifice and war, he argues, it should not restrict the right of those on terrorist watch lists to buy and hold arsenals.

The ban on the sale of assault weapons used to enjoy bipartisan support. Closing of all loopholes for background checks seems just common sense. In fact, four in five Americans support background checks. Similarly, numbers would prevent the mentally ill from owning guns. Seven of 10 support creating a federal database on gun ownership. Majorities would ban the sale of assault weapons.

Despite this, common sense gun control has become a bitter partisan issue. The Washington Post reports that from 1993 to 2007 Republicans were split about 50-50 on gun control, with Democrats 2 to 1 in favor. Then, after the election of Barack Obama, Democrats didn't change their views, but now 75 percent of Republicans line up against more gun con-

trol. Gun ownership - even of assault weapons - is increasingly defended as a "check against government tyranny." After Colorado Springs or San Bernardino, or Connecticut or Oregon or Virginia or South Carolina, the gun lobby and their allies argue that more guns are the answer, not part of the problem.

Common sense gun control won't happen until this partisan divide is broken. It can advance in blue states, perhaps, and in blue municipalities where the state hasn't banned local action. National reforms won't happen until people break the partisan stalemate. This is a time for people of faith - of all denominations - to come together and demand common sense reforms to limit the gun epidemic that continues to spread.

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



Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.

CURRY'S COMMENTS

Don't be fooled by 'Silent Clarence' Thomas

(George Curry Media)

In arguably the most important civil rights case the U.S. Supreme Court will hear this term - a case that could ban or limit the consideration of race in public employment, government contracting and higher education - Clarence Thomas, the lone Black justice, was silent. Of the justices hearing the case, only Thomas did not utter a single syllable last Wednesday during 1 hour and 35-minutes of oral arguments in Fisher v. University of Texas-Austin.

The University of Texas considers seven factors in its affirmative action program: demonstrated leadership qualities, extracurricular activities, honors and awards, essays, work experience, community service and special circumstances such as applicant's socioeconomic status, family composition, special family responsibilities, socioeconomic status of applicant's high school and race.

Fisher sued over race, claiming that considering race, even with other factors, violated the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment.

She sued even though the university said she was unqualified and would not have been admitted even if there had been no affirmative action program. She sued even though the 14th Amendment took effect in 1868 to protect newly-freed slaves, not unqualified Whites.

Her attorneys conveniently ignored that universities - except in percentage plan cases where students are admitted based solely on their class rankings - look at a variety of factors when admitting an incoming class.

In fact, one African American and four Hispanics with lower scores than Fisher were offered provisional admission under a UT summer program. So were 42 Whites. In addition, 168 African American and Hispanic applicants with scores identical to or higher than Fisher were denied admission to the summer program, according to a university brief.

Yet, one of Fisher's staunchest backers is "Silent Clarence" Thomas, who is quiet on the bench, but has been a wrecking ball against affirmative action.

In their book, Supreme Discomfort: The Divided Soul of Clarence Thomas, Kevin Merida and Michael A. Fletcher, two colleagues at the Washington Post, wrote: "Every Thomas employer, from [Former Missouri Sen. John] Danforth, who gave him his first job, to President George H.W. Bush, who nominated him to the Supreme Court, chose Thomas at least partly because he is black. Race is a central fact of his meteoric rise, and Thomas has alternately denied it and resented it - all the way to the top."

In every court case involving affirmative action, "Silent Clarence" has voted against it, including Texas v. Hopwood, Adarand v. Peña and Grutter v. Bollinger.

Although Scalia is being roundly criticized over his recent remarks about Blacks needing to attend "lesser" colleges, it was the same position espoused by Thomas in 2003 when the court upheld the University of Michigan Law School affirmative action program.

In his dissent, Thomas said, "...Nowhere in any of the filings in this Court is any evidence that the purported 'beneficiaries' of this racial discrimination prove themselves by performing at (or even near) the same level as those students who receive no preferences.

"...The Law School tantalizes unprepared students with the promise of a University of Michigan degree and all of the opportunities that it offers. These overmatched students take the bait, only to find that they cannot succeed in the cauldron of competition. And this mismatch crisis is not restricted to elite institutions."

Thomas wrote, "While these students may graduate with law degrees, there is no evidence that they have received a qualitatively better legal education (or become better lawyers) than if they had gone to a less 'elite' law school for which they were better prepared..."

That's quite a comment from someone who attended both Holy Cross College and Yale Law School under affirmative action.

In at least one respect, Thomas is worse than Scalia - he is the only justice who volunteered that Grutter should be overturned even though Fisher isn't seeking that resolution in her petition.

When the Supreme Court first heard Fisher two years ago, Thomas wrote, "I write separately to explain that I would overrule Grutter v. Bollinger, 539 U. S. 306 (2003), and hold that a State's use of race in higher education admissions decisions is categorically prohibited by the Equal Protection Clause."

While he wants to exclude consideration of race in almost all instances, he feels it is okay for universities to use alumni preference or legacy programs that favor privileged applicants whose parents have attended a certain university.

"The Equal Protection Clause does not, however, prohibit the use of the unseemly legacy preferences or many other kinds of arbitrary admissions procedures," Thomas wrote in Grutter. "What the Equal Protection Clause does prohibit are classifications made on the basis of race. So while legacy preferences can stand under the Constitution, racial discrimination cannot."

It's not surprising that Thomas is known as the court's cruelest justice.

The late U.S. Appeals Court Judge Leon Higginbotham observed, "I have often pondered how is it that Justice Thomas, an African-American, could be so insensitive to the plight of the powerless. Why is he no different, or probably worse, than many of the most conservative Supreme Court justices of the century? I can only think of one Supreme Court justice during the century who was worse than Justice Clarence Thomas: James McReynolds, a white supremacist who referred to blacks as 'niggers.'"

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

MORIAL

Continued from This Page

This week, the Chicago Urban League is sponsoring "Truth and Justice for All: Advancing Police and Community Accountability," a community forum that will begin the conversation about strategies to heal the rift caused by decades of mistrust between the police and the city's residents. Leading voices on social justice and legal issues will examine the need for improved policing practices and discuss how the CPD can be reformed.

If fair policing and justice for all - not some - matters to you, add your ideas and your voice to this vital conversation. As long as organizations, community groups and the citizens of Chicago (and beyond) continue to demand that police departments respect and protect the civil rights of everyone it protects and serves, the days of unchallenged lies and shameful cover-ups in the Chicago PD - or otherwise - are numbered.

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

MORIAL

See this page

Donald Trump's American and world history review

(George Curry Media)

Isn't it time to acknowledge the contribution Donald Trump has made to American, and indeed, world history?

That is that for all the momentous progress of the last few decades, it's still possible for a crude, racist demagogue to capture the hearts and minds of a significant segment of White American voters.

Trump has proved that if you've got the knack for telling the brazen lie and expressing a bullying cruelty that is both juvenile and adult, you can still go far in American politics.

Of course, Trump, an extreme narcissist, is after a very personal redemption, too. After all, who can forget the President Obama-delivered humiliation he suffered in the spring of 2011 when his attempt to hold high the banner of the anti-Obama "Birtherites" ended in gales of laughter at the White House Correspondents' Dinner?

But the game he's playing now has much larger stakes.

Donald Trump is the anti-democracy avatar of modern-day America. He represents America's tradition of exclusion - the evil twin to the tradition of inclusion that some Americans love to pretend is the sole representative of the spirit of America. His careening this way and that to attack

anyone and anything his mob of supporters will hoot at is a powerful reminder of how thin the commitment to democracy and decency has always been in this society.

