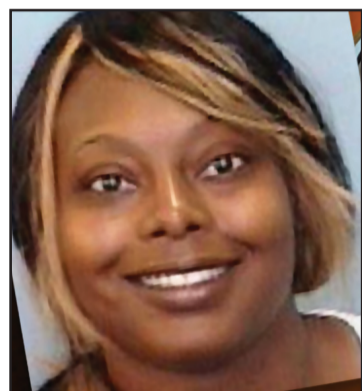


Coming UP PEACEFUL MARCH

Black Lives Matter March is on Friday, July 15, 2016 at 6:30 pm. The march will begin at the corner of 5th and Market streets. Participants will stand against the violence that takes so many Black Lives. "Please plan to march in unity. The community can make a change in the system of injustice. Please share in order to spread the word," states BLM organizers.

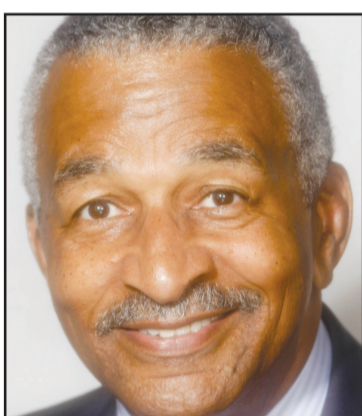
MISSING



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

OUTside Looking IN

OUR VOICE



GUEST EDITORIAL
BY JIM CLINGMAN
"Requiem for
Black people"
PAGE 4

BRUNSWICK COUNTY UPDATE



BERNEST HEWETT

A LONGTIME FIGHT

BY BERNEST HEWETT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Black people in Brunswick County and other counties around us, in fact, throughout the United States, were caught by a right cross and knocked down in a fight which we have fought for a long time. It is the fight for justice. We have never used the killing of innocent peo-

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BRUNSWICK/Page 2

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

VOLUME 89/No. 28

JULY 14, 2016 - JULY 20, 2016

FIFTY CENTS

BUTTERFIELD: "LONG, HOT SUMMER" WITHOUT GUN/POLICE REFORMS

BY CASH MICHAELS
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

In the wake of the police killing of two black men - in Baton Rouge, La. and St. Paul, Min. respectively - and the slaughter of five Dallas police officers by a lone, deranged black gunman, North Carolina Congressman G. K. Butterfield [D-NC-1] warned that Congress must immediately act to stem the tide of violence with meaningful gun and police reforms.

"If we fail to act, this will be a long hot summer," Rep. Butterfield, chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, told reporters last

Friday during a CBC press conference.

Before Congress broke for the July 4th recess, the issue was gun control in the aftermath of the tragic Orlando nightclub massacre where 49 were killed a month ago this week. In fact, NC Congresswoman Alma Adams [D-NC-12] held a June 30th tele-town hall in Charlotte on what could be done to quell gun violence in the community.

House Democrats - including North Carolina congresspersons Butterfield, Adams and David Price [D-NC-4] - staged a dramatic 26-hour sit-in on the House floor, demanding

that House Speaker Paul Ryan and the Republican House majority at least bring a bill to the floor that would enhance gun owner background checks, disallow people on the No Fly list from purchasing guns, and limit the sale of assault weapons like the AR-15.

"I do not believe [gun legislation] is the answer," Rep. Pete Sessions [R-Texas] of Dallas, maintained.

Based on tentative press reports, there were indications that Speaker Ryan told members of the GOP

Please see **"HOT SUMMER"**
Page 2



U.S. CONGRESSMAN
G. K. BUTTERFIELD (D-NC)

PRESERVATION



BEVERLY TETTERTON, FORMER WILMINGTON LIBRARIAN AND CHAIR OF THE HISTORIC PLAQUE COMMITTEE, POSES WITH MEMBERS OF DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC. AT THE UNVEILING OF THE HISTORIC PLAQUE. PICTURED ARE (L TO R) FAYE JACOBS, CHAIR OF THE DELTA FOUNDATION OF THE CAPE FEAR, TETTERTON, ACQUINETTA BEATTY, PRESIDENT OF THE WILMINGTON ALUMNAE CHAPTER, SHIRLEY WEBB SMITH, SPEAKER, AND VEDA WILSON, PAST CHAPTER PRESIDENT.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Deltas unveil historic plaque

BY VEDA WILSON
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With each one holding a corner, George Edwards, Executive Director of the Historic Wilmington Foundation, and Acquinetta Beatty, President of the local chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., unveiled the newest adornment of the sorority's house June 25, a black plaque marking the house as an historic building.

