

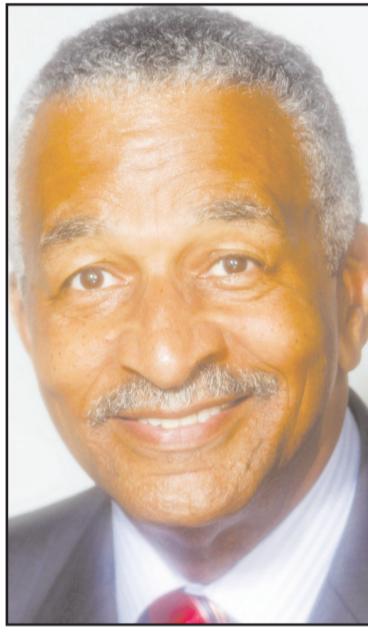
MISSING



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

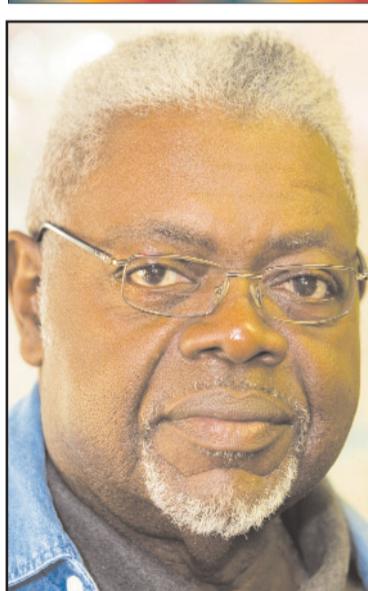
OUT side Looking IN

OUR VOICE



**GUEST EDITORIAL
BY
JIM CLINGMAN**
"Black on Black
coalescence--Part 2"
PAGE 4

BRUNSWICK COUNTY UPDATE



BERNEST HEWETT

MOTHER OF THE YEAR

**BY BERNEST HEWETT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER**

Brunswick County NAACP is working on its Mother Of The Year program and ask that all person's be involved and get your church involved. It is very important that we keep our communities going and not sit down. It is easy to say what you should do, but what can we do, the fight is not over!!!!!!

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

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THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

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VOLUME 89/No. 17

APRIL 28 - MAY 4, 2016

FIFTY CENTS

NC VOTER ID LAW UPHELD

**COMPILED BY STAFFS OF
THE CAROLINIAN AND
THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL**

North Carolina's Voter ID Law is constitutional based on a ruling Monday night by Judge Thomas D. Schroeder of Federal District Court in Winston-Salem. The decision in summary indicated, "Plaintiffs have failed to demonstrate that Defendants have violated the Voting Rights Act or the Fourteenth, Fifteenth, or Twenty-Sixth Amendments to the United States Constitution."

The ruling was welcomed in a statement Tuesday by the chairmen of the NC General Assembly's Joint Legislative Election's Oversight Committee. However, a spokesman

for the U.S. Justice Department, who were among the plaintiffs in the case, expressed "disappointment in the ruling." The Justice Department is reviewing the decision and evaluating its options.

N.C. Republican changes to the state's election procedures are extensive. In addition to the voter identification requirement, Republican lawmakers abolished same-day voter registration and ended preregistration, which

had permitted teen-agers to sign up for the voting rolls before their 18th birthdays.

Opponents of the decision have now set their sights on litigation in the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. Lawyers have indicated they would ask the

Fourth Circuit, located in Richmond, Virginia, to expedite its consideration of the matter.

So, unless the Higher Court inter-

venes, the current state election procedures will be in effect for the November General Elections.

Observers feel the law's critics face an uphill battle at the Fourth District, because appellate judges generally accept the assessments of trial courts on matters of fact.

However, the NC NAACP's Rev. William Barber said, "Just like those who carried on before us, we will continue our movement challenging regressive and discriminatory voter suppression tactics on behalf of African Americans, Latinos, seniors, students, and all those for

Please see
VOTER ID /Page 2



FUTURE HISTORY MAKER MEET CARLTON CARON EMERSON



CARLTON CARON EMERSON

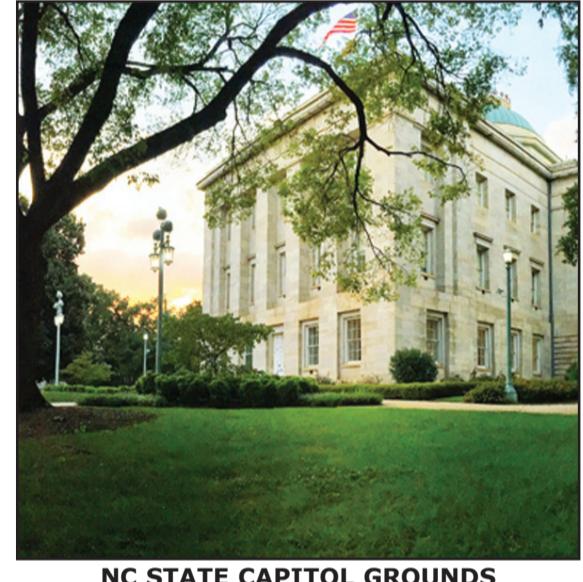
Building a path toward a bright future

**SPECIAL TO
THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL**

Intelligent, creative, courageous, and resilient, Carlton Caron Emerson, a 14-year-old freshman at Wilmington Christian Academy here in the city of Wilmington, North Carolina, is building a path toward a bright future! Caron is reserved, yet highly innovative. He has an easy smile and an affable personality. He is disciplined, well-mannered, and respectful of himself

and others. Caron is a young man of integrity. The son of Randall Cedron Emerson, Sr. and Cara Smith Emerson, Caron takes college-credit courses and has maintained an A-B average throughout his school tenure. He has volunteered in various community service programs including the Special Olympics of New Hanover County, and a

Please see **EMERSON** /Page 2



NC STATE CAPITOL GROUNDS

N.C. State Capitol grounds to honor African-Americans

**BY BEVERLY SMALLS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER**

As Governor Pat McCrory and the N.C. Legislature face onslaughts of criticism and reprisals because of a new law that stifles transgender citizens' preferred uses of restroom facilities, a contrasting push for more diversity in monumental artistry on State Capitol grounds is surfacing and promoting inclusiveness.

The October lifting of a moratorium that prevented adding new monuments for close to a decade led McCrory and Susan Klutz, Secretary of the N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources to vigorously advance an initiative that honors the contributions of African-

Please see **CAPITOL** /Page 2

Wilmington, NC Chapter of The Links, Inc. celebrates 65 years of service

**BY RITA TODD
CONTRIBUTING WRITER**

On April 7, 1951 a viable civic organization was chartered. The Wilmington, NC Chapter of The Links, Incorporated was born. On Saturday, April 16, 2016, over 400 guests, including Links from other chapters in the United States filled the Wilmington Convention Center to celebrate this august occasion.

The program included a video presentation entitled, "65 Years: Our Legacy of Excellence" and fashion show highlighting events, music, fashions, and activities/projects of The Wilmington, NC Chapter of The Links, Incorporated over the past six decades. Ms. Frances Weller,



JOHN DAVIS PHOTO
WILMINGTON, NC CHAPTER OF THE LINKS INC., MEMBERS

Anchor, WECT-TV6 served as Mistress of Ceremonies; Robinson served as the fashion commentator. Today's trends in fashion were modeled by Karen Davis Brunson, Mildred Blake, Russell Corbett,

Audrey Curry, Angela Gray, Victor Gray, Willie Jackson, Panza Allen McNeill, Laverton Pemberton, Bernard Robin-son, and Sarah Chestnut Smith. Wendy Lofton and Wylene Mapson coordinated the fashions from Dillard's Department Store.

Sixty-five years ago, ten, energetic, visionary, talented young ladies, driven by demanding cultural, educational and civic changes in our community formally organized a group. They met routinely and under the leadership of Celeste Burnett Eaton, they became a chapter of The Links, Incorporated. Mrs. Eaton was joined in this

Please see **65 YEARS**
Page 3



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EMERSON

Continued from Page 1

feeding program for the homeless at a local food pantry. Caron accepted the call of salvation two years ago and is an active member of Saint Luke AME Zion Church, Pastor Jermaine B. Armour, where he ushers and participates in the youth ministry. Caron enhances his spiritual growth and development by attending a weekly Bible Study class with his friends.

Faced with a personal unforeseen challenge this school year, Caron has, not only, met the challenge but has exceeded every expectation for success. Caron credits his grandfather, Carlton Smith, for giving him good advice and for encouraging him to maintain a positive attitude in the face of adversity: "The better the attitude you have towards the problem," he instructed his grandson, "the better the outcome."

Caron has participated in a variety of sports activities: basketball, football, soccer, and lacrosse, but skateboard-

ing is his passion. He began the sport a few years ago just skating around the neighborhood with friends but has since become an avid skateboarder, developing skill and style and has even won some competitions. Inspired by their son's intense interest in skateboarding and desiring to be of greater positive support to him, Caron's mom and dad partnered with him to establish King Ron Skateboard Company in 2015. King Ron is an edgy urban apparel company that includes t-shirts, sweat shirts, hoodies, caps, vests, and even onesies in various styles and designs created by Caron and his dad. Sizes range from infants to adults. "King Ron's clothing personifies the attributes of originality and personal empowerment. Every design is created as a metaphorical reminder of the courage it takes to stand out instead of trying to fit in" [Kingronskateboarding.com].