It's not a coincidence, historically speaking, that the rhetorical rampages - heavily focused on Americans of color and foreign nationals of color - which so excite Trump's near lily-white base of supporters come at the end of the nation's commemoration of significant anniversaries of both the Civil War and the climactic years of the Civil Rights Movement, two historical moments when decency temporarily won out over racism.

Nor is the fact that Trump has captured a large segment of Republican voters just when the two-term tenure of the nation's first Black president has symbolized the present and future diversity of American society. Trump's slogan that he'll "make America great again" begs an entire history-book worth of questions and answers about what American society really looked like when it was allegedly "great."

In fact, Trump's entire campaign is a reminder of how the tradition of exclusion - the underside of "American exceptionalism" - worked in the past.

In his vicious slurs against undocumented Mexican immigrants, one hears the echoes of the government and private sectors' past exploitation of undocumented Mexican farm laborers. And one can also recall the earlier WASP grandees' labeling as "inconceivable aliens" the First

Nations' peoples who originally settled the land and the Irish and eastern and southern Europeans who formed the 19th and early-20th century immigrant floodtide.

In his "Big Lie" that nearly all Whites who are murdered are slain by Blacks and his casual approval of the "roughing up" of a Black heckler at a campaign rally, Trump reminded us how quickly in the past Whites resorted to violence against Blacks.

His speech this month to the Republican Jewish Coalition - full of old, shopworn stereotypes about Jews - was stunning evidence of how many prejudices against people who are "not like" him Trump harbors.

And his call to ban all foreign nationals who are Muslim from entering the U.S. recalls the numerous instances when America's White majority declared war on an entire racial or ethnic group: casting Africans and African-Americans into the gulag of slavery and then Jim Crow; barring Chinese (and other Asians) via the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882; denying entry to many European Jews fleeing the Nazis in the 1930s; and imprisoning in concentration camps Japanese-Americans and Japanese nationals during World War II.

These and other echoes of the past prove that Trump's campaign is an old, not a new, phenomenon. His "special" talents are like those of past demagogues who've risen to prominence on the American scene: the bluster of a carnival barker;

the oiliness of a trickster; an overweening ego, and a lack of decency.

Of course, these "qualities" go a long way with the Republican electorate. Last week's Wall Street Journal/NBC News poll found that 42 percent of Republicans support Trump's proposal to ban all Muslims from entering the U.S. Only 36 percent oppose it.

By contrast, 75 percent of Democrats and 55 percent of Independents oppose such a ban.

Ironically, what is new about Trump the presidential candidate is that the Republican Party made his campaign possible. It was the GOP that increasingly over the decades played the right-wing-extremist and White-supremacy "cards" Trump has used to beat the GOP establishment candidates. It was the GOP that used the Citizens United case the Supreme Court decided in 2010 to destroy the restraints on the financing of political campaigns, a development that made Trump's largely self-financed campaign possible.

So, it's really the GOP itself that is responsible for the damage Trump is doing to the party - and to the nation.

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

TO BE EQUAL

Lies and cover-up in Chicago

(George Curry Media)

"Because a body of men, holding themselves accountable to nobody, ought not to be trusted by anybody." - Thomas Paine, Rights of Man (Part One), 1791



Marc Morial

A day after the city of Chicago released the dash-cam video showing the cold-blooded murder of 17-year-old Laquan McDonald at the hands of a Chicago Police Department officer, the Chicago Urban League, supported by the National Urban League, formally requested that the Department of Justice initiate a "pattern and practice" investigation into the Chicago PD.

Based upon the disturbingly stark difference between official police accounts of the October 2014 shooting of the Black teen and what is seen on the video, our nation's second largest police department is now under a wide-ranging federal investigation that will examine whether the depart-

ment engages in a pattern or practice of violations of the Constitution or federal law while policing.

Police claimed McDonald moved toward the officers just before the shooting. The video shows McDonald jogging away from the police. Police claimed McDonald continued moving toward the officers even after he fell. The video shows Van Dyke firing shots into McDonald's motionless body. Police claimed the knife McDonald held was in the open position. State's Attorney Anita Alvarez said the blade was closed.

In other words, the police lied.

This long sought-after probe will investigate the Chicago PD's use of force (including deadly force), racial and other disparities in its use of force, and scrutinize the department's ability to handle allegations of misconduct and effectively discipline rogue officers.

The video of Laquan being shot repeatedly as he walked away from the police officer, and the conspiracy to conceal the truth of what happened that night with a concocted account that painted the teenage victim as an aggressor, speaks to a long-standing

grievance, particularly among the city's African-American communities, that too many police officers believe they are above the communities and laws they are sworn to protect and serve.

Officer Jason Van Dyke, who shot 16 bullets into Laquan - many of them while he was already lying on the ground - had 18 citizen complaints filed against him, but he had never been disciplined.

According to the New York Times, from 2011 to 2015, in 97 percent of citizen complaints filed, not one officer was punished. Laquan's unnecessary and tragic death has pushed aside the dark veil of police department unaccountability. The investigation must usher in an era where the beams of transparency brings sweeping changes and reforms to the Chicago PD.

Enough is enough. Lies and cover-ups can neither appear to be nor be the norm in any of our nation's police departments. No one is served when the police and citizens look at one another with distrust, fear and hostility. To effectively fight crime, citizens and police officers must be partners in that effort, and that can't happen if suspicion and anger stand

in between that vital, life-saving partnership.

The Chicago Urban League was, and remains, at the forefront of those demanding broad and bold reform within the Chicago PD. I applaud both the swift work of the Chicago Urban League on this pressing issue and the Justice Department's decision to open the investigation.

We need to not only understand how the police handled this specific case of a 17-year-old boy shot dead by a police officer, but we also need to know if this points to a pattern of systemic abuse and lies.

"The mixed-message of purported concern yet muted response - or even denial - we've seen from CPD's top management highlights the lack of transparency and due process when it comes to officer-involved shootings. It is imperative that the Department of Justice step in and correct this conduct before there is any more loss of life," said Shari Runner, interim president and CEO of the Chicago Urban League.

Don't let small dollar loans ruin your holidays

BY CHARLENE CROWELL
NNPA COLUMNIST

In this wonderful time of the year when family and friends gather in good cheer to celebrate the holidays, nearly everyone has a number of lists. From greeting cards to shopping for gifts, decorations and more, lists are made and reviewed

to keep pace with the barrage of seasonal activities.

But if holiday lists seem bigger than budgets, turning to a high-cost, small dollar loan can turn joy and merri-

ment into a financial quagmire. The good news is that with a timely reality check, most consumers can avoid holiday financial nightmares.

A key step is to walk or drive past the brightly-colored signs advertising high-cost, small dollar loans. Both payday and car title loans can provide quick cash; but the harms caused by these loans create will likely linger past the winter's cold. Most importantly, these predatory loans often lead to consumers paying more in interest and fees than for the money borrowed.

Research by the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL) has found that predatory payday loans generate \$3.5 billion in fees from repeat borrowers who are unable to fully repay the original loan, usually in

two weeks' time. With average annual interest rates at 391 percent, 9 out of every 10 payday loans go to borrowers who get trapped in five or more loans per year.

Like payday loans, car title loans are often marketed as an easy way to get cash without a credit check – but with interest rates that tend to be 20-30 times higher than that of credit cards. The average car title loan of \$500 can only be secured by signing a personally-owned car as collateral. Further, the loan will only be a fraction of the marketable value of the vehicle. While the lender holds on to a car title, the borrower is faced with triple-digit interest and in the worst cases, the loss of personal transportation.

As harmful as payday and

car title loans are, other seemingly harmful small dollar transactions can also cause financial havoc.