The house, located at 401 N. 7th St., dates from 1902, but has belonged to the Wilmington Alumnae Chapter since 1961. The chapter converted it into a meeting place in 1966, having the distinction of being

the first African American organization to secure a loan for the purchase and renovation of property.

Chapter members and visitors crowded the porch and spilled out into the street during the brief ceremony. Beverly Tetterton, chair of the plaque committee for HWF, read the well-researched text of the plaque. Shirley Webb Smith, who was among the women who converted the house to the chapter's home, spoke briefly of the house and chapter's history.

According to Mr. Edwards, the Delta House is among the nearly 600 buildings that have been awarded a plaque. The house has belonged to the Delta chapter longer than any previous owner, and has been the site of numerous celebrations and programs benefitting the community.

Wilmington, other NC cities value community policing

BY CASH MICHAELS
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

Earlier this week, a tired, weary Dallas Police Chief David Brown, admittedly still heartbroken over the murders of four of his department's officers, and one Dallas Area Rapid Transit officer during a shooting rampage July 7th by a crazed gunman, still wanted the world to know that despite what had happened, by all accounts, he led the "best police department in the nation."

Chief Brown had solid numbers to back him up - the murder rate in Dallas dropped way down under his tenure, as did civilian complaints against Dallas police officers. The entire community was supportive of DPD, and the force was well-known and regarded for its extensive community outreach, particularly in poor neighborhoods like the one Chief Brown grew up in.

"Community policing works," declared Chief Brown to reporters Monday. "It makes us safe."

"Community policing," a concept dating back to the 1800's where law enforcement routinely interacts with the communities they serve not just to stop or solve crimes, but also enhance the quality of living, is generally seen as key to help building strong police-neighborhood relationships, and ultimately improve public safety.

Here in North Carolina, many of the state's major city police departments apparently share Chief Brown's view

Please see **POLICING**/Page 2

Annie Nixon garden dedication ceremony

CONTRIBUTED STORY

Wilmington Green Community Gardens is planning a dedication ceremony to celebrate the opening of this new garden and honor the late Annie Nixon, former patron of the garden at 914 Dock Street, Wilmington, NC. Please join us in the celebration!

Wilmington Green is a sponsored program of Feast Down East, a non-profit working to build a healthy local food system in Southeastern NC. Wilmington Green is supported by broad-based community partnerships consisting of neighborhoods, city and county government, area churches, schools and business organiza-

tions. Wilmington Green aims to promote and encourage sustainable community gardening. The program selects inner-city community garden sites either publicly or privately owned to assist well-organized and supportive community groups wanting to better and beautify their neighborhoods.

Annie Nixon was a long time resident of Dock Street and contributed much of her time tending to the soil, growing flowers and fresh vegetables using the vacant space of land next to her house. Now the garden is diligently cared



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NIXON FAMILY
THE LATE MRS. ANNIE NIXON AND FAMILY

Please see **NIXON**/Page 3

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THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL
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The Wilmington Journal cannot accept yard sale and dinner sale announcements as briefs. These are considered advertisements. Community and religious briefs are designated for public service announcements, which are free and open to the public.

All news must be submitted two weeks in advance by Fridays at 5 p.m. There is no charge for submitting briefs, news and photos. All briefs will run for a maximum of two weeks.

Please send news near the event date. Briefs/news cannot be taken over the phone. Photos and stories may also be emailed to us at wilmjournnews@aol.com.

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BRUNSWICK

Continued from Page 1

ple to fight against injustice and inequality, even though it has been used for a long time against our people. We have endured the bombing of our homes and our churches. These horrendous experiences didn't just start. In fact, they go back many years in our history. For example, four young Black girls were killed in September 1963, when the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama was bombed by White supremacists. Medgar Evers, a young civil rights activist, was ambushed, shot in the back in his own driveway in June 1963. Many Black men have been hanged for "looking at," or speaking to White women, and these cases are certainly not nearly all that have been recorded.

We have kept the faith and used marches, boycotts, press conferences, and other peaceful means of fighting injustice. God's grace, the Word of God, a strong faith, and belief in prayer, have been our weapons by which we have fought injustice. We have had to cope with corrupt elected officials, prejudiced people, and racist attitudes. We fought and shed innocent blood, and, even though we cannot, and will not, support the killing of innocent police officers, who are sworn to serve and protect us. Black people also are hurt by these senseless killings and by the hurt they bring to the victims' families. However, we cannot forget our own history and the many unearned sufferings we've endured. We cannot fool ourselves into believ-

"HOT SUMMER"

Continued from Page 1

Caucus that he would be willing to have a bill to keep guns from suspected terrorists reach the floor for a vote after the recess, but when Congress reconvened last week, no bill was forthcoming, outraging Democrats.