The company was named for purpose: King Ron incorporates Caron's name with the proud heritage of his African roots. As the company's website denotes, "King

Ron's philosophy suggests that Kings and Queens are born to shine and knowledge of themselves is the throne they sit upon...King Ron strives to leave a lineage of self-expression that promotes a reflection of royalty and challenges the people to embrace the essence of their true nature, while carrying themselves as such. This edgy apparel's projection of street smarts and the sophisticated wisdom of survival is rooted in the underlying message of positive self-imagery and the commitment it takes to perfect one's craft in accordance with one's style" [Kingronskateboarding.com]. The community has been very receptive and supportive of this young businessman. Caron would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support.

Caron encourages other youth to also choose career paths that will make them happy, and not listen to anyone who tells you that you can't. He says, "I would not want a miserable job just to make money." This young entrepreneur plans on attending college and attain-

ing a degree in business. His goal is to expand the King Ron Skateboard Company. We believe this young trailblazer has the determination and drive to fulfill his every dream. Carlton Caron Emerson is definitely one of our future history makers and is, indeed, destined for greatness!

For more information about King Ron and to view pictures of Caron and his friends, please visit the website at Kingronskateboarding.com. You may also follow the link to watch some of Caron's skateboarding videos.

Public Input: Do you know someone who has done something remarkable in the Wilmington community? Their story should be told. Nominate a Future History Maker by sharing their story tiba1009@earthlink.net. Future History Makers should be 21 years old and under, has demonstrated success as a leader in school, church or community, exhibits qualities of good citizenship and character, active in the community by providing service and is a leader. Final selection of all Future

History Maker stories will be determined by the Commission on African American History. Current members of the commission are: Willie Black, Audrey Clark, Sylvia Ezelonwu, Natalie Hinton-Stalling, Atiba Johnson and Todd McFadden.

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VOTER ID

Continued from Page 1

whom democracy has been denied.

Dale Ho, director of the ACLU's Voting Rights Project said, "The sweeping barriers imposed by this law undermine voter participation and have an overwhelmingly discriminatory impact on African-Americans. This ruling does not change that reality." Ho continued, "We are already examining an appeal."

Governor McCrory praised the court's decision saying, "Common practices like boarding an airplane and purchasing Sudafed require photo ID and thankfully a federal court has ensured our citizens will have the same protection for their basic right to vote."

With North Carolina already being viewed as a battleground state in the coming November General Elections, Monday night's decision could have nationwide implications.

So, the argument now moves up I-95 to the Fourth Circuit Court in Richmond, Virginia. Civil rights groups look forward to their day in court as they again challenge what they term North Carolina's "monster voter suppression law."

Statement from Bob Hall,
 Executive Director of Democracy North Carolina

RULING UNDERMINES FAIR ELECTIONS

US District Court Judge Thomas Schroeder ruled as we expected: he sees no problem with the sweeping rewrite of North Carolina's election law by Republican

legislators and Gov. Pat McCrory. In one section that reflects a myopic view of evidence, he concludes, "There is significant, shameful past discrimination. In North Carolina's recent history, however, certainly for the last quarter century, there is little official discrimination to consider."

Hopefully, other judges will take off the rose-colored glasses and look at the facts and law with more care.

Judge Schroeder acknowledges that African Americans in NC disproportionately lack a photo ID and benefit from key provisions that help voters, such as same-day registration; but he concludes that the plaintiffs "failed to show that such disparities will have materially adverse effects on the ability of minority voters to cast a ballot."

He says the ID requirement

is no problem because the state allows voters to use a provisional ballot and complete an affidavit about why they don't have an acceptable ID. With his rosy vision and without reviewing evidence from the March primary, he concludes, "In sum, plaintiffs have failed to show that any North Carolinian who wishes to vote faces anything other than the 'usual' burdens of voting."

Schroeder's decision ignores the reality that over 1,000 voters who lacked an acceptable ID took the trouble to fill out forms at polling sites in the March primary but were silenced; their ballots were rejected, often for trivial and inconsistent reasons, depending on where they voted and the wording they used to explain their lack of ID. On the other hand, a new Democracy North Carolina analysis of the

March primary reveals that more than 29,000 voters were saved and their ballots counted because an injunction preserved two backup provisions that Schroeder now says can be eliminated: same-day registration during early voting and out-of-precinct voting on Election Day - see <http://nc-democracy.org/29000-nc-voters-saved-by-provisions-in-election-law-that-legislators-attempt-to-kill/>

Real voters are already being harmed by the Monstrous Law that Judge Schroeder upholds. And even more will suffer when the full force of his ruling becomes effective. The ruling undermines the integrity of the voting process in North Carolina and reflects a deep lack of interest in preserving elections that are fair, accessible and secure.

CAPITOL

Continued from Page 1

Americans in the development of the state's culture and history.

Ironically six months after their decision to enlist members of the N.C. Historical Commission, and the North Carolina African-American Historical Commission to coordinate development of the new monument, perception of the state's mission to promote diversity began being questioned nationally.

That optic has not slowed officials' push to make history as North Carolina becomes the third state in the country to build a monument in honor of African-Americans on Capitol grounds. South Carolina and Virginia were the first two.

In an exclusive interview with the *Wilmington Journal* prior to a Tuesday meeting in the historic St. Stephen African Methodist Episcopal Church Sloan Annex, Secretary Klutz expressed happiness in developing a site on the southeast corner of the Raleigh Capitol.

"We will make history," Klutz said adding, "The people of North Carolina will be a part of that history."

Eight public input meetings around the state were designed to engage interested citizens in the ideas and planning stage. March meetings in Greensboro, Charlotte, Rocky Mount, and Fayetteville were coordinated by Michelle Lanier of the state's African-American Historical Commission and Arts Council.

Klutz and Lanier sought additional input by adding Winston-Salem, Asheville, Wilmington and Raleigh for April public sessions.

"The responses have been varied and inspiring," Klutz said and emphasized that the N.C. African-American Monument Project will not be planned or designed by staff people in government offices.

Lanier, and Kevin Cherry, Deputy Director of the N.C.

Department of Natural and Cultural Resources traveled with her to the Wilmington meeting and repeated needs for extensive communications with citizens.

Setting the tone for the meeting, the Rev. Wayne Johnson briefed participants about the 151 year old St. Stephen Church and expressed gratitude for the initiative.

"We have not always been treated nicely," Johnson said.

The diversity of ideas provided during the session matched interests and professions of about twenty attendees.

Professional Storyteller/Musician Madafo (Lloyd Wilson) stressed a need for a physical concept and narrative that includes Africa's connections to the people being celebrated.

Mayor Eulis Willis of Navassa, a federal Gullah Geechee Heritage Corridor Commissioner suggested a preference for a timeline narrative style of monument similar to the S.C. site with

storyline relatable bronze friezes.

While the mayor's preferences allow for inclusion of Gullah culture laborers in rice plantations and navel stores production, a retired longshoreman, Willie Sloan suggested that the state's waterfront labor history be depicted.

Viet Nam Veteran Richard Ervington offered a narrower focus for statuary art that would highlight two African-American Medal of Freedom honorees. New Hanover County NAACP President Deborah Maxwell stressed inclusion of the nation's Reconstruction Era Coup de Taube of 1898, the Wilmington Race Riot, as playing a unique role in shaping the way North Carolina politics, business and basic lifestyles have developed.

She is a member of historic St. Stephen Church. It is the oldest A.M.E. Church in N.C., paralleling the Charleston, S.C. Mother Emanuel A.M.E. Church, according to Rev. Johnson.

Welcoming the new effort by the N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, he said, "This church is very involved in matters of city, state and country."

Other churches, institutions, and individuals are requested to participate in developing the historic monument. Though a completion date has not been determined, Secretary Klutz said a summary document of all public meetings and emailed suggestions will be available by summer's end. A "Request for Qualifications" will be submitted in the fall to begin the selection process for a designer.

State officials said they would rather do it right than fast. Government and private funding will be sought. Interested persons can attend a final public input session Tuesday at the Raleigh Capitol. For more details or to provide design suggestions see web site: www.ncdcr.gov/monuments-feedback



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POLL: MAJORITY OF NORTH CAROLINIANS FEEL OVERLY TAXED UNDER MCCRORY

[RALEIGH] If your state tax bill seemed a little higher this year, or your refund a little lower, you're not alone. A new poll by Progress N.C. Action and conducted by Public Policy Polling found nearly two-thirds of North

**STATE BRIEFS**

Carolinians believe state taxes have gone up for working families in general. This comes after Gov. Pat McCrory's tax reform announced in 2013 promised economic growth for all.

Logan Smith, communications director with Progress N.C. Action, says people are now finding out that's not the case. "More and more people are realizing they were really just lied to," says Smith. "The governor said that so-called tax reform would benefit everyone, but working families are being asked to pay

more in taxes, but they're really getting less."

ACLU: NC LAWMAKERS KNEW HB2 COULD BE OVERTURNED

[RALEIGH] The fallout continues from Tuesday's ruling by a federal court in Virginia in favor of a transgender student putting the future of North Carolina's controversial new law in question. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit, a regional district court for North Carolina, ruled that a transgender student can sue his school board on

grounds of discrimination, and legal experts say it won't be long before House Bill 2 is successfully challenged.

Chris Brook, legal director of the American Civil Liberties Union of North Carolina, says it should come as no surprise to state lawmakers. "The legislature know very well that this case was pending and instead of prudently waiting and deliberating on what the result would mean on the state of the law here in North Carolina, chose to ram through House Bill 2 in eight hours, and the governor

chose to sign it," he points out.

A SENTENCE OF THEIR OWN: IMPACT OF PARENT INCARCERATION ON NC CHILDREN

[RALEIGH] More than 179,000 children in North Carolina have been separated from a parent because of incarceration. While those parents are serving time, a new report released today from the Annie E. Casey Foundation recommends policies to help alleviate the impact on the children involved. Laila Bell, director of

research and data for NC Child, says it's important to remember those children didn't commit a crime. "As their parents are locked away, it's unfair that the children are facing this increased burden in their lives," says Bell. "And many of them are living in communities that just don't have the resources at the moment to provide support to those families that are dealing with parental incarceration."