If you believe pre-paid cards will always avoid financial rip-offs, think again. Before paying cash for this convenient form of plastic, read all of the fine print that explains the terms and fees that come with its usage. Terms and options can and do vary significantly. Many include a range of fees from activation, to learning your current balances, reloading monies and in some cases fees for inactivity. By the time all applicable fees are assessed, the amount of money actually available on that prepaid card can shrink and shortchange how far it can help on purchases.

Similarly, the convenience of debit cards can easily trigger overdraft charges for consumers with slim or no checking account cushions. By keeping track of receipts and balancing checkbooks, consumers using debit cards can usually limit or avoid overdraft fees. Failure to keep track of expenditures on the card can lead to multiple overdraft fees in a single billing cycle.

Worst of all, most consumers using their debit cards never realize the overdraft fees incurred until the next bank statement is received, weeks after the purchases were made. Depending upon your bank or credit union, overdraft fees vary in cost as well as an acceptable number to keep accounts

open. Too many overdrafts can lead to involuntary account closures.

CRL research shows that although overdraft fees vary by institution, the average \$35 overdraft fee on a debit card is double the amount of the overdraft itself. To date, at least 14 banks have been sued for changing the order of debit-card purchases to maximize fees.

This holiday season, try adding a full measure of practical sense to help your dollars preserve the spirit of the season and all of its celebrations.

Charlene Crowell is a communications manager with the Center for Responsible Lending. She can be reached at Charlene.crowell@responsible-lending.org.

President Obama celebrates 150th Anniversary of the 13th Amendment

BY JANELLE BERRY
OF THE HU NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON – Ask Americans what the Emancipation Proclamation is and most who know of President Abraham Lincoln's executive order will respond like 20-year-old Ebony Harris, a student of Howard University from Chicago, Ill., and say, "Isn't that the thing that freed the slaves?"

But, the Emancipation Proclamation did not actually free the slaves. It freed three of the four million slaves in states that were in revolt against the Union during the Civil War, and it was not permanent.

Ask them about the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, and most responses sound like Josephine Jacob-Cox, a schedule manager for the New York City Transit Authority.

"Does it have something to do with voting," Jacob-Cox asked.

Actually, this was the law that freed the slaves.

Had it not been for that amendment 150 years ago, there may not be a U.S.

Attorney General Loretta Lynch, media mogul Oprah Winfrey, billionaire Robert Johnson, Xerox President Ursula Burns, music impresario Sean "Diddy" Combs, "Empire," R&B music, hip hop or rap, the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., Washington Mayor Muriel Bowser or President Barack Obama.

Obama and Congress paused last week (Wednesday) to celebrate the moment 119 all White men in the U.S. House of Representatives would forever abolish slavery and involuntary servitude, except as punishment for a crime.

"Today, the issue of chattel slavery seems so simple, so obvious — it is wrong in every sense, stealing men, women, and children from their homelands, tearing husband from wife, parent from child; stripped and sold to the highest bidder; shackled in chains and bloodied with the whip," Obama said in Emancipation Hall at the U.S. Capitol.

"It's antithetical not only to our conception of human rights and dignity, but to our conception of ourselves — a people founded on the premise that all are created equal."

Fredette West, director of the African American Health Alliance and the chair of the Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities Coalition, expressed her happiness to be a guest at the commemoration.

"This commemoration was deep and penetrating to the soul," West said. "I wish everyone had the opportunity to be here, but it's great that the media was here so the youth can hear it and take in the message that was given today."

House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) also voiced his gratitude.

"The 13th amendment is just 43 words long," Ryan said. "It is so short that you can almost miss its whole significance. Today we celebrate this 43-word amendment; this new birth of freedom. It is altogether fitting and proper that we do this."

Although the amendment's purpose was to abolish slavery, it was also a strategy to end the bloody and tragic fatalities during the Civil War of 1861 to 1865. For four years, Black and White Union soldiers were fighting in the war together against

the rebellious Confederacy, causing over half a million deaths. Fear of more tragic fatalities caused Lincoln to threaten to free all of the slaves in the U.S with the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863.

Even after the Senate passed the amendment April 1864, Lincoln aggressively pursued the favor of representatives in the House who opposed the amendment by bribing them, offering his support in their political careers and even convincing them that the amendment's purpose had nothing to do with racial equality.

The fear of granting African Americans the same constitutional rights caused fear, therefore, creating the constant battle to grant passage of the amendment. However, on Jan. 31, 1865, the House finally passed the bill, with 119 yes votes and 56 against.

Once the bill was passed in January, on Dec. 6, 1865, the bill was ratified, declaring the end of slavery. Eventually, several states began to ratify the amendment to their state constitutions, the first being



PHOTO BY LAWRENCE JACKSON/WHITE HOUSE
President Barack Obama delivers remarks at an event commemorating the 150th anniversary of the 13th Amendment abolishing slavery, at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C., Dec. 9, 2015.

Illinois on Feb. 1, 1865.

Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) presented first lady Michelle Obama's remarks on her reverence of the progress of African Americans and the United States since the abolishment of slavery.

"She said that 'Today' — and I carry this in my heart — 'I hope that Sojourner Truth would be proud to see me, a descendant of slaves serving as the first lady of

the United States of America,'" Pelosi said.

Obama also gave reverence to the African American leaders of the past who struggled and fought for the freedom that all citizens of America have today, such as Harriet Tubman, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Frederick Douglass. He also commended Lincoln for being the president that sparked the change that America needed to see.

The Ford Holiday

Sales Event

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

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New Hanover County

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

Community Briefs

The New Hanover County Lupus Foundation Support Group meets on the third Tuesday of each month from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00pm in Classroom D, Service Level, NHRMC. 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 Tuesday, January 19, 2016.

The Wilmington Prostate Cancer Support Group meets at 6:00 p.m. the first Thursday monthly in the SE-HEC 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.

The Wilmington Symphony Orchestra will hold auditions for new members on Monday, January 11, 2016 at the UNCW Cultural Arts Building. Times by appointment. Interested musicians must schedule an audition time by emailing the WSO Orchestra Manager, Shirley Lebo at orchestramgr@wilmingtonsymphony.org. Applications and required audition music are available at www.wilmingtonsymphony.org, or by calling the symphony office at 910-791-9262.

Brunswick County

The Belville Town Hall will be closed on Thursday, December 24th- Monday, December 28th for the Christmas Holiday. The Town Hall will reopen on Tuesday, December 29th at 8:00 a.m.

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

HOMETOWN NEWS FROM BRUNSWICK COUNTY

Visit to Charleston, South Carolina

The United Senior Citizen Club recently visited the city of Charleston, South Carolina. We departed the Stein Mart parking lot at 8:00 a. m. to head to South Carolina.



Verniece Stanley

Everyone appeared to be excited about the trip with happy smiling faces. This was the right season of the year to visit another southern state. We took a quick rest stop in Georgetown, South Carolina. Our destination was the Golden Corral at 4968 Centre Point Drive, Charleston, S.C. We were treated with great respect and given a special place to eat. At 1:30 p. m., we loaded up and traveled to the Visitors' Center at 375 Meeting St. We also visited 51 Meeting Street, where the Grand Federal Townhouse is located. It was completed in 1808. The interior has been restored, and it includes elaborate ornamentation and a magnificent free-flying staircase. It is set amid spacious gardens and is furnished with period antiques.