And when the police killings in Baton Rouge and St. Paul occurred, culminating in the police slayings in Dallas, House Democrats, and specifically members of the Congressional Black Caucus, soon realized that pushing for gun reform was not enough.

"We're hearing frustration not only from the law enforcement community, but the African-American community and other communities all across the country," Rep. Butterfield told MSNBC Monday. "It's pouring in everyday from the American people who want action on gun violence. They're demanding that we, as members of Congress, legislate to make sure that those who are not capable of flying [on] an airplane because they're on a no-fly list that they are disqualified from owning a weapon. Ninety-percent of the American people believe that there should be background checks before you can purchase a firearm."

Rep. Butterfield continued, "The American people are peaking very loudly so we need a hearing here in Congress on gun violence that we need legislative action, and we need it now. Anxiety and fear is gripping the nation, so we need a legislative response and we need it now!"

Addressing the growing concerns that relations between the African-American community and law enforcement have become increasingly worse since the recent police shootings and nationwide protests,

POLICING

Continued from Page 1

about community policing.

Early Monday morning, requests were sent to the police departments in Raleigh, Durham, Wilmington and Winston-Salem asking two questions:

1 - What ongoing programs or policies does your department have that are geared towards improving police relations with the black community?

2 - What percentage of your police force is black, and what measures are your

ing that the fight for our freedom is over! We must begin again the talk of a free America, an America where we are all equal, where hate is not preached or spread by elected officials. We must continue to work toward an America where elected officials cease to use racial animosity and foster racial divisiveness to get elected, who don't use scare tactics to divide society caring them into thinking one race is out to destroy the other. We are all equal under God's grace and mercy.

We must point out the guilty, the wrong doers, the upholders of wrong and unjust deeds. We cannot allow those people in authority to do wrong and get away with it. This is a must for all, Blacks, Whites, the police, civilians, soldiers, elected officials, whatever our position in society. We have come a long way by faith, leaning on God. We have seen a lot of changes, but we must not go back, and we will not quit. The killing of innocent police officers is bad, but let's not forget the killing of the two innocent Black men in Baton Rouge, Louisiana and Saint Paul, Minnesota. We must acknowledge that that was just as bad. Their families hurt too. Their lives matter too! Those two Black lives. Attention is called to the problems that we, as Blacks, face on a daily basis from unjust and biased laws and us wrong than right. Yet, we must not stop! The crown of life here and in heaven will be ours! *Bernest L. Hewett is President of the Brunswick County Branch of NAACP.*

Rep. Butterfield said that Congress does have a role in lowering the temperature.

"The statistics are clear - of all of the unarmed men shot by police in this country, at least last year, 40% were African-American, even though black men make up only 6% of the nation's population. So the data is clear - African-Americans are two-and-a-half time more likely to be killed by police than other Americans.

"We must immediately stop what we're doing here in Congress and appropriate money for law enforcement agencies across the country so that they can train and retrain their officers, so they can separate the good ones from the bad ones, and get to the concept of community policing, thereby creating this bond of trust between the community and law enforcement," Butterfield said Monday. "Until we do that we're going to continue to have unrest in our communities, and we are better than that."

Congress goes on a seven-week recess one day early today, combining the traditional two-weeks off for the two national political conventions, and taking off the month of August. When Congress returns at the beginning of September, it will only convene only for a brief period, and then recess again allowing members to return to their districts to tend to their November reelection campaigns.

According to *The Hill.com*, "After delaying a vote on a gun control bill this week, GOP leaders told rank-and-file members they plan to adjourn for the long summer recess beginning Thursday, a day earlier than expected."

The Hill.com continued, "The measure currently lacks the votes to pass given divisions among Republicans and widespread Democratic opposition."

department taking to improve recruitment?

By press time Wednesday, the Durham Police Dept. had not responded at all to our written request. Chief Barry Rountree of Winston-Salem consented to an interview, and Jim Sughrue, Public Information Officer with the Raleigh Police Dept. also responded.

Linda Rawley, Public Affairs Officer for the Wilmington Police Department also provided important information about her agency.