COMPILED BY STAFF

Lawmakers greeted with HB2 protesters

BY CAROLINIAN STAFF

NC lawmakers got a rude greeting as they returned to Raleigh Monday night for their short session. Hundreds of protestors showed up outside of the Legislative Building to express their views opposing House Bill 2.

The law which prevents discrimination protections from being extended to gay and transgender people and prohibits transgender people from using the public bathroom that aligns with their gender identity has grown into a subject of national concern, and potential NC economic impact as it continues to be on the books.

The law also bars cities from setting their own minimum wage and prevents workers from suing in state court for job discrimination.

The NC NAACP, which coordinated the protest, echoed their call for repeal of the law. NC NAACP President William Barber said, "This movement is the people's movement. When it comes to fighting homophobia and fear, we shall not be moved. When it comes to protecting workers, we shall not be moved."

Republican lawmakers also

appear not willing to be moved as House Speaker Tim Moore said that the General Assembly won't repeal House Bill 2 "based on circumstances right now," and he would not say whether a bill filed by Democrats Monday morning to repeal the measure would get a hearing.

House Speaker Moore commented, "I certainly see no harm in making changes to make it very clear that folks have access to the state courts for discrimination claims. As far as an outright repeal, that is something we're talking about right now."

Rep. Larry Hall, a Democrat, said that House Bill 2 damage has already been done, pointing to those who have spoken out against it around the country. Rep. Hall said, "It has cost us thousands of jobs, millions of dollars, and there is not a sign it is going to cease anytime soon."

Unfortunately, the peaceful protest still sustained the arrest of 54 people. 18 protesters were arrested on "building violations" charges and other were arrested and accused of staying in the building after it closed for the evening.

Rep. Dan Bishop,

Republican, who was one of the lead sponsors of The Bill, blamed the controversy on the Charlotte City Council, which passed a transgender bathroom ordinance in February, and national media, calling criticism of the law, "a dishonest, media-fueled ideological carpet bombing."

Rep. Bishop went on to say, "This form of ideological activism is unhinged. It is dangerous. It must be rejected. What you have not seen reported is what do the people of North Carolina believe."

Senate Minority Leader, Dan Blue, Democrat, has quite a different view. Senator Blue pointed out, "This short session is the one opportunity for North Carolina to stem the reputational harm that will be long-lasting. Employers see this bill as what it is, hostile to employees and a productive work environment."

Senator Blue further cited a report from the Center for American Progress that said North Carolina is already at risk to lose \$568 million in economic activity from lost business expansions, conventions, sports activities and concerts.

Raleigh's Visitors Bureau has already released a report that House Bill 2 is affecting

the Wake County economy, stating that the county has lost more than \$700,000 in response to the controversial bill, and that the county could lose millions more. The Bureau went on to report that four groups have canceled plans to hold events in Wake County because of House Bill 2, which some say discriminates against the transgender community, gays and lesbians.

The report went on to say that 16 other groups, the names of which it didn't dis-

close, also are reconsidering plans to hold events in Wake County. The groups would bring a combined 73,500 people to the area and infuse an estimated \$24 million into the local economy.

However, there would could be a crack in the NC Republican "wall of defiance", as Senator Tom Apodaca has now commented, "If it was up to me, I'd just put it out to a vote of the people, let them decide what they want to do."

Senator Apodaca, a Hendersonville Republican, is

advocating a referendum on House Bill 2 be placed on the November ballot. He continued, "You know, let's put it on the ballot and get it over with once and for all."

Political observers have another feeling about the entire matter. The N.C. Republican dominated legislature created what is now being termed "Hate Bill 2", it is their responsibility to respond to the continuing uproar and correct is becoming seen by "too many" as a problem for the state."



The NC NAACP, which coordinated the protest, echoed their call for repeal of the law.

65 YEARS

Continued from Page 1

venture by Elizabeth Green Holmes (Sautler), Leonard Green, Iris Jefferies Wade North, Louise Moore, Beryl Constance O'Dell, Mable Spaulding, Catherine Howze Robinson (Copeland), Evelyn Carnes, and Jean Williams.

Over the decades, the organization has actively launched programs and services in New Hanover, Pender, Brunswick and Columbus counties to support the national mission while building new, lifelong friendships. Aligned with the international organization's strategy, the chapter serves the community from five (5) strategic platforms: the Arts, Health & Human Services, International Trends, National Trends and Services to Youth. In addition to annual civic and social work in the community, the chapter has been conscientious in its philanthropic responsibilities. Financial contributions have been made to various organizations in the local community including Elderhaus, Community Boys' & Girls' Club, Girls' Club, Incorporated, Meals on Wheels and The Family & Neighborhood Institute just to name a few. In 2000, the organization made a \$5,000 donation to the Zimmer Cancer Center, and later joined the Southern Area Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Endowment initiative by adopting Voorhees College, with a \$10,000 endowment pledge. Through its partnership with the Links Foundation Grant-In-Aid initiative, the chapter facilitated a \$15,000 gift to Girls' Incorporated and a \$20,000 gift to the Community Boys' and Girls' Club, Incorporated. Recently, the chapter has supported the Centre D'Etudes Classiques



PHOTOS BY JOHN DAVIS
YOUNG LADIES FROM RACHEL FREEMAN SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING PERFORM FOR ATTENDEES.



FASHION MODELS FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: PANZA ALLEN MCNEILL, RUSSELL CORBETT AND KAREN DAVIS BRUNSON



de Meyer (CECM) in Haiti following devastating earthquakes, ultimately purchasing and installing a water purification system for the school to provide clean drinking water for students and faculty.

The genesis of The Links, Incorporated occurred when Margaret Hawkins and Sarah Scott, two young Philadelphia matrons, invited seven of their friends to join them in organizing a new type of group in November of 1946. The organizational meeting of The Links was not a spontaneous action. In 1945, Link Hawkins conceived the idea of a group composed of friends along the eastern seaboard and spent many hours with Link Scott in thinking, planning and discussing the possibilities of such an endeavor. Sarah Scott was the first national president and composed the organization's pledge - a promise to support the organization, which all members vow to uphold. Under her leadership, the organization was incorporated and fifty-eight chap-

ters were established. Margaret Hawkins, president of the founding chapter, was elected the second national president. Their goal to meet community needs was as important then and it is now! The cadre of national presidents has continuously maintained the ideas and purposes of The Links, Incorporated.

The group has expanded

into an international service and friendship organization whose purposes are to promote and engage in educational, civic, and intercultural activities. These activities are executed in five program areas: International Trends and Services, National Trends and Services, Services to Youth, The Arts and Health and Human Services. Presently the organization is com-

prised of over 14,000 members in 282 chapters in the United States, the District of Columbia, Nassau, Bahamas, South Africa, and Germany.

In January of 2016, chapter members began working with a group of young ladies at Rachel Freeman School of Engineering twice a month. Activity topics explored include bullying, healthy lifestyles, local prominent

African-Americans, life and culture in Haiti and Jamaica, and field trips to the Jamaica Comfort Zone Restaurant, The UNC-Wilmington Intercultural Fair and the United Nations Walk.

Mrs. Yvonne Reed served as chairperson for the 65th Anniversary Brunch Celebration. Mrs. Emma H. Jackson currently serves as the chapter's president.



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VOICES

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

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

Our Voice

GUEST EDITORIAL

BLACKONOMICS

Black-on-Black coalescence -Part 2

(Via George Curry Media)

Differences versus commonalities: Enslavement was different in the U.S. from the brand that was practiced in the Caribbean and Brazil and other South American countries. Thus, we view our lives through different lenses when it comes to independence, entrepreneurship, and politics.

We must build bridges, learning from and sharing with one another as we go along, because we have a wealth of knowledge and command trillions of dollars in income. It's simply a matter of pooling our intellectual talent and our economic resources to build and sustain our own economy within larger economies. Once that takes place, Black people will no longer have to worry about negative public policy issues that adversely affect our people. Economic leverage will take care of that and more.

Take a look at Caribbean economic enclaves established by various groups in this country, especially in New York City. Look at the number of businesses owned by folks from the "islands" and how some of those businesses started through the use of "Sou-Sous" or "Susus," honor-based revolving loan funds used by the members.

Individual members deposit a set amount of money into the Sou-Sou on a regular basis, and the entire amount goes to one of the members each month. It runs at least until each member is given the entire amount. One person holds the money and makes the distributions. Businesses are started this way as well as other financial ventures, such as down payments for home purchases, paying off bills, and education expenses.

The concept of pooling Black dollars based on trust is a very strong and positive lesson for us, if we would just follow it. It is certainly not a new concept; we are just short on the trust factor. It is sad that, except for weekly church contributions, Black folks are very reluctant to pool our money and help one another. We trust preachers, many of whom use offerings to support their own lavish lifestyles, with no accountability and no benefit going back to the members. What would be so hard about trusting some of our brothers and sisters to manage a Sou-Sou?

The answer to that question is found in the One Million Conscious Black Voters and Contributors, where the key word is "Conscious." Amos Wilson describes it very well in his book, Afrikan-Centered Consciousness Versus the New World Order: Garveyism in the Age of Globalism.

Wilson used Garvey's words to point the primary ingredient for Black progress: Love. "Marcus Garvey recognized as well that we must, as people, love one another. As all great teachers have taught, love is the foundation for any group's cohesiveness and unity of purpose. Love is the greatest inhibitor of aggression and internal conflict."