It is interesting to hear the

liting dialect of Gullah ladies as they weave and sell handmade sweet grass baskets. At 100 Meeting Street, there stands one of the oldest historical society facilities, maintaining a vast research library and archives. Researchers are invited to explore the collections. Members conduct research for free and receive the society's publications. Charleston's rich heritage is a unique blend of European and African Cultures. To learn more about the fascinating African American Heritage, visit AfricanAmericanCharleston.com. At 350 Meeting Street stands the Joseph Manigault House, built in 1803. This is an exceptional example of federal period architecture. This national historic landmark displays a remarkable collection of the early 19th century.

We needed more time with step-on guides. Visiting McLeod Plantation is an experience like no other in Charleston. One who plans to visit Charleston, South Carolina out to plan at least an hour and a half to visit the McLeod Plantation. Imagine how life inside the home was experienced by the McLeod's, enslaved people, soldiers, freed people, and others who

lived on it for nearly 150 years. It once served as the home of enslaved people who refused to submit to the dehumanizing conditions of slavery. This contributed to the creation of Gullah culture.

We visited the Cotton Gin House and discovered how this plantation produced Sea Island cotton, some of the finest cotton ever grown. Back breaking labor in this building prepared it for market.

We Visited the church where a young White man recently killed nine Blacks while they were having Bible Study. People will read about one of the saddest experiences ever to happen in a Black church. The Hanging Tree site was not included because there were countless other sites and moments to enjoy.

An interesting part of our trip was the Angel Oak, a live oak (Quercus Virginiana). It is a native tree species found throughout the low country. It is estimated to be between 300 and 400 years old. Its massive drooping limbs and wide spreading canopy present the aura of an angel.

Gullah sweet grass baskets are one of the oldest handcrafts of African origin found in the United States. You can see these iconic bas-

kets come to life daily at the historic Charleston City Market. There are more than 50 artisans that weave a variety of styles on site daily.

The step-on guide was very helpful, and our visit at the Visitors' Center ended at 4:50 p. m. We then traveled to 871 Riverland Drive, Charleston, S.C., to see the James Island Holiday of Lights Drive Thru. We made a fast food stop en route to Wilmington, N.C where we could rest peacefully and catch a bathroom break. I would like to go on another trip with the Sloan family.

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.

Deltas host annual senior citizens Christmas Dinner



SENIOR CITIZENS AND MEMBERS OF WILMINGTON ALUMNAE CHAPTER OF DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC. ENJOYING CHRISTMAS DINNER.

CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE

Christmas traditions wrapped in expressions of giving, caring and sharing usher in the true spirit of the holiday season. For forty seven years, the Wilmington Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated has sponsored a Christmas Dinner Celebration for senior citizens. This year the chapter expanded its reach into Pender County at

Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church in Burgaw. On Saturday, December 12, 2015, approximately seventy attendees from Brunswick, New Hanover and Pender Counties feasted on a traditional turkey meal with all the trimmings. Words of inspiration were given by Reverend James Eason, pastor of Mt. Pisgah.

Additional program highlights included singing of carols and presenting gifts.

Several sponsors contributed to the success of this project and are extended special thanks- Food Lion, Harris Teeter, Lowes Food, Piggly Wiggly and Delta Foundation of the Cape Fear.

Public service permeates the

sorority's five point programmatic thrust. Chapter President, Acquinetta Beatty, along with chairperson Robin Moore and local members coordinate this event to serve a precious asset to our community, our seasoned citizens. This event epitomizes the chapter's commitment to public service.

The Bolivia Brief Holiday Market

Bolivia, NC- Hoping to add some fresh, local produce to this year's Holiday Dinner? The Brunswick County Cooperative Extension will host the final Bolivia Brief Farmers Market of the year on Thursday, December 17th, 2015. Farmers and vendors will bring lots of great fall produce and other fun goodies that make for a great addition to any holiday dinner and even make great gifts! The market will be held in front of the Government Complex Cafeteria from 11am-2pm.

North Carolinians spend about \$35 billion on food per year. If everyone spent ten percent of their food budget locally, we could return 3.5 billion dollars to the local economy. There are lots of great farm stands and markets in our region to pur-

chase local produce. For a complete list visit: <http://www.feastdowneast.org/FarmersMarkets2015.pdf> or <http://farmersmarketfinds.com/>.

This holiday we want to challenge you to shop for your ingredients locally to include in your holiday dinners and parties! Not only will your taste buds and your body thank you, your local economy and the environment will thank you as well! Try out the recipe below for a delicious healthier version of sweet potato casserole and buy your sweet potatoes locally!

If you or someone you know is interested in selling for free at the market or if you have any questions about the market please contact the Cooperative Extension office at 910-253-2610.

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COLLEGE FAIR AND VENDORS: 1:00-3:00
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Wilmington, NC Chapter of the Continental Societies Inc. announces induction



BY CONTINENTAL KAREN JACOBS-CHERRY, PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER
CONTINENTAL VERNETTA C. CORBETT, PRESIDENT
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

The Wilmington, NC Chapter of the Continental Societies, Inc. is pleased to announce the induction of three new members. The Wilmington Chapter is made

up of members from New Hanover, Brunswick, Bladen, Pender, Columbus counties and Greensboro, NC. The president of the Wilmington, NC chapter is Mrs. Vernetta C. Corbett. Our main focus is "Our Children, Our Commitment, and Our Concern."

The ceremony was held at the Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church on Princess Place Drive, Wilmington, NC.

The ceremony took place on Saturday, September 26, 2015, at two o'clock in the afternoon. New members are Mrs. Karen Jacobs-Cherry of Columbus County, Ms. Angelia G. Rhodes and Mrs. Jacalyn G. Rhodes, both from Bladen County.

The Wilmington Chapter members were very excited to have some of our National and Regional Officers in attendance for the induction ceremony.



Edna L. Moffitt, National President, Robin Browder, National 2nd Vice President and Mid-Atlantic Regional Officers, Jean Roach, Mid-Atlantic Regional Director, Aretha Thomas, Mid-Atlantic 1st. Vice Regional Director, and Comatha Johnson, Mid-Atlantic Historian and Past Mid-Atlantic Regional Director. Also two members from The Goldsboro Chapter; President

Dionne Johnson and 1st Vice President Belinda Royall.

PHOTO 1- Pictured left to right back row: Continental Belinda Royall, 1st Vice President, Goldsboro Chapter, Continental A.Rawiya Nash Wilmington Chapter, Wilmington Chapter Historian Continental Larneice Spencer, Wilmington Chapter Chaplain Continental Edna Perrymon, Wilmington Chapter Financial Secretary Continental Magdalene Johnson, Wilmington Chapter President Continental Vernetta C. Corbett, Wilmington Chapter Treasurer Continental Dollie Pollock, Wilmington Chapter 1st Vice President, Continental Betty S. Rhodes, Wilmington Chapter Corresponding Secretary Continental Carolyn Nelson and Wilmington Chapter Parliamentarian Continental LaVora V. Washington, Continental Aretha Thomas Mid-Atlantic 1st. Vice Regional Director, Continental Dionne Johnson Goldsboro Chapter President. Not pictured Wilmington Chapter Continental Deborah Holmes. Pictured left to right front row: Continental Comatha Johnson, Mid-Atlantic Historian and Past Mid-Atlantic Regional Director, Continental Jean Roach, Mid-Atlantic Regional Director, Continental Jacalyn G. Rhodes, Wilmington Chapter Recording

Secretary, Continental Angelia G. Rhodes, Wilmington Chapter Sergeant-at-Arms, Continental Karen Jacobs-Cherry, Wilmington Chapter Public Relations Officer, National Officers, Continental Edna L. Moffitt, National President and Continental Robin Browder, National 2nd Vice President.