"Every district has a community policing element that focuses its work on interacting with community members and addressing their issues," said Sughrue of the RPD, noting that the Southeast District has two. "[Police] Districts conduct efforts designed to reach the community on an ongoing basis, like the 'Coffee with a Cop' program. And the districts host special events for youths and adults through their community policing squads."

Indeed, Raleigh's current police chief, Cassandra Deck-Brown, a black woman, rose to the top after spending many years in community outreach, attending meetings and events, problem-solving and working with both young people and the elderly. So when Raleigh experienced a controversial police shooting last February, it was Chief Deck-Brown the community trusted in, because she took the time to build relationships, to determine the truth. On Monday, Chief Deck-Brown attended several prayer vigils, where she was questioned vigorously, but also warmly received. She told audiences that she believes in accountability for her department.

"We consider proper conduct of our personnel to be both the foundation of a strong community relationship and a strict requirement, and we expect every officer to play a role in continually building the trust and the relationship between the department and the community he or she serves," says Sughrue.

"Chief Deck-Brown has

Please see **POLICING**/Page 3

FOOD LION July 13 - July 19, 2016

2 DAY SALE

FRI & SAT
 SALE STARTS FRI @ 8AM



Hot SALE
1.59
 LB
MVP

Whole Pork 1 Pc. Spare Ribs
 Without MVP Card Regular Retail
Limit 2
 Rest of Week: \$1.79 LB **MVP**



Hot SALE
4.99
 LB
MVP

Snow Crab Clusters
 Without MVP Card \$8.99 LB
Limit 2
 Rest of Week: \$5.99 LB **MVP**



Hot SALE
2 \$3
MVP

15 Oz. - Excludes Beef
Ball Park Meat Franks
 Without MVP Card \$2.39 EA
Limit 4
 Rest of Week: 2/\$4 **MVP**



9.99
 LB
Hot SALE
6.99
 LB
MVP

Nature's Place
Nature's Place Angus New York Strip Steak
 Without MVP Card Regular Retail
U.S.D.A. CHOICE



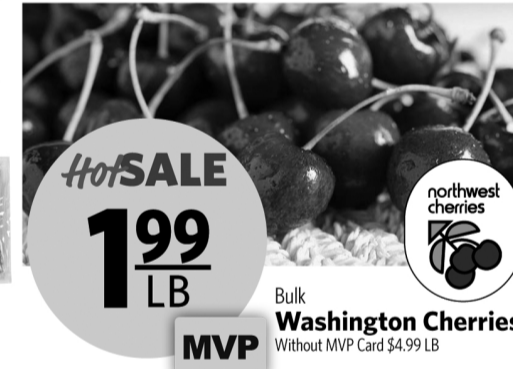
Hot SALE
99¢
 LB
MVP

Family Pack
Food Lion Chicken Drumsticks or Thighs
 Without MVP Card Regular Retail



Hot SALE
2 \$5
MVP

16 Oz. - Regular or Thick
Food Lion Sliced Bacon
 Without MVP Card \$3.49 EA



Hot SALE
1.99
 LB
MVP

Bulk
Washington Cherries
 Without MVP Card \$4.99 LB



WOW!
1.99
 EA
MVP

1 Lb. Container
Strawberries
 WOW Price Every Day



Hot SALE
4 \$1
MVP

Bulk
Yellow or White Corn
 Without MVP Card \$2/86¢

BUY 1 GET 1 FREE
 Fritos or Cheetos
 7-10.5 Oz. - Select Varieties
Cheetos or Fritos Corn Chips
 Without MVP Card \$3.49 EA
Limit 2 Free

MVP SAVINGS CENTER
2 \$5
 -1 off 2
2 \$4
 T.G.I. Friday's Appetizers
 Without MVP Card \$3.99 EA

WOW! 5 \$5
 Chef Boyardee Canned or Microwave Pasta
 7.25-15 Oz. - Select Varieties
Without MVP Card \$1.25 EA

Hot SALE 3 \$10
 Red Baron or Dr. Oetker Pizza
 Without MVP Card Regular Retail

Hot SALE 5.99 EA
 Arm & Hammer Laundry Detergent
 12.5-150 Oz. Liquid or 62 Ct. Power Paks
 13.2 Oz. - Select Varieties
Downy, Gain or Bounce Scent Boosters
 Without MVP Card Regular Retail

BUY 1 GET 1 FREE
 Honey Nut Cheerios, Lucky Charms or Toast Crunch Cereal
 16-18 Oz. - Select Varieties - General Mills
Without MVP Card Regular Retail