Love, respect, and trust among our people would lead to a higher level of consciousness among our people, which would cause us - compel us, to organize and cooperate for the uplift of the entire group. Wilson went on to say, "...the kind of world you exist in reflects the kind of consciousness you have." He admonished us to elevate ourselves into a "new level of consciousness" in order to change the way we approach and use real power.

Many of the problems we face today exist because we fail to see ourselves as a nation, again, as Garvey taught. The OMBCV&C not only understands that but is working hard to emulate the principle within our ranks. Wilson explained that consciousness and power go hand in hand. If we are conscious about who we are, first, and then use that knowledge in a very practical and appropriate manner, via our dollars and then our votes, we would harness the real power we must have in order to move to our rightful and deserved position in this nation and the world. Please go to the website: www.iamaoneofthemillion.com, read the information, and decide if you want to be a part of this movement. If so, sign up and get busy.

We cannot be timid and hesitant about it, as we watch other groups doing what we must do. We cannot be made to feel guilty for building strength and using it to our own advantage, as we watch other groups taking care of their business. Our consciousness must be raised, and we must love, trust, and respect one another to the point that we are able to wield the leverage of a committed and determined group of Black people willing to contribute our time, talent, and treasure to gain the freedom and power we must have to be respected by others.

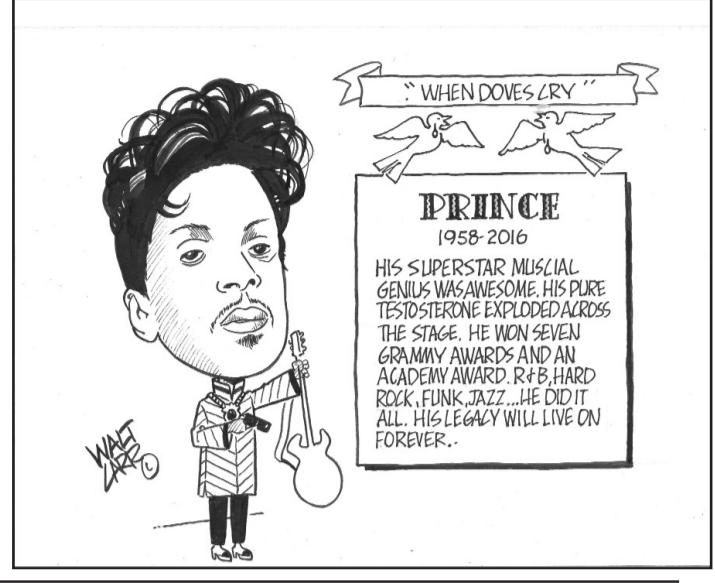
It has come down to coalescence or obsolescence for Black people. The examples and lessons from our people in the Caribbean and here in America are bulwarks for coalescence and, thus, for empowerment and the prevention of our economic and political demise.

Our future depends on us.

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

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Visual Voice



Matters of Opinion

TO BE EQUAL

The fight for \$15: Lifting communities from poverty by raising the minimum wage

(Via George Curry Media)

"We find our population suffering from old inequalities, little changed by vast sporadic remedies. In spite of our efforts and in spite of our talk, we have not weeded out the over privileged and we have not effectively lifted up the underprivileged. Both of these manifestations of injustice have retarded happiness. No wise man has any intention of destroying what is known as the profit motive; because by the profit motive we mean the right by work to earn a decent livelihood for ourselves and for our families." - President Franklin D. Roosevelt, State of the Union Address, January 4, 1935

Day in and day out men and women all over our country work hard at their jobs-but hardly have anything to show for it.

As the debate over income inequality and narrowing the ever-widening wealth gap

continues to dominate our national and political conversations, private corporations and states are taking matters into their own hands, bridging the dueling divides of income and opportunity by increasing the minimum wage.

Target is reportedly raising employee wages to a \$10 minimum in May. This would be the second wage hike in a year for the retail giant. Only a few weeks ago, the governors of New York and California signed bills that would gradually increase their states' minimum wages to \$15-the highest in the nation.

In the face of the Congress' refusal to increase the federal minimum wage, these gestures from private enterprise and legislative offices reflect a new reality in our post-recession economy: jobs are coming back, but, for the most part, they aren't the kinds of jobs that pay a living wage. Very often, they are not the kinds of jobs that serve as a platform to better paying work. And they are the kinds of jobs that predominantly employ young people, minorities and women-the most vulnerable members of our low-

wage, slow growth recovery economy.

What was a Franklin Roosevelt era labor law meant to put a floor on poverty in America has become a low ceiling barring millions of American workers from present and future prosperity.

For 10 years, the National Urban League has advocated for a federal minimum wage hike tied to the Consumer Price Index, which tracks inflation by observing changes over time in consumer pricing for a variety of goods. If prices are going up and they are wages that don't reflect these hikes in prices translates into working-class employees never getting ahead and being forced to make difficult choices to survive, provide for themselves and their family.

The current federal minimum wage stands at \$7.25. President Barack Obama, during a State of the Union address, said, "Let's declare that in the wealthiest nation on Earth, no one who works full-time should have to live in poverty." Well, on \$7.25 an hour, you can bet they will. In fact, if the minimum wage kept pace with inflation, the

current minimum wage would be \$19. We support a \$15 minimum wage, tied to inflation.

With more Americans surviving on minimum wage than at any other point in our history, to ignore the issue of wages is to ignore the problem of income inequality, and to ignore the struggles of men and women left behind as the economy recovers.

While I applaud the initiative taken by states and businesses to provide employees with living wages, we must put an end to the "vast, sporadic remedies" condemned by President Roosevelt.

The current patchwork of state minimum wages is not a solution. Congress needs to do its job. Republicans supported minimum wage increases under President George W. Bush, but have blocked all efforts to raise it since then. Rather than condemn a generation to a lifetime of poverty, let's afford them the opportunity to earn living wages and climb the economic ladder of opportunity and success.

Marc Morial is President and CEO of the National Urban League and former mayor of New Orleans.

RAINBOW COALITION

A call to arms to end Chicago's shame

(Via George Curry Media)

"The community's lack of trust in C.P.D. (Chicago Police Department) is justified," so concluded the blistering, in-depth report of the Police Accountability Task Force, set up by Mayor Rahm Emanuel after the uproar surrounding the fatal police shooting of Laquan McDonald.

After a four-month investigation, the task force pulled no punches. "CPD's own data gives validity to the widely held belief the police have no regard for the sanctity of life when it comes to people of color." It detailed a long pattern of institutionalized racial abuse: unjustified stops, physical abuse, torture, detention without counsel, shootings, and more.

The task force backed its conclusions with data drawn from the CPD's own files. Blacks, Whites and Hispanics each make up about one-third of the population of Chicago. Yet African Americans con-

stituted three out of every four people that CPD tried to Taser. In addition, 74 percent of the 404 people shot by the Chicago police between 2008 and 2015 were Black.

The Task Force also noted that the system itself was designed to be unaccountable. It singled out police union contracts, urging changes in clauses that "make it easy for officers to lie in official reports," give officers 24 hours to get their stories right, ban anonymous citizen complaints, and more. The contracts "have essentially turned the code of silence into official policy."

The task force chair, former federal prosecutor Lori Lightfoot, called the report a "call to arms." It made more than 100 recommendations for change, including creating a new independent civilian oversight panel and a dedicated, independent police inspector general.

Two Chicago aldermen have already introduced draft ordinances to move on these recommendations. The task force recommendations included everything from diversifying the police force, to adding body cams, to changing police patrols.

Mayor Rahm Emanuel met with the task force to review

the report. His curt public response was disappointing: "I don't really think you need a task force to know that we have racism in America, we have racism in Illinois, or that there's racism that exists in the city of Chicago and obviously could be in our department ... The question is, what are we going to do to confront it and make the changes in not only personnel but in policies to reflect, I think, the values that make up the diversity of our city?"

Emanuel said his "general attitude" was to "look at everything they say," but then went silent, saying he wanted to review the recommendations before commenting.

Chicago, with the number of shootings rising in recent months, needs an effective police force that has the community's trust. According to a recent Chicago Tribune editorial, this is the seventh such report, each generally issued after another corruption-related scandal. Real reform can no longer be put off. We need serious steps to diversify the police force, to train police, to stop racial profiling, to restructure police-community relations, to enforce accountability and the law.

If Mayor Emanuel won't lead, the City Council need

not wait to take action. And the city's powerful business community also must demand accountability. As The New York Times wrote in a powerful editorial on "Chicago's shame," "Chicago's business leaders should be sickened that it took the execution of a teenager for the city's elected leaders to begin to face up to the truth about the Police Department - a truth that the black community has been saying for decades."

Yet, even if the task force's recommendations are adopted, that is only a first step. The CPD is guilty of a long, racially-biased institutionalized pattern of abuse. But they are also tasked with enforcing order over communities in despair, plagued by poverty, unemployment, drugs, guns and a lack of hope. We must reform the police. But we also need a program for urban development, jobs, schools and hope. Without that, the streets will remain hard and ugly, and the people will continue to suffer.

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

VOICE YOUR OPINION!!

WHA WE BLACKS NEED TO DO

She was our Moses

Arminta Harriet Ross also known as Harriet Tubman was born into slavery in Bucktown, Maryland around 1821.

Her early days as a slave were filled with abuse. It was at the tender age of five, she was rented out to a White woman as a house servant. On the first day before breakfast, Harriet was lashed with a leather strap five times across her face. At the age of seven, she ran away for the first time. As was the custom on all plantations, when she turned 11, she started wearing a bright cotton bandana around her head. This showed the male slave masters she was no

longer a child but starting puberty. At age 12, she became a field hand. She received a hard blow from a two-pound iron weight to her head by the overseer for refusing to assist in tying up a slave who had tried to escape. She would suffer periodic blackouts from that injury for the rest of her life. At age 25 Harriet married John Tubman, a free African American who did not share her dream of escaping north to freedom. He said he was fine where he was and there was no reason to move to the north. He also told His wife that he would tell her master if she ran off. Harriet did not accept slavery or her husband's slave mentality so when she had a chance to run, she took off following the North Star that led her to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She was around 30 when she first experienced freedom. For many of us, that would have been the end of the

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Lincoln Memorial. The faces on our money will no longer be all pale and male, and that's progress.