PHOTO 2- Wilmington, NC Chapter members pictured left to right back row: Continental A.Rawiya Nash, Chapter Historian Continental Larneice Spencer, Chapter Chaplain Continental Edna Perrymon, Chapter Financial Secretary Continental Magdalene Johnson, Chapter President Continental Vernetta C. Corbett, Chapter Treasurer Continental Dollie Pollock, Chapter 1st Vice President, Continental Betty S. Rhodes, Chapter Corresponding Secretary Continental Carolyn Nelson and Chapter Parliamentarian Continental LaVora V. Washington. Not pictured Continental Deborah Holmes. New members pictured left to right front row: Chapter Recording Secretary Continental Jacalyn G. Rhodes, Chapter Sergeant-at-Arms Continental Angelia G. Rhodes Jacobs and Chapter Public Relations Officer Karen Jacobs-Cherry.

PHOTOS BY JOHN DAVIS.

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December 16 - December 22, 2015

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MVP

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Without MVP Card \$2.99 EA

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MVP

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MVP

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299¢ EA
MVP

16 Oz. - Select Varieties Land O'Lakes Butter Quarters
Without MVP Card \$5.59 EA

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MVP

10-14 Oz. - Select Varieties Kraft Deluxe or Velveeta Shells & Cheese Dinner
Without MVP Card \$2.79 EA

Hot SALE
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MVP

8 Oz. - Select Varieties Cool Whip
Without MVP Card \$1.79 EA
Limit 4

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8 Oz. - Select Varieties Food Lion Chunk or Shredded Cheese
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2 FOR \$4
MVP

8 Oz. - Select Varieties Food Lion Chunk or Shredded Cheese
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MVP

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Without MVP Card \$5.59 EA

Hot SALE
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Without MVP Card \$1.79 EA
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128 Oz. or 6 Pack - 10 Oz. Bottles Select Varieties Hawaiian Punch
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Without MVP Card \$2.59 EA

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MVP

4 Lb. Bag Domino Pure Cane Sugar
Without MVP Card \$2.48 EA

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4 FOR \$5
MVP

6 Oz. - Select Varieties Stove Top Stuffing
Without MVP Card \$2.59 EA

Hot SALE
198¢ EA
MVP

4 Lb. Bag Domino Pure Cane Sugar
Without MVP Card \$2.48 EA

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6 Oz. - Select Varieties Stove Top Stuffing
Without MVP Card \$2.59 EA

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4 Lb. Bag Domino Pure Cane Sugar
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Robert L. Toomer

Robert Lee Toomer was called home to glory on Wednesday, November 25, 2015 after a recent respiratory illness. He was born in Wilmington, North Carolina on December 3, 1934 to Johnny Earl Toomer and Marie Toomer.

Robert graduated from Williston High School in 1954. He traveled to his hometown for annual high school reunions visiting with his family, and four of his closest friends Dan, Curtis, Lockhart and Thusome. He attended his final reunion in July 2015.

Robert moved to New York in 1955 and was subsequently drafted by the United States Army. After fulfilling his military obligations in 1959, Robert moved to the South Philadelphia area and began working at Lou's Point Bar. There he met the love of his life, Carol Butler and her six-month-old daughter, Cheryl. Robert raised Cheryl as his own. In 1962, they were blessed to have a son, Robert Lee Toomer, Jr.

Robert was lovingly known as "Bobby" to his family and friends. Robert and Carol purchases a neighborhood store in 1972. Bobby's Grocery store quickly became a crucial part of the South Philly neighborhood, providing customers with many household staples. It was also a source of employment for many, including their children Cheryl and Bobby Jr. Located across from the 17th Police District and Local Engine No. 24; Bobby's Grocery regularly donated refreshments to both services for the annual Christmas parties.

Many regulars used credit, or "put it on the book." At the end of the month they settled their debts. Their store was famous for its "hand dipped ice cream" cones. Bobby was a friendly, affectionate man who often exchanged hugs and kisses with his patrons. He had a knack for remembering all the ice cream orders. As soon as you entered he knew what you wanted. "Okay, one butter almond, one coffee, and one run raisin." Customers came from all over Philadelphia and the surrounding suburbs. It remained open until his retirement in 2003.

Robert's love of SPORTS was passed on to his beloved son and grandson. He was an avid supporter who attended all of Bob Jr.'s and Rasual's sporting events. In 2005, he relocated to Pembroke Pines, Florida to live with grandson. When Robert was not physically at the game, you can bet he was watching it on television. Whatever NBA team Rasual played for was

Robert's favorite. Currently, it is the San Antonio Spurs.

At an early age, Robert devotes himself to Christ. In Philadelphia, he joined St. Paul Chapel Baptist Church. A life-long member and Deacon, he continued his tithes even after relocating to Florida. There, he joined the Way Fellowship Church, making that congregation his second family; often enjoying Sunday dinner at Pastor Baker's home.

Robert was preceded in death by his brother, Johnny Earl Toomer. He leaves to cherish his memory: sister-in-law Gwendolyn Toomer; ex-wife, Carol Butler Hawkins, brother-in-law, Carl Butler; (Gloria), daughter, Cheryl Butler; son Robert Lee Toomer, Jr.; daughter-in-law Karen Howell Toomer; two grandsons, Rasual Butler and Jonathan Sistrunk; three granddaughters, Shireeta Turner, Rashidah and Shakeema Taylor; four great-grandchildren; as well as a host of "adopted" neighborhood children, nieces, nephew, cousins and friends. *Mitchum-Wilson Funeral Home, Inc.*

Mr. Samir Whaid

Mr. Samir Wahid was peacefully called home on December 3, 2015 in Wilmington, NC. Funeral Service was held on Tuesday, December 08, 2015, at 2:00 p.m.

Samir AKA "Sweetie" AKA "Word" was born to Queen Watkins and Edward Murphy, preceded in death by his father.

Samir is well known in the community as a wise, kind hearted man who was a very accomplished boxer who traveled all over the world and dedicated a large portion of his time to traveling young men and women to box. He was very involved family man who loved spending time with family friends whenever possible. He loved dancing and was quite a sharp dancer. He will be dearly missed by those who knew him because to know him was to love him...WORD!

Mr. Samir Wahid leaves to cherish his memory, his daughters: Aaliyah Watkins, Toma Tarrant (Terrika), and Donte Forte, his sisters: Dollie Sidberry (Thaddeus) and Delores Weeks, his brothers: Edward Earl Watkins (Teresa), and David Watkins. Grandchildren: Tyreek Moore and Taliyah Tarrant, his companion, Pamela Keaton-Clark, his aunts: Beatrice Murphy, Sharla Murphy and Zella Murphy, his uncles: Wille Gattison, Norman Gattison (Maxine), Bobby Gattison (Herietta), James Gattison (Betha), Johnnie Gattison (Willene), George Murphy (Ann). His nieces and nephews: Syreeta Reaves (Montez), Thaddeus Watkins, Edward Earl Watkins, Jr, Katrina McDuffie (Derrick), Felicia Weeks, and a gang of cousins and special friends: Rachel, Carlene, Felicia, Rome, Albert, Lamb, Miami Dave, Jimmy, his beloved boxing family and so many more. *Arrangements by Adkins-Drain Funeral Service, 515 South Eighth Street, Wilmington, North Carolina 28401. Condolences may be*

shared at www.adkinsdrainfuneralservice.com.

B. Constance O'Dell

B. Constance O'Dell, 97, died Monday, November 16th in Snellville, GA. Funeral services were held Saturday, November 21st at St. Luke AMEZ. Burial followed in Greenlawn Memorial Park.