Hot SALE 2 \$6
 Breyers Ice Cream
 48 Oz. - Select Varieties
Without MVP Card \$3.99 EA

Low PRICE 2 \$10
 Gatorade
 8 Pack - 20 Oz. Bottles - Select Varieties
Without MVP Card \$6.99 EA

Hot SALE 2 \$5
 Klondike Ice Cream Bars
 4-6 Ct. - Select Varieties
Without MVP Card \$4.29 EA

Hot SALE 2 \$6
 A.1. Steak Sauce
 10 Oz. - Select Varieties
Without MVP Card \$3.79 EA

Hot SALE 99¢ EA
 Kraft Barbecue Sauce
 17.5-18 Oz. - Select Varieties
Without MVP Card \$1.79 EA

WOW! 2 \$4
 Kraft Salad Dressing
 16 Oz. - Select Varieties
Without MVP Card \$2.29 EA

WOW! 2 \$4
 V8 Splash Juice
 64 Oz. - Select Varieties
Without MVP Card \$2.49 EA

GROCERY GIVEAWAY
 V8 Splash Juice
 64 Oz. - Select Varieties
Without MVP Card \$2.49 EA

NBA COMMISSIONER WARNS HB 2 LAW MUST BE REPEALED OR NO ALL-STAR GAME



STATE BRIEFS

[LAS VEGAS, NV] With the Feb. 17th NBA All-Star game just around the corner, NBA Commissioner Adam Silver made it clear this week that even though Charlotte is slated to be awarded the \$100 million event, that won't happen unless the controversial House bill 2 that restricts transgender people to

use the restrooms only based on the gender of their birth certificate is repealed. Silver said the law is "very inconsistent with our values." The legislature declined to repeal HB2 during the recent short session, which ended recently.

STUDY SHOWS ASSAULTS AGAINST POLICE IN NC RARE

[GREENSBORO] According to the State Bureau of Investigation, statistics show that in North Carolina, not only are assaults against law enforcement rare, but have dropped over the past decade, even though the number of

officers has increased. In that state's top five areas according to the SBI - Charlotte, Raleigh, Winston-Salem, Wilmington and Cumberland County - assaults on law enforcement are limited to hands and feet, rarely guns or other weapons.

COOPER IS NOT HAPPY WITH NEW POLICE BODY CAM LAW

[RALEIGH] On Monday, Gov. Pat McCrory signed into law a restrictive law governing footage from police body cameras and dash cameras, making it public only by Superior Court order. McCrory's opponent for reelection, State

Attorney General Roy Cooper, disagrees with the law, saying that the video should be considered public, unless there are special circumstances why it shouldn't be. Republicans rejected amendments to make it so. The law takes hold Oct. 1st.

BLOODS AND CRIPS GANG DECLARE "TRUCE" IN SOUTHEAST RALEIGH

[RALEIGH] Two deadly rival gangs marched together on Quarry Street in Southeast Raleigh Monday night proclaiming that they have declared a truce with one another. Red bandanas and blue bandanas, symbols of the

Bloods and Crips respectively, were held high in the air as community residents, and even personages like Raleigh Police Chief Cassandra Deck-Brown and District Court Judge Vince Rozier, came to see for themselves. Activist Rev. Diana Powell help to bring the two sides together in peace, in hopes that young people in the community would see that Bloods and Crips were killing each other no more.

STATE VOTER ID TRIAL BEGINS SEPT. 26TH

[RALEIGH] While the US Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals continues to mull over

the federal case involving voter ID, a long awaited state voter ID trial is set to begin Sept. 26th in Raleigh. Superior Court Judge Mike Morgan, after considering arguments from the state legislature to dismiss the case, or assign it elsewhere, announced his decision earlier this week. The issue in the state case is whether requiring North Carolina voters to show photo identification is an additional requirement not listed in the state's Constitution. If not, opponents say, it should be disallowed.

COMPILED BY CASH MICHAELS

POLICING

Continued from Page 3

focused recruiters and resources on minorities and women," he continued. "Probably most notable in that regard are the closer connections that have been developed with HBCUs, including campus informational and recruiting visits and the forging of deeper ongoing relationships with professors and the institutions themselves."

Per recent numbers, Black females comprise only 1.84% of sworn officers, while Black males make up only 8.8%. White females are 7.88, but white male are a whopping 75.95% of the Raleigh Police force.

Other aspects of the RPD's community outreach include a plethora of youth oriented programs, working, with the 19 Citizen Advisory Councils, and a series of "Face-to-Face" community meetings with Chief Deck-Brown., among other activities.