It is especially fitting that Harriet Tubman grace the \$20 bill, since she was an economic freedom fighter. She is credited with ushering more than 300 people out of enslavement, many of them family members from the state of Maryland. She hit slaveholders in the pocketbook, costing them billions of today's dollars. If the average enslaved person sold for \$1000 (which is about right for 1860), then the 300 she freed cost \$300,000 in 1860 dollars, or about

\$8.3 million in today's dollars (calculated from The Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index). That's quite a blow for a slaveholding society to absorb. Every time an enslaved person ran away, they struck a blow for freedom, and a blow against the economic stability of the South.

Enslavement was at the root of the development of contemporary U.S. capitalism. Black lives were the collateral that plantation owners used to purchase more land, to purchase more slaves, to purchase equipment, to expand. Enslaved people were, in many ways, a form of currency. Harriett Tubman gracing the \$20 bill makes perfect sense.

The new \$10 bill is supposed to be available in 2020, nearly four years from now. The new \$20 bill may not be available until 2030. The design and production schedule have to be approved by the Federal Reserve Board. That shouldn't be much of a challenge – Fed Chairman Janet Yellen has hailed the decision to put Harriet Tubman on the \$20 bill, and many have applauded the other elements of currency design. Perhaps the Fed can be lobbied to speed the production schedule up. I can't wait to cash a check and ask for my money in "Harriets."

As exciting as the currency design is, it is a symbolic, not a substantive change. Real change would close the income gap between men and women. Real change would close the racial economic gap. Real change would take a look at the reparations issue. In this last year of his Presidency, President Obama could use his executive order to appoint a commission to look into issues of racial economic justice. He could make an amazing, if belated, contribution by bringing the reparations issue to the economic forefront. The Black Lives Matter community has raised the reparations issue with both Democratic Presidential candidates Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders. President Obama would do his successor a favor by starting the public work on this key issue.

I suppose we have to reconcile ourselves to progress at a snail's pace, to symbolism, not substance. Still, the image our economic freedom fighter on the twenty-dollar bill will be inspirational for all of us, especially for the young people who don't know all of the sordid details of our history of enslavement. I hope that as we talk about Harriet Tubman on the money, we also talk about the economic impact she had

sad slave story and history would say he or she lived happily ever after in the north, but Harriet Tubman had another mission. Given her deep faith in GOD, she made 19 trips back into slave territories to free her parents, relatives and others. These extremely dangerous rescue missions went on for ten years. This master spy/escape artist was so good at her work that at one point, the bounty for her capture was \$40,000. The \$40,000 in 1857 would amount to over one million dollars in today's money. Her passage was known as the Underground Railroad where she took over 300 slaves to freedom. She once told Frederick Douglass, in all of her journeys she "never lost a single passenger." Yochaved's son, Moses had conversations with GOD and was given power by GOD to perform miracles as he led the Israelites slaves to freedom. Our Underground

Railroad conductor, Harriet, was handicapped with frequent long term blackouts and given no miraculous powers by GOD, (or was she?), but still led us African slaves to freedom. She was our Moses.

The words she said in 1860

still ring true today. I have

freed many slaves and could

have freed more if they had

realized that they were slaves.

If she were living today, do you

think she would register and

vote in our November 8th 2016

election???

James J. Hankins graduated from all Black Williston Senior High School, Army veteran, NC A&T alumnus, retired vocational education teacher, past president of the New Hanover County NAACP, member of Friends of Abraham Galloway and author of the book "What We Blacks Need To Do" to comment or purchase his book you can reach him at www.jhankinsrealty.com

Harriet Tubman: Economic freedom fighter

When Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew announced that Harriet Tubman would grace the new \$20 bill, my heart sang hallelujah. Additional changes to the currency were also announced. The back of

the \$10 bill will now recognize the five leaders of the women's suffrage movement and the back of the \$5 bill to recognize civil rights leaders, and honor historic events from the

Lincoln Memorial. The faces on our money will no longer be all pale and male, and that's progress.

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The most exciting thing about the presence of Harriet Tubman on the \$20 bill is the way that the change came about. The public was engaged. Hundreds of thousands of people signed petitions, and participated with some of the online polls that various groups sponsored. The Treasury Secretary asked for public input, and he got it. He says he was surprised about the amount of input that he got. He should not have been. Both women and men were passionate about changing symbols of supremacy, ridding the currency of Andrew Jackson whose role in the oppression of Native Americans was shameful, including women on the currency. Perhaps this passion of symbolism can be converted in passion for substance. Perhaps we can use currency change to trigger a substantive movement for economic justice.

Julianne Malveaux is an author and economist based in Washington, DC. Her latest book "Are We Better Off? Race, Obama and Public Policy" is available at www.amazon.com and http://www.julianemalveaux.com.

Prince's death burnishes, not diminishes his considerable legacy

BY BARRINGTON SALMON
OF THE WASHINGTON
INFORMER

A(TriceEdneyWire.com) nika Trahan recalls sitting at her computer, at a friend's house where she's staying during a Washington, DC visit, when she first heard news that Prince, her musical icon and a seminal force in her life, had died.

"It's been hard. The only thing worse than this is losing one of your own family," Trahan said during an April 24 interview. "I'm at a loss for words. When I was about 8 or 9 years old, I remember my mother telling her friends about this guy who opened up for a Rick James concert that she'd gone to. She said he'd come out wearing nothing but a diaper, but that he was really good. I didn't know his name then. I came to know him for myself upon the release of Purple Rain."

"He was the most beautiful man I'd ever seen. At 13, I had no preconceived notions of masculinity or type. I barely liked boys at that time. But, I was so enamored with how he looked. That's what initially drew me to him, but Purple Rain was such an exciting album for me - I even had my own song. That's he became my favorite musician from that moment/movement on, to this day."

Prince Rogers Nelson, 57, died on April 21, discovered in an elevator at his home studio, at Paisley Park near Minneapolis, Minnesota. Following Prince's cremation, family and close friends attended a small, private ceremony over the weekend where his publicist where his remains are buried would remain private adding that there are plans

to hold a musical celebration at a later date. An autopsy has taken place and the body has been cremated. Authorities said it will be weeks before a cause of death is announced.

The reaction has been international. According to Forbes magazine, on the day after Prince's death, fans snapped up an unheard of one million of his singles and albums. Even television anchors and personalities wept openly on the air.

For almost 40 years, Prince etched his name as a singular, extraordinary musical force, innovator and author of a career where he produced 40 studio albums, sold 100 million records, won an Oscar, seven Grammys, a slew of music industry awards and was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. His drive, perfectionism and the ease with which he crossed genres marked him as a fearless innovator continually expanding an array of musical and other boundaries.

Only 19 when he signed a record deal with Warner Brothers Records in 1977, Prince brought an eclectic mix of R&B, Funk, New Wave, Rock and Disco to America's musical table. His unabashed blending of erotic subject matter, the sensuality, the cheeky interplay of the spiritual and sexual, a daring musical style that defied categorization and his message made him a fan favorite to millions and weird to others.

Prince's unexpected death has triggered an outpouring of grief, tributes from musical giants like Stevie Wonder, Bruce Springsteen and Lady Gaga, President Barack Obama and his wife Michelle, the high placed and the regular, around the US and the world. Their gaze has been focused on a man remembered for living

life on his own terms, for his almost otherworldly musical output, his searing performances and a fierce desire for artistic independence and expression.

Trahan, 44, an educational program developer for a global consulting firm in Denver, Colorado, said unequivocally she is "the biggest Prince fan of them all."

As a child, she said, she amassed "everything Prince," including purple coats, lace accessories, posters, 12" EPs, full albums, concert picture books and ticket stubs. She mother of one said she's lost count of the many shows she's gone to but said saw her idol at concerts in Baltimore, Philadelphia, Washington, DC and Houston and only missed two tours, HitNRun and the Piano Tour.

The depth of Trahan's admiration for Prince is illustrated by her tongue-in-cheek declaration: "If you aren't a Prince fan, you're no friend of mine."

Documentary filmmaker Tony Regusters, like Trahan, said he is at a loss to fully embrace the reality that Prince is gone. He considers himself a devotee of the supremely talented singer, song writer and instrumentalist who is said to have mastered more than 20 instruments.

"I'm absolutely a Prince fan. When I heard, it felt as if I'd been hit by a sledgehammer in the center of my chest," said Regusters, an Afro-Futurist and an original producer of BET's Teen Summit. "I've been in the Army, on the journalism beat. You always think you're past shock. Over the span of 37 years I saw him three times. To be perfectly honest, what drew me to him was his eccentricity and his very diverse worldview. He was off-the-chain and waaaaay ahead of his time. He

was wild, unpredictable, was extremely gifted as a musician and played so many instruments. He never stopped being daring and pushing the envelope....He was also a very kind and spiritual person and did so many things people knew nothing about, like supporting the Black Lives Matter movement, taking care of the homeless, donating to certain social service agencies, and giving money to environmental causes. He was brilliant. I saw many of his interviews and he always sounded so measured and thoughtful. He had a strong thread of intelligence, extra creativity and the palpable presence of genius. Like Miles Davis, Marvin Gay and Michael Jackson, no one will ever replace him."