On Monday, November 16, 2015, Beryl Constance O'Dell, affectionately known as "Connie", died peacefully at her daughter's home in Atlanta, after a brief illness. She was born on September 28, 1918 to Rev. Sailsman William and Rosa Lee Weller, in New Bedford, MA. She was predeceased by her loving husband of 47 years, Leslie Howard O'Dell. They were blessed with two children; Leslie William O'Dell and Lucienne O'Dell Cables; both of whom reside in Atlanta. She was also predeceased by a brother, William Fritz Weller; a sister, Marian Weller Potter; a sister-in-law, Katherine Scott Weller; and brothers-in-law; Dr. John Karefa-Smart and Clifford Potter.

Connie experienced an illustrious career. She established an enviable record of professional service in her own right. She was a former instructor at St. Augustine's College in Raleigh, NC, and at Okalona Junior College in Okalona, Mississippi, where she met and later married her husband, Leslie Howard O'Dell. They resided in Waterbury, Connecticut, subsequently moving to Wilmington, North Carolina in 1949 to accept teaching positions together. She was the department head of music at Williston Senior High School for 17 years as well as the director of the famed Williston Senior High School Glee Club. She received national acclaim, both for its concerts and mutual network presentations.

One of the major highlights in her music career was accepting an invitation for the Williston Choral Ensemble to perform at the White House in 1991, during the George H.W. Bush Administration.

After so many years of music, and because so many of her students frequently sought her opinions and advice, Connie decided yet to begin another career - in guidance, at Hoggard High School. The major highlight of this career was when she was appointed department head of Guidance, in short order. After a time, she retired her educational career with a great feeling of satisfaction and accomplishment, with so many accolades, and rightly so!

She was active in many endeavors: Board Member of Cape Fear Community College, member of The Links Inc. (where she has served as president), Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., where she was greatly involved in annual debutante presentations, former minister of music at St. Luke's A.M.E Zion Church, and a founding member of the Wilmington chapter of Jack and Jill, Inc., to name a few.

Connie leaves to cherish her memories a loving and devoted son and daughter-in-law, Les and Shanna O'Dell; a loving and devoted daughter and caregiver with whom she resided, Lucienne O'Dell Cables, and a loving and devoted son-in-law, Herb Cables, Jr; six grandchildren: Howard O'Dell, II, Erika O'Dell, Greg O'Dell, Herbert Cables, III, Brandon O'Dell, and Nicole O'Dell; and two great grandchildren, Blake O'Dell and Trent O'Dell. She also leaves a loving sister, Dr. Rena Karefa-Smart; four godchildren, Suzanne Karefa-Johnson, Frances Weller, Rosalind Thornton, and Brian Todd; nieces, Margaret Weller-Stargell, Frances Weller, Rosalind Thornton, Rosalee Karefa-Smart, Suzanne Karefa-Johnson, Lauraine Potter, Erica Potter; and Katherine Moore; nephews, Aaron Potter, Eric Potter, and Gregory Potter. Online condolences may be made at frenchidavisfuneralhome.net. *A Davis Funeral Home service.*

Damiera J. Tiesman

Damiera J. Tiesman, 36, of Wilmington, died November 29th. Memorial services were held Sunday, December 6th at Davis Funeral Home.

Damiera James Tiesman was born August 22, 1979 to James Preston Starling and Beverly Tiesman in Des Moines, IA. God called him home on Sunday, November 29, 2015 in Wilmington.

Damiera received his early education in the Iowa and California public school systems. He was currently employed by Eastern Aluminum Supply, Wilmington, NC. He was a wonderful father to his three children, Chloe, Serenity, and Damiera, Jr., and a wonderful husband to his wife of 7 years, Jazmine Spoon Tiesman. He was a kind hearted, sincere individual, having a wonderful personality to make you love him. He was willing to help anyone in need. Damiera will truly be missed by all.

He leaves to cherish loving

memories: his wife, Jazmine Spoon Tiesman; two daughters, Chloe and Serenity Tiesman; one son, Damiera James Tiesman Jr.; father, James Preston Starling of Prophetstown, IL; four brothers, Rico (Nicole) Starling of Los Angeles California, Celestrail Butler of Bayboro, NC, Breze Butler of Oriental, NC, and Mentobe Butler of Bayboro, NC; two sisters, Allameshia (Norman) Jones of Winston Salem, NC and Mariah Butler of Bayboro, NC; three step brothers, Ira Jarrett of Yucca Valley California, Maurice Buchanan of Twenty-nine Palms, CA and Chikeo Baker of Raleigh, NC; two nieces; Heaven Jones and Nevaeh Jones; five nephews, Lakel Jones, Laquan Jones, Bryson Frink, Marco Starling, and Alessandro Starling; Father-in-law and Mother-in-law, Tony and Lesley Gilbert of Twenty-nine Palms, CA; uncle, William Starling of Des Moines, IA; aunts, Mildred Ellis of Moline, IL, Farstine Vaughn and Inetha White of Des Moines, IA; two special aunts, Ella Dunigan, Des Moines, IA and Clara "Kitty" (Roland) Speights-McCorkle of Milan, IL; other nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives and friends. Online condolences may be made at www.frenchidavisfuneralhome.net. *A Davis Funeral Home service.*

William R. Clemmons

William R. Clemmons, 78, of Southport died Thursday, December 3rd. Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 8th at Mt. Carmel A.M.E. Burial followed in Northwood Cemetery. Online condolences may be made at www.frenchidavisfuneralhome.net. *A Davis Funeral Home service.*

John Henry Green

John Henry Green, 80, of Wilmington died Fri., Nov. 20th. Funeral services were held 2:00 pm Sat., Nov. 28th at Mt. Nebo Missionary Baptist Church. Burial followed in

Pine Forest Cemetery. Online condolences may be made at www.frenchidavisfuneralhome.net. *A Davis Funeral Home service.*

Harold L. Tyndall

Harold L. Tyndall, 64, of Wilmington, NC died Saturday, November 21st. Memorial services were held Thursday, December 3rd at Davis Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at www.frenchidavisfuneralhome.net. *A Davis Funeral Home service.*

David C. Lewis

David C. Lewis, 61, of Bolivia died Tues., November 24th. Funeral services were Saturday, November 28th at Davis Funeral Home. Burial followed in Piney Grove Cemetery. Online condolences may be made at www.frenchidavisfuneralhome.net. *A Davis Funeral Home service.*

Frances Sellers

Frances Sellers, 69, of Wilmington died Thursday, November 26th. Funeral services were held Wednesday, December 2nd at Davis Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at www.frenchidavisfuneralhome.net. *A Davis Funeral Home service.*

James Horton

James Horton, 79, died Friday, November 27th. Funeral services were held Saturday, December 5th at Ebenezer MBC. Burial followed in Calvary Memorial Cemetery. Online condolences may be made www.frenchidavisfuneralhome.net. James "Branch" Horton was born June 26, 1936 in Wilmington, North Carolina, son of the late Robert Horton and Spicer Hansley Horton. James, the youngest of the eight children was affectionately called "Baby" by his siblings.

See **OBITUARIES** page 10

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New Hanover County

Central Missionary Baptist Church, 702 Red Cross St., will present on December 19th at 3:00 p.m. a Christmas musical. The program will include on soloist Deloris Brown, Al Harrison, Joe Robinson, Hooper Chapel Men Chorus and many more from the surrounding area.



Religious Briefs

Price Cathedral AME Zion Church, 12th and Orange Sts., will hold their Candlelight March Service on Sunday, December 20th at 3:30 p.m. The Reverend Patricia Smith, pastor of St. James AME Zion Church in Southport along with the choir and congregation will be in charge of the service. Please wear white and bring flashlights to be part of the candlelight march.