Regusters, 68, an award-winning documentary filmmaker of "Obama in Ghana: The Untold Story," said Prince's death has been the topic of a great deal of discussion among his friends, colleagues and associates.

"No one is unaffected by this. People are crying, angry, throwing out conspiracy theories," said Regusters. "He and Michael Jackson had just regained control of their music catalogues. People are saying it seems like a pattern. Two brilliant guys stood up to the music industry and now they're dead. We know that America is truly a wicked place. It could have happened."

DC-based publicist Reggie Sanders, who describes himself as a Prince admirer not necessarily a fan, offered a nuanced, philosophical view of the late musical prodigy.

"When I see him, I see a person who's multi-talented,

SALMON
Continued from this page

CURRY'S COMMENTS

Poor people are

discouraged from voting

(Via George Curry Media)

Bernie Sanders on Sunday tried to attribute most of his losses to Hillary Clinton - his recent string of victories notwithstanding - to poor people not voting.

"Poor people don't vote," he said on NBC's Meet the Press. "I mean, that's just a fact. That's a sad reality of American society."

What's a fact is that when poor people do vote, they are not vot-

ing for Bernie Sanders.

As the Washington Post observed, "Sanders has lost Democratic voters with household incomes below \$50,000 by 55 percent to 44 percent to Clinton across primaries where network exit polls have been conducted."

He lost to Clinton 21 percent among voters bringing in more than \$100,000 a year and by 9 points among middle income voters, according to the newspaper.

So if more poor people were voting, if the current trends hold true, Clinton would be beating Sanders by an even larger margin.

There is no doubt that poor people are far less likely to vote than more affluent citizens. According to the Census Bureau, 47 percent of eligible adults with family incomes of less than \$20,000 annually voted in 2012. By contrast, approximately 80 percent of those in families earning \$100,000 or more a year voted in 2012. Similar patterns also held true to voter registration.

Sanders said on Meet the Press, "If we can significantly increase voter turnout so that low-income people and working people and young people participated in the political process, if we got a voter turnout of 75 percent, this country would be radically transformed."

Sanders failed to address why poor people are less likely to vote.

A study for Caltech and MIT reported that people generally failed to vote for a variety of reasons, including dissatisfaction with the choice of candidates, other obligations, transportation problems and registration issues.

Under the headline, "Why Are the Poor and Minorities Less Likely to Vote?", an article in Atlantic magazine noted, "While income and education levels were not recorded in the survey, race and age were major factors influencing who made it to the polls on Election Day and what kind of barriers they faced. Black and Hispanic citizens, for whom the poverty rate is close to three times that of whites, were three times as likely as whites to not have the requisite I.D. and to have difficulty finding the correct polling place. They were more than three times as likely as whites to not receive a requested absentee ballot, and roughly twice as likely to be out of town on Election Day or to have to wait in long lines.

"They were also substantially more likely than whites to report transportation problems and bad time and location as reasons for not getting to the polls, while white voters were the most likely to cite disapproval of candidate choices. Taken together, the surveys suggest that white citizens who abstain from voting do so primarily by choice, while the majority of minority non-voters face problems along the way."

And the problems faced along the way are considerable.

According to the Caltech/MIT survey, between 910,000 and 3 million votes were lost in 2008 as a result of registration problems. Another 1.5 million voters said the polling places were poorly run and 1 million reported feeling intimidated at the polls. Of those asked to show a photo ID, 70 percent were Black, 65 percent were Latino and only 51 percent were White, according to the study.

The United States voter turnout consistently trails most developed countries.

According to the Pew Research Center, the U.S. turnout rates in 2012 was 53.6 percent, compared to 87.2 percent in Belgium, 86.4 percent in Turkey, and 82.6 percent in Sweden.

Numerous suggestions have been made to make it easier for Americans to vote, including weekend and online voting, extending voting over several days and making the hours more convenient.

But instead of doing that, many states are moving in the opposite direction.

The Brennan Center for Justice at the New York University School of Law reported 17 states will have new voter restrictions in place for the 2016 presidential election, ranging from strict Photo ID requirements to curtailing voting hours and adding more registration restrictions.

The 17 states are: Alabama, Arizona, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and Wisconsin.

A survey by the Brennan Center found:

•

New Hanover County

New Hanover-Pender County Medical Society will offer free 2016-2017 school year athletic pre-participation screening exams for New Hanover County middle and high school athletes and cheerleaders for males on Wednesday, May 4th at 6:00 p.m. and 6:45 p.m. and females on Thursday, May 12th at 6:00 p.m. and 6:45 p.m. Exams will be held at the Health Department, 2029 South 17th St. For more information or questions contact Bonnie Brown at 910-790-5800 or email MedicalSociety@NHCMS.org or Matthew Triche at 910-251-6100 ext. 270 or email matthew.triche@nchs.net.

Community Briefs

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

The Wilmington Prostate Cancer Support Group meets at 6:00 p.m. the first Thursday monthly in the SEAHEC Auditorium at New Hanover Regional Medical Center, 17th Street, Wilmington, NC. Invited are men and their partners—who are newly diagnosed and researching treatments, those previously treated, those who are experiencing a recurrence, and those who are undergoing advanced treatment for prostate cancer. Support is available from those previously treated and formal programs and literature supply information about all stages of prostate cancer and recovery.

Brunswick County

Brunswick County Master Gardener Volunteers will be available the first Thursday of each month for a plant clinic at the Leland Library from 10am until 11am. Master Gardener Volunteers will be available to help you with soil sampling and address various lawn and garden problems. Clients can call or visit. Every third Thursday educational programs on various topics related to gardening, nutrition, agriculture or parenting will be taught by Cooperative Extension staff beginning at 10am. The Leland Library is located at 487 Village Road in Leland.

Thursday, May 19th - Sam Marshall, Managing Common Insect Pests in Home Gardens

Thursday, June 16th - Angie Lawrence - TBA

Thursday, July 21st - Morgan McKnight - Healthy Eating for Diabetics

Thursday, August 4th - Mark Blevins - TBA

Thursday, September 15th - Alicia Jenkins - Don't Break the Bank

Thursday, October 20th - Michelle Cousineau - Pruning Seminar

Thursday, November 17th - Sam Marshall - Getting Ready for Winter

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff



GLORIA M. PIERSON

The Pierson Family wishes to invite you to Gloria M. Pierson's Memorial/Birthday Celebration

The memorial will be held on Saturday, May 7, 2016 at St. Stephens Church 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

The celebration will be held at The International Longshoreman's Hall 3:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.

**Support The Port Foundation, Inc.
Presents:
Stop The Violence, Start The Peace Rally!**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

U.N.I.T.Y THE BAND PERFORMING

**BY CEDRIC HARRISON
CONTRIBUTING WRITER**

On Saturday April 9th at Portia Hines Park better known as 10th St Park, Support The Port Foundation, Inc hosted the Stop The Violence, Start The Peace Rally, during Wilmington's Historical Azalea Festival Saturday. The event began with an opening speech from Vice-Chairman, Jonathan Barfield, Jr., and a prayer for peace from New Covenant Holiness Church Prayer Team. Guest that came out enjoyed free food from Billy Ray's Family Restaurant, and drinks provided by NC Always. Kids enjoyed having their face

painted, and making tie dye T-Shirts. There were a plethora of amazing live performances from artist and bands from the DC and the Wilmington area. The goal of the event was to bring the people of Wilmington together with music and art from all genres, cultures, and backgrounds.

Special thank you to: Billy Ray's Family Restaurant, Vice Chairman Jonathan Barfield, Jr., Blue Ribbon Commission, Dj Kelz & The Party Gang, Vance Williams, New Covenant Holiness Church, Youth Kingdom, Soundbar Lounge, U.N.I.T.Y, Volume Imag, D&D Sluggers, MoeSOS, Ed Smack Adams, T.O.

HOMETOWN NEWS FROM BRUNSWICK COUNTY

Brunswick County NAACP meeting in Leland, N. C.

We who believe in justice will not retreat. It's our time! The NAACP must grow stronger in membership daily because the population of Whites is greater than that of African Americans. Members of the NAACP and visitors joined together in a friendly manner at the NAACP Regional Retreat in Leland, N. C.

Bernest Hewett, President of the Brunswick County Chapter, has a great responsibility. Prayer was given by Minister Stafford Stanley, and he has a deep interest in getting more people on the job to be life time members of the NAACP. Know the mission of the NAACP. It is to ensure the

Courtney Patterson, a major fundraiser and humanitarian, was the Master of Ceremony for the retreat. Mr. Patterson is a native of Kinston, N. C. and was educated in the Lenoir County Schools. He is a graduate of Woodington Consolidated School after attending a segregated two-

political, educational, social, and economic equality of all persons. The vision of the NAACP is to ensure a society in which all individuals have equal rights without discrimination based on race.

Debra Maxwell, Regional Director, and many members are greatly concerned about younger people becoming members of the NAACP. We need to make it possible for them to join and establish special programs to keep them because they are special people. They can travel and meet other members of the NAACP.

Courtney Patterson, a major fundraiser and humanitarian, was the Master of Ceremony for the retreat. Mr. Patterson is a native of Kinston, N. C. and was educated in the Lenoir County Schools. He is a graduate of Woodington Consolidated School after attending a segregated two-

room school in grades 1 through 8, a school for African American students. He is currently working in the Jones County Schools, teaching automotive technology. He was appointed by the N.C. State Director of Trades and Industrial Education to serve on a committee to update the automotive technology curriculum. He began his work, advocating for civil rights by serving four terms as President of the Lenoir County NAACP and three terms as District 15 Director for the North Carolina Conference of Branches. Currently, he serves as the 4th Vice President of the North Carolina NAACP State Conference of Branches and chairs the Grants Oversight Committee for the State Conference.