Spiritual Educational Outreach Ministries, 515 Ann St., will present Christmas Jesus Verses Easter Jesus, the youth celebrating Jesus' birth with poems recitations, songs and skits on Sunday, December 19th at 4:00 p.m.

Uplifting Faith Ministries, Inc., 1020 Princess St., under the leadership of Apostle Ricky and Sandra Randolph will present "Reviving Your Dreams/No Longer Shattered" Conference beginning on Friday, December 18th with speaker Apostle Sandra Randolph at 7:30 p.m. A continental breakfast will be served on Saturday, December 19th beginning at 8:00 a.m. UFM Praise and Worship Team will be in charge of Morning Glory at 9:00 a.m. Pastor JoAnn Pressley of Judah the House of Praise will be the guest speaker. All services are free to the public. For more information please contact Dr. Carolyn J. Blue at 910-233-5830 or Dr. Sandra Randolph at 910-395-4160.

Bladen County

The twenty-eighth (28th) annual parade honoring the birthday of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. will be held in Elizabethtown, North Carolina on Monday, January 18, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. Martin Luther King Day celebrates the life and accomplishment of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. MLK promoted Civil Rights through nonviolent civil disobedience. He is perhaps best known for his "I have a dream..." speech in 1963. He was assassinated in 1968. Martin Luther King, Jr. day became a federally recognized holiday in 1983. The first year this holiday was observed was 1986, and not by all states. In 2000 it became a nationally observed holiday in all states. Martin Luther King Jr. Day takes place on the third Monday of January each year. Everyone but not limited to civic and religious organizations, bands, step-teams, antique vehicles and farm equipment, queens etc. are invited to participate. The public can send requests to participate in the parade to abullock001@ec.rr.com. There is no fee involved. Individuals, groups or organizations that want a float should call (910) 645-4995 for float information. The lineup starts 9:00 a.m. at 805 West Broad Street; Elizabethtown, North Carolina.

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

OBITUARIES

continued from page 9

James was preceded in death by his sister Helen Smith, brothers Joseph Smith, Thomas Horton, Robert Horton, and Irving Horton and daughters-in-law Renee Whitfield Horton and Karen Bass Horton.

A Wilmington native, he received his formal education from the public schools of New Hanover County. James attended The House of God Holiness Church of Wilmington, North Carolina in which he was a life member, he served as a dutiful usher and maintained the church grounds until his health began to decline.

The majority of James' life, he was employed as a landscaper and grounds keeper for Wilmington's Cape Fear Country Club for 54 years until he retired in August of 2012. Having a love for gardening and landscaping, James formed his own landscaping business, where he maintained the yards of several clients in the greater Wilmington area.

Mr. Horton married his beloved wife Ella Mae Crawford in 1961 married 54 years; to this union they raised two sons, Cleophus M. Horton and James W. Horton. James and Ella Mae raised two of their grandchildren Eric Horton and Juanita Horton Burst after the death of their mother while their son Cleophus served in the Navy. James and Ella Mae also raised another grandson James Horton briefly while their youngest son James was called to active duty in the military during the beginning of the Iraq War.

Whether he was referred to as Horton, Branch, Baby, or James, those who knew him, loved him and knew he loved the Lord Jesus Christ. We will warmly miss his infectious laugh, his great sense of humor, his "green thumb"

along with vegetables from his garden. Most of all, James enjoyed his wife's cooking! Especially, her cakes, hot fried fish and chicken! He truly loved his family and loved when his sister Cora came to visit from Florida and Sunday visits to his brother Leroy's house; he also enjoyed laughing and joking with his friend Harlee Murphy daily.

He leaves to cherish his memory his loving wife Ella Mae Crawford Horton, sons Cleophus "Clee" M. Horton of Wilmington, North Carolina and James W. Horton of Raleigh, North Carolina. Sister Cora Henry of Tampa, Florida, Brother Leroy "Bow Cat" Horton of Wilmington, North Carolina, grandchildren Eric I. Horton of High Point, NC, Juanita M. Horton Burst (Cameron) of Wilmington, NC, James R. Horton of Raleigh, NC, Aalayah J. Horton of Wilmington, NC, Tatiana Buckner, and Jonathan Horton of Fayetteville, NC. Life-long friend Willie Eaddy who married his wife's sister Sherby D. Crawford Eaddy. Mr. Horton has three great grandchildren Cameron Burst, Violet Burst, and Tristan Buckner. He has six sister-in-law's Erie Bell, Doris Brown, Eleamor Graves (Lanneau), Marie Brantley, and Norma Burwick (Sammie), and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. A Davis Funeral Home service.

Lydia Lee Patrick Wilson

Lydia Lee Patrick Wilson, 87, of Wilmington, NC died Friday, November 27th. Funeral services were held 11:00 a.m. Friday, December 4th, at Myrtle Grove Firstborn Holiness Church. Burial followed in Oak Grove Cemetery. Online condolences may be made at www.frenchidavisfuneralhome.net. A Davis Funeral Home service.

SENIOR MOMENTS

"Let's start cooking"

My Fellow Seniors:



Ruth Johnson

Now that my church has been presented with the opportunity to bring something more to the table, let's start cooking. There was a time when I thought some but I don't think that's going to happen, but we can easily be connected through *The Wilmington Journal*.

Since this paper is passed out in all the local churches, we can join our hearts together while staying in our own church. If we could find someone to send an article to *The Journal* at least monthly, that would be the connection. I know you would like to close the gaps in public education. So all you would have to do is bring your children to Sunday School.

We have some retired teachers and also some future teachers in every church, and I'm sure they would be willing to lend a

hand. We could use that special article in *The Journal* for an open discussion, which would prepare our children for public speaking.

I think I told you about the time when I went to visit my brother's church. As the Sunday School lesson was being reviewed, a little new girl answered all of the questions. Obviously, she was brought up in a different environment. She was very comfortable expressing herself in front of the whole church.

We teach our children to sing in church. We should also

teach them public speaking, which would give them more confidence in the classroom. If your church would agree to combine two Sunday School lessons, we would leave one Sunday free to engage in a group discussion based on an article in *The Wilmington Journal*. This would give us a chance to talk about the past, present, and the future, and, at the same time, it would give our young people a chance to learn the art of public speaking.

Ruth Johnson is a First Baptist Church Ministry Worker.

TELL SOMEBODY

"Peace On Earth"

"And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Luke 2:13,14

Peace - Absence of war
Freedom from quarrels and disagreements
Inner Contentment

It is the will of God that there be peace on earth. "In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth." Genesis 1:1 "The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein." Psalm 24:1 Jesus



Sylvia Hooper

taught his disciples to pray in Matthew 6:9,10, "Thy kingdom come! Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven." There should be peace on earth, because there is peace in heaven.

Jesus said in Matthew 24:6a, "And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars:"

You may wonder, Lord when will there be peace on earth? Before we can completely end one war, another war has started. It seems that there is war going on somewhere in the earth at all times! Nations are rising against nations, and kingdoms against kingdoms, but when the Lord says "peace," there shall be peace! Men say they are for peace, and all the while preparing for war, so how can we have peace on earth? There will come a day, according to the word of the Lord, when the wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together." And neither shall they learn war anymore. (Micah 4:3)

In I Cor. 7:15, we read, that God has called us to peace, even in our marriage relationships. Psalm 133:1 says, "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. (freedom from quarrels and disagreements) No matter how

much chaos is in the world, peace is always a possibility! How so, some may wonder?

Peace is a legacy of Jesus Christ. "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." St. John 14:27 "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." John 16:33 Inner peace comes from trusting in the Lord and abiding in his word.