The General Assembly of North Carolina, Second Extra Session 2016-3 House Bill 2 was studied and dis-

cussed at the NAACP Retreat. The members of Brunswick County NAACP will continue to study it as it was given to us in the meeting. We want all members to join us in fighting for our rights.

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.

Scarlet Elect #21 holds initiation

**BY GERALDINE ARMSTRONG
CONTRIBUTING WRITER**

On Saturday, March 19, 2016, The Scarlet Elect #21, Heroines of Jericho held a beautiful initiation at their regular scheduled meeting. This was a very exciting event and the court was very pleased to receive these new

members: Heroine Edna Ennis and Companions-Darius Walker, Reginald Hagans and James Parker. Deputy Marvin Gooding of Kinston, North Carolina and deputy for the Southeastern District was very instrumental in this event. The Scarlet Elect Court #21 give sincere thanks and appreciation for his presence and also, help

with the paraphernalia of the court.

Another initiation will be held for the candidates unable to attend at this particular time and a festive fellowship will be held for that occasion. Heroine Geraldine Armstrong, Most Ancient Matron and Companion Alphonso Robinson, Most Worthy Joshua conducted the

ritualistic initiation.

Very special thanks to the following members: Heroines-Johnnie Mae Pridgen, Eva Battle, Carolyn Washington, Evelyn Bryant, Linda Moore, Nadine Jordan, Teresa Batts, Barbara Lewis, Brenda Williams and Companion Wayne Perkins, Vice Joshua.

Celebrate each day with peace--love---and the joy----

Zerubbabel celebration

**BY GERALDINE ARMSTRONG
CONTRIBUTING WRITER**

What a fantastic time in giving worship to our Lord and Savior!

On Sunday, March 20, 2016, Mosaic Chapter #9, Duncan J. Whitted Chapter #80, Holy Royal Arch Masons and The Scarlet Elect Court #21, Heroines of Jericho celebrated Zerubbabel Day at Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, 719 Walnut Street, Wilmington, North Carolina 28401. This also, happened to be Foreign Missions Day at Shiloh.

The Shiloh Choir lifted their voice high in praise and worship with Sister Ronita

Smith and Brother Mychal Robinson. Deacon LeRon Montgomery (Excellent High Priest of Mosaic Chapter #9) conducted the worship service and what a spiritual filled service throughout. Morning song-Lead Me To Calvary; Church concerns-Sister Natalie Stalling; Hospitality-Sister Rose Mary Coston; Greetings-Deacon LeRon Montgomery. History of Zerubbabel-Companion McKinley Knight followed by a special monetary presentation from Mosaic Chapter #9, Duncan J. Whitted Chapter #80 and The Scarlet Elect Court #21, by Thomas Woolridge, Past Grand High Priest. Past Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Carl Byrd

was present. Morning prayer was given by Deaconess Priscilla Davis followed by the Introduction of speaker, Rev. Dr. Linda W. Bryan (Christian Faith Baptist Church of Raleigh, North Carolina) was given by Sister Phyllis Alderman. Hymn of Preparation---Something Got A Hold of Me, and something did get a hold of the congregation! Rev. Byran's subject "Supernatural Boundaries" (Job 1:6-10) is a sermon not soon to be forgotten. It was very dynamic and straight to the point. No Matter what Satan may do to us, GOD is always there and can bless us with more than we ever had before. Satan cannot get pass the hedge---GOD has around

us; GOD has a supernatural boundary of protection around us. Following the Benediction a wonderful meal was enjoyed and the fellowship was great.

Special thanks to Heroines: Geraldine Armstrong, Carolyn Hedgepath, Eva Battle, Carolyn Washington, Evelyn Bryant and Brenda Williams. Companions: James Reed (District Deputy Grand High Priest), James Lightfoot, Alphonso Robinson, Cleveland Bragg, Carl Byrd, McKinley Knight, Thomas Woolridge, LeRon Montgomery, Bobby McMillian, Taft Holman, Artis Wright, James Wright, and Richard Page.

Permission 2 Dream blessing seniors



PERMISSION 2 DREAM YOUTH WITH SENIORS AT FOOD LION



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

**SUBMITTED TO
THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL**

Permission 2 Dream blessed ten seniors to have their grocery bill paid in full on Saturday, April 16th. The Food Lion on Oleander St. was on board with Permission 2

Dream for the day of blessings. Each senior along with two youth were given 12 minutes to fill their carts with as much as they could.

Director Aretha Session allowed more seniors to participate as they came in to store purchasing smaller

items. The seniors were surprised and humbly grateful and they had no idea what this was about.

The community helped make this event a success. Thank you to St. Andrews AMEZ Church, New St. Luke, Pastor Marie Howard-Griffin,

XclusiveChainz RC of Shallotte, AM/PM Bail Bonding, Sweet Escapes, 14th St., Food Lion and so many awesome organizations, individuals, friends and family to numerous to name. We all as a team were in it to be a blessing.

TELL THEM YOU READ IT IN THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL!!



Mr. Tyronne Richardson

Mr. Tyronne Richardson, former candidate for NC Department of Labor Secretary, age 66 of Wendell departed this life on April 20, 2016.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, April 27, 2016 at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Wendell. Burial, Gethsemane Memorial Gardens.

Survivors: his wife, Delores M. Richardson; sister, Sheila Richardson (Joathan Boags) of Wendell; stepdaughter, Jasmine Williams and step granddaughter, Laila Hawkins of High Point, NC; nephews, Joathan Boags of Raleigh, Damian Boags, (Terry Upchurch) of Wendell; great nieces, Olivia Boags of Atlanta, GA and Evie Boags of Wendell; great nephew, Joathan, IV of Raleigh; a host of other relatives and friends. Arrangements by William Toney's Funeral Home, Zebulon.

Elmer R. Smith

Elmer Rudolph Smith, age 65, passed away on Friday, April 15, 2016 at Lower Cape Fear Hospice, in Wilmington, NC. Funeral services were held Thursday, April 21, 2016 at Bethel A.M.E. Church, Northwest Community Burial followed in the Bethel A.M.E. Church Cemetery.

He was born on July 4, 1950, in Wilmington, NC to Charlie and Janie Brown Smith. Elmer grew up in the Northwest Community, now the City of Northwest. He graduated from Lincoln High School in Leland, NC in 1968. After high school, he attended Cape Fear Technical School, now called Cape Fear Community College in Wilmington, NC where he received an Associate Degree in Machinery. After completing Cape Fear Tech, Elmer began work for the Riegelwood Paper Mill, now International Paper where he worked for 45 years. Elmer married Brenda Robbins on Valentine's Day in 1970 in Wilmington, NC. They were happily married for 46 years. Elmer was known to many as a fun-loving guy, who always kept something going. He never knew a stranger and was well-liked and respected by those who knew him in the community and on the job. Elmer's favorite hobby was hunting. The fellowship he enjoyed with his hunting club buddies was always a highlight in his life. He always loved Harley-Davidson motorcycles. Elmer joined Bethel A.M.E. Church at an early age and remained a member until his death. Elmer was preceded in death by his father, Charlie Smith.

Elmer is remembered with love by his wife, Brenda of the City of Northwest; children: Aaron Fields (Tarina) of Powder Springs, GA, Delmer

Smith of the City of Northwest, Tenisha Smith Bridges (Roderick) of Lynchburg, VA; nine grandchildren: Shantel, DaShaun, Delquan, Tryell, Devyn, Teonna, Tierra, Dylan and E'Mariea; two great-grandchildren: Jahlil and Jada; sisters: Patricia Brown of Washington, DC, Debra Knox (James) of the City of Northwest and Dr. Claudette Smith of Greensboro, NC; aunts: Annie L. Brown and Irene Brown; father-in-law: Walter Robbins; and a host of nieces and other relatives. *Davis Funeral Home*.

Bernice Walker Lewis

On Thursday, April 21, 2016 the Angels of Heaven sung, Peace Be Still my daughter "Your Battle" has been "Won!" At her residence of 506 Water Street Navassa North Carolina, Bernice Walker Lewis's journey on earth was completed and her transition to eternal life began. Funeral Services were held Tuesday, April 26, 2016 at Mt. Calvary A.M.E. Church. Burial followed in the Mt. Calvary A.M.E. Church Cemetery.

She was born Bernice Walker, aka "Bae-Bae", to James Walker and the late Cora Lee Walker, on August 25, 1964 in Navassa, North Carolina. Bernice accepted Jesus Christ at an early age and she joined Mt. Calvary African Episcopal Church under the leadership of Reverend Henley. She served as YPD Director, Psalmist of the Gospel Choir, Choir Secretary, Praise Team, Steward and Stewardess, Community Choir, Christmas Caroling Choir and a member of Price Cathedral Choir. Bernice was educated in the Brunswick County School System and furthered her education at Cape Fear Community College in Wilmington, NC, where she received her CNA License. Bernice worked at Shirley's Burgers, Hill Haven, McDonalds, Cypress Pointe, and the City of Wilmington as a Meter Reader but later transferred to Parks and Rec. for a number of years. Bernice loved to play softball! She was the best shortstop and first baseman and was known as "Cotton" on the softball field. Bernice was a great cook and she sometimes cooked shrimp burgers late at night and called it "The Midnight Meals". Other foods she loved to cook were macaroni & cheese, pineapple cake, pecan tassel and crabs. Besides cooking, God blessed Bernice with a beautiful, amazing voice. Some of her favorite songs to sing were "Jesus Will Pick You Up", "Jesus Can Work It Out"; "I'm So Glad He Died For Me"; "Heaven Is Waiting For Me"; and "Silver & Gold". Bernice also had a green thumb and loved gardening. Her special cartoon characters were Mickey & Minnie Mouse and Tiger. Some of her favorite television shows were: Bring it, Atlanta House Wives, and Sunday's Best. She also loved to watch the Lifetime Network.

Bernice leaves to cherish her memories: Her Husband: Aaron Lewis of the home; Stepdaughter: Shanice Green of Wilmington, NC; Her Father: James T. Walker of the Home; Four Brothers: Andre Walker of Leland, NC, Angelo

Walker (Kimberly) of Riegelwood, NC, Corry Malone of Fayetteville, NC and Kevin Cole (Brenda) of Snowfield, NC; Three Aunts: Willie Mae McCoy (Velina) of Wilmington, NC, Shirley Hooper (Ellis) of Leland, NC and Maggie Rogers (Brown) of Baltimore, MD; Two Uncles: Harrison Malone (Patricia) of Wilmington, NC and Charlie Graham aka "Uncle Champ" of Navassa, NC; Ten Nieces: Charissa, Quintara, Tammy, Charity, Chevon, Toniece, Denise, Veronica, Angela, and Felecia; Four Nephews: D'Angelo, Kyah, Joshua, and Kevin; Three Sisters-in-law: Glenda Wallace of Wilmington, NC, Shirleen White of Patterson, NJ and Dorothy Faye Engram of Tampa, FL; One Brother-In-Law: Marvin Williams of Wilmington, NC; One Special God-Uncle: Bishop Alonzo Davis (Retha) of Navassa, NC; God-Parents: Barbara Watson (Richard) and Peggy Williams of Navassa, NC; God-Children: Antwon Hanksley, Saquan Lewis and Denesha McCoy; God-Sisters: Denise Shaw (Special Sister), Songie Griffin, Vernita Graham, and Tonya Bernard; God Brothers: Thurman Mosley, Lynwood, Theldon and Terry Williams; Special Family: Christie Gaddy & Donte of Fayetteville, NC; Special Sister: Tonya Lowe; Special Best Friends: Lakita Mitchell and Errico Moore (God Sister); Special Cousin: Glenda Andrews, Beverly Lewis and Kemah Lewis; and a host of other relatives and friends. *Davis Funeral Home*.

Harold Damon

Harold Damon died April 14th at Wilmington Health and Rehab. Funeral services were held on Friday, April 23, 2016 at Willie L. Shaw Jr. Memorial Chapel.

Harry Lee, also known as "Ram", son of the late Titus Damon and Mazie Caldwell Damon, was born on July 16, 1928, in Wilmington, NC. Harry accepted Christ as his Savior at an early age at Mount Roney Missionary Baptist Church, where his father was one of the founding ministers. He attended Peabody and Williston Industrial Schools. He was also a member of the Boys Club of Wilmington and played on the basketball team, called the Rams. At age 18, Harry landed an opportunity to work for General Motors in Detroit, MI as a Manifold Mold Technician. When he returned home to Wilmington, he married Agnes Mills and they had three children; but unfortunately their marriage ended early. At the age of 23, he relocated to Trenton, NJ to work for Campbell Soup. Shortly thereafter, he moved to Harlem, NY, where he spent most of his adult life and this is where he met Caroline Pittman. They were married and had two children. Harry had different jobs before he retired from Northside Lumber Company as a carpenter. After retiring, he moved back to "Brooklyn" area, Wilmington, NC. He taught himself to play the base guitar and loved to dance. As he got older, his leisure time he enjoyed listening to spirituals and sharing stories about

loving the Lord and His grace. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sisters, Leola, Agnes and Elizabeth; his brothers, Titus Jr., Julius, Rayford and Sampson; his children, Harry Damon and Harriet Damon.

He leaves to cherish his memory: daughters, Shirley Lockhardt, Wanda (George) Watson, Tonya (Thomas) Holland; a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, other loving relatives and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home*.

Donald Stevens

Donald Stevens died April 16th in New Jersey. Funeral Services were held Thursday, April 21, 2016 at Hanks Chapel AME Church. Donald, son of Mable Evangeline Stevens and the late Raymond Stevens, was born on June 22, 1953, in Fort Dix, New Jersey.

Donald was raised in Hanks Chapel A.M.E. Church and later became a member while in high school, under the leadership of the late Rev H. A. Mattocks.

Rev. Mattocks assigned Donald to the Usher Board. Eventually Donald became "Chief Usher". Hanks Chapel A.M.E. Church is a spirit-filled loving church with a closely knit, small, congregation. Donald was a member, teacher, leader and prayer warrior of almost every organization within the church, as well as "Pastor Steward". Donald's family was a military family; they traveled extensively throughout the United States and abroad. Donald attended many schools during his early childhood. He graduated from John T. Hoggard High School in Wilmington, North Carolina, in 1971. Donald always had a desire to travel and drive. While in high school, he became a New Hanover County School Bus Driver.

With Donald's love for travel, he pursued the career of driving and became a Tractor-Trailer Driver and a Driver Trainer. Throughout his career, Donald worked with several trucking companies and received many awards. His

most prestigious award was "Driver of the Year", while employed with Horizon Tank Lines. Donald's most recent position was Owner/Operator with DANA TRANSPORT, INC., in Avenel, New Jersey. Donald has always been known for his quiet demeanor and gentle spirit. He was a loving, caring and tender husband to his wife, Nancy, of thirty-two years. His daughters, April and LaDonna, adored him. He taught them the way of life from a Christian point of view. His granddaughters, Sydney and Madyson, loved their "Pop Pop". Donald was his mother's Pride and Joy.

He leaves to cherish his memory: his wife of 32 years, Nancy Stevens of the home; two daughters, April Smith of Wilmington, NC and LaDonna Stevens of Bedford, OH; two granddaughters, S y d n e y Smith, age 10 and Madyson Rhodes, age 8; his mother, Mable Evangeline Stevens (age 101), Wilmington, NC; one brother, Raymond Stevens of Easton, PA; one sister, Joyce Stevens of Wilmington, NC; his large extended family consist of his loving in-laws, many nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, and many, many, many, TRUCK DRIVERS. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home*.

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With Donald's love for travel, he pursued the career of driving and became a Tractor-Trailer Driver and a Driver Trainer. Throughout his career, Donald worked with several trucking companies and received many awards. His

wife began on June 29, 1968. Jackie was a long-time, dedicated employee of E. I. DuPont from June 8, 1970 until her retirement in April 2011. She enjoyed laughter, gardening, playing games on the computer, bowling, shopping and looking fashionable. Jackie was a die-hard supporter of the Clemson Tigers Football Team, where her grandson is a defensive tackle. This led her to travel the world. Spending quality

OBITUARIES

continued on page 8

In Memory Of



John D. McLean, Sr.
April 26, 1976 - April 26, 2016
40 years without you

J- is for the joy that you brought into this family.
O- is for the order you kept with us all.

H- is for being humble as you always were.

N- is for being a neighbor; you were the best.

M- is for the many ways you showed love to us.

C- is for caring for your family as you did.

L- is for the love you shared each day.

E- is for everything you did along the way.

A- is for anger which you never showed.

N- is for never the we chose not to use.

The best of these is love, a love that cannot be replaced.

Sadly missed,
Your wife, Magnolia H. McLean and your children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, family and friends

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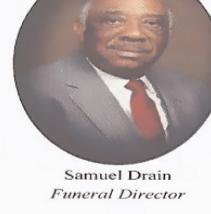
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(T-B) Sadie Davis Graham, Robert "Butch" Brunson, Karen Davis Brunson and Javoke S. Terrell

New Hanover County

Central Missionary Baptist Church, 702 Red Cross St., will celebrate Mother's Day on Sunday, May 8th at 11:00 a.m. The guest speaker will be Rev. Darlene Robinson of Mt. Roney Missionary Baptist Church.



Religious Briefs

Chords Across America Gospel Church, 1020 Rankin St. (James Walker Bldg.), will hold their Anniversary Dinner on Saturday, April 30th at 4:00 p.m. For additional information and tickets call 910-623-4192.

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LEGAL NOTICES

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

Having qualified as the Co-Executors of the Estate of **Nathan Andrew Amon**, deceased, late of New Hanover County, North Carolina, this is to notify that all persons having claims against the said estate to present such claims to the undersigned on or before the **8th day of July, 2016**, or this notice will be placed in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment.

This 7th day of April, 2016.

Debra Lynn Amon
Thomas Lee Amon
Co-Administrators
c/o Robert C. Kenan, Jr.
MOORE & KENAN Attorneys at Law
P. O. Box 957
Burgaw, NC 28425
(910) 259-9800

April 7, 14, 21, 28, 2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

The undersigned, having qualified as Executors of the estate of **Linda P. Nance**, 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 **14th day of July, 2016**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 14th day of April, 2016

David L. Nance and Susan Nance Callaway, Executors of the Estate of Linda P. Nance
2807 Wrightsville Avenue
Wilmington, NC 28403
Murchison, Taylor & Gibson, PLLC
16 North Fifth Avenue
Wilmington, NC 28403

April 14, 21, 28, May 5, 2016

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

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

**TO: RESPONDENT -
FATHER, CHRISTIAN 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 April 14, 2016, which date is the date of first publication of this Notice. Upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought. You 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, June 6, 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 14th day of April, 2016.

Dean W. Hollingsworth
Senior Staff Attorney - New
Hanover Co. Dept.
of Social Services
650 Greenfield Street
Wilmington, NC 28401
PO Drawer 1559
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April 14, 21, 28, 2016

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA NEW HANOVER COUNTY DISTRICT COURT DIVISION JUVENILE SESSION File No. 15 JT 89

IN THE MATTER OF: J.B.V. (DOB 10-28-13)

To: ANY UNKNOWN FATHER

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 no later than 40 days following **April 14, 2016**, which date is the date of the 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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