Peace is a promise to the Believers in Christ who keep their minds stayed on him and who love him and his law. Psalm 29:11, "The Lord will give strength unto his people; the Lord will bless his people with peace." Psalm 119:165, "Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them." Isaiah 26:3, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in

thee." Philippians 4:7, "And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

"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!

Trump is not the only one

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - The last name I wanted to mention in my column this week or during this "Season of Peace" was Donald Trump! I consider it a travesty, especially at this time of the year, to give platform to a xenophobic, misogynistic racist!

The time taken to refute the bile of hatred and intolerance he regularly spews forth only lengthens his time in the pub-

lic limelight and engenders unnecessary debate and discussion of his positions. Unfortunately, I could not allow Trump's "Ban the Muslim" comment to go unanswered and felt compelled to add my thoughts to the sentiment of the many who, rightly, condemn him.

Lest anyone forget, since his campaign began, as well as Muslims, Trump has disparaged Hispanics, women, African Americans, the physically disabled, Fox News commentators, and anyone else he assumed critiqued him harshly or asked him a question that displeased him. Unlike those who have

excused him and his ardent fans, I cannot overlook his "Muslim" comments or minimize their negative impact.

From personal experiences in that cultural/religious environment, I can assure you that few who share or understand the Muslim world-view will forget his comments. His comments have jeopardized all who represent US interests in the Muslim world. Our diplomats, soldiers and citizens will now embody the hostile ravings of Trump and, in a region torn with violent acts, become targets of retribution. It is understandable that so many have identified the Republican position on Muslims as a "War on Islam."

Sadly, although condemned from many circles, Trump's comments are indicative of a larger problem facing this nation. As reprehensible as his comments were, they are only made more objectionable by the 68% of Republican sympathizers/self-identified voters who continue to support Trump and the policies of exclusion he proposes. The lukewarm criticism he has received from his fellow presidential candidates is reflective of many of the veiled anti-Muslim comments they have already made during this campaign season.

What has been made customary in this campaign, by all of the Republican candidates, is their appeal to hatred, intolerance and fear. They are using the oldest tricks in the book to psychologically manipulate the masses. Through historical analysis, we should have learned how destructive this course of action can be.

An example of Trump's folly is the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882. This was another

"temporary" law with a ten-year life signed by President Chester A. Arthur. Instead of expiring, it was renewed in 1892 and made permanent in 1902. This was the first law established in the US to restrict the immigration of a specific ethnic group. This temporary law was finally repealed in 1943 after 61 years.

Our excursion into national folly was repeated by the Immigration Act of 1924 (Johnson-Reed Act). It limited the annual number of immigrants who could be admitted from ANY country, severely restricted the immigration of Africans, and imposed an outright ban on Asian and Arab immigrants. The State Department Office of the Historian purposes this act as a means "to preserve the ideal of American homogeneity." Other historians credit this act as being a significant contributor to hostilities leading to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and our involvement in WWII.

Most Americans will smugly condemn 1930's era Germany and its leader for psychotic enmity toward a specific ethnic group. Those with a little knowledge will point to the devolution of the values of that nation and its people. They will speak to the on-going impact of the barbarity of WWII era Germany and the stain it has left on the German character. Some Americans will do that without the slightest concern for our own current national temperament.

Trump is misguided, but he is not alone. Where do you stand?

Dr. E. Faye Williams is President/CEO of the National Congress of Black Women, Inc.

In Loving Memory Of Tracy Lionel Simpson



Sunrise: September 15, 1964 Sunset: December 15, 2002

I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took His hand when I heard His call
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day
to laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way
I have found peace at the close of the day.

If my parting has left a void Then fill it with
remembered joy. A friendship shared,
a laugh, a kiss; Oh yes, these things
I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much.
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your head and share with me, God wanted me now;
He set me free.

We miss you,
Mom, Sudie Powell; loving children, Brittany, Courtney and Sidney Bell; Sisters, Josie, Deborah and Donna; Brother, Gregory, family and friends

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LEGAL NOTICES

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

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **Henry Timothy Woodberry** 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 **26th day of February, 2016**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to undersigned.

This the 26th day of November, 2015

Timothy VaShaun Woodberry,
Administrator
750 Oneida Dr.
Forestdale, Al 35214

November 26, December 3, 10, 17, 2015

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

Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **James Allen Bryant, Jr.**, late of Wilmington, NC, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **26th day of February, 2016**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to undersigned.

This the 26th day of November, 2015

Lester Bryant, Executor
201 Barrow St.
Castle Hayne, NC 28429

November 26, December 3, 10, 17, 2015

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

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

This the 3rd day of December, 2015

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

December 10, 17, 24, 31, 2015

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

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

This 7th of December, 2015.

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

December 10, 17, 24, 31, 2015

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

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate **Harriett Ann Goodson** 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 **23rd day of July, 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.

Harold Zane Goodson, Jr.,
Administrator
591 Wescott Road SE
Bolivia, NC 28422

April 23, April 30, May 7, 14 2015

LEGAL NOTICES

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

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

This the 20th day of November, 2015

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

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

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

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

This the 3rd day of December, 2015.

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

December 3, 10, 17, 24, 2015

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

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

This 11th of December, 2015.

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

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

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

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

This 9th of December, 2015.

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

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

LEGAL NOTICES

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

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

This the 7th day of December, 2015.

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

December 10, 17, 24, 31, 2015

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
AMBULANCE**

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

December 17, 24, 31, 2015

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
COURTHOUS VIEDO
ARRAIGNMENT SYSTEM**

Brunswick County Government is seeking proposals from Vendors for the installation of a Courtroom Video Arraignment and Media System. Sealed proposals must be received on or before 5:00 p.m. EST January 6, 2016. Details of the proposal requirements and contact information can be obtained from the Brunswick County website at <http://www.brunswickcountync.gov/info/bid/> or by contacting Travis Amstuz, Technology Implementation Specialist at travis.amstuz@brunswickcountync.gov

December 17, 2015

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
NEW DATACENTER
EQUIPMENT**

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

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

LEGAL NOTICES

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

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

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

Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows:

Termination of all parental rights you have to the above-captioned minor children.

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

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

This the 11th day of December, 2015.

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

December 17, 24, 31, 2015

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

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

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

Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows:

Termination of all parental rights you have to the above-captioned minor children.

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

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This the 11th day of December, 2015.

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

December 17, 24, 31, 2015

LEGAL NOTICES

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

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

Cleo Brown, Administrator
5008 Weybridge Lane
Wilmington, NC 28409

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

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

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

This 1st day of October, 2015

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

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

Intercoastal Marine, LLC is accepting subcontractor and supplier bids for the USS North Carolina Battleship Cofferdam & Memorial Walkway SCO#13-10530, no later than 4:00 PM Dec. 21, 2015. Potential subcontract opportunities which may exist on this project include, but may not be limited to Concrete Construction, Timber Work/Carpentry, Pile Driving, Marine Construction, Material Supply and other items not specifically referenced herein. Minority/Women Business Enterprises are encouraged to submit a bid. Reply to 910-675-9791(p), 910-675-9796(f) or 6101 Diamond Shamrock Rd., Castle Hayne, NC 28429.

December 17, 2015

LEGAL NOTICES

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

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

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

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

Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows:

Termination of all parental rights you have to the above-captioned minor child.

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

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

This the 17th day of December, 2015.

Dean W. Hollandsworth
Senior Staff Attorney - New
Hanover Co. Dept.
of Social Services
1650 Greenfield Street
Wilmington, NC 28401
PO Drawer 1559
Wilmington, NC 28402-1559
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December 17, 24, 31, 2015

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