In recent years, the Wilmington Police Dept. has seen its share of police shooting controversies, causing friction between the WPD and the black community there.

But according to Linda Rawley, WPD's PIO, the department still invests in community outreach so that can be communication between the two sides.

According to Ms. Rawley, "Our officers receive 8 hours

of State mandatory Minority Sensitivity Training each year as well as a number of de-escalation trainings."

Rawley continued, "We are currently participating in a series of Community Dialogue sessions throughout NHC with the Sheriff's Department and talking with residents in area neighborhoods about police relations. We have had 9 sessions thus far. The next meeting is scheduled for Houston Moore. UNCW facilitates these sessions."

The WPD has a "diverse and expansive" PAL program - Police Activities League that provides athletic programs for youth in our inner city. The "Know Your Rights program was created in 2014 to provide information to citizens on what to do when stopped by an officer and how to file a complaint. The Citizen Review Team is made up of key community volunteers who share recommendations and give input to Chief Evangelous throughout the year. The WPD Citizens Police Academy is offered throughout the year to educate residents on police policies and practices.

"We are currently working to register for the DOJ Implicit Bias Training and hope to bring that to Wilmington in 2017," Ms. Rawley added.

In term of African-American recruitment, WPD's Ms. Rawley says, "11%

NIXON

Continued from Page 1

for by an enthusiastic group of local community members. Many lives will be enriched for the gardeners and all the neighbors passing by will enjoy its beauty.

Intentions are to strengthen the surrounding community and provide produce for gardeners who participate. In addition to the physical and mental benefits of gardening, healthy nutritious food will be produced, giving commu-

of our force is black. In an effort to recruit qualified applicants who reflect the service population, members of the Professional Development Unit attended 17 recruiting events for the calendar year of 2015. The venues attended included; State Colleges, HBCUs and Universities, Military Installations, and local events. Development staff interacted with more than 148 individuals at recruiting events."

In Winston Salem, community policing is also seen as an asset.

Headed by Chief Barry D. Rountree, the WSPD is a force of approximately 570 sworn officers. The WSPD's community policing effort, headed by the Community Resources Unit, boasts of such programs

nity members unwavering access to fresh fruits, herbs, and vegetables.

In honor of Annie Nixon, Wilmington Green has organized a ceremony at 914 Dock Street, Wilmington NC on July 14th. The ceremony will begin at 10:00 a.m. with a ribbon cutting followed by an offering of fresh dishes prepared from vegetables grown in the garden.

In the occurrence of inclement weather, the ceremony will be rescheduled for July 21, 2016.

Wilmington Green, is an unincorporated nonprofit

association that seeks to develop a model for creating sustainable community gardens with community place making features. Wilmington Green's mission is to establish and maintain sustainable (lasting) community gardens with emphasis on place making to improve the health, happiness, and well-being of our gardeners and to strengthen the fabric of their neighborhood and our city.

Feast Down East, also known as the Southeastern North Carolina Food Systems Program (SENCFS), is a nonprofit established in early

2006 in order to join public and private agencies together to create a local and regional food system that supports local farmers; increases the sales of local farm products; educates consumers and the public on the importance of 'buying local'; and sustains and expands farm employment, profit, and ownership, particularly among limited-resource farmers. UNCW is the lead agent for SENCFS. The Feast Down East Processing & Distribution Center is a USDA designated Food Hub. www.feastdowneast.org

police department is concerned, it works well because it shows the community that we are willing to work with the public, and have a good relationship."

"Everything that we do it takes community cooperation. And by forging those relationships, and reaching out, it works better for us when there is a crisis or when we need information about a crime, or whatever it may be."

"It just makes the community a better place for everybody - police officers and citizens," Chief Rountree said.

Rountree has been police chief for three years, but a police officer for 29 years. He says the force has a "pretty good" relationship with the African-American community, which unofficially stands around 12 percent. One of the

areas he has been working to improve is recruiting more blacks to the force, and the department has employed a number of outreach efforts to do that through churches, etc.

It's when tragic events like the police shootings in Baton Rouge and St. Paul take place, that Rountree feels some citizens take it out on his officers, even though they obviously had no part in those incidents. That needs to be addressed, and a greater bond of trust must be developed between all sides.

"We all have to come together to sit down and understand what the issues are, without assuming what they are," Chief Rountree said. "We can do a better job of educating the public, reaching out, and working with the public."

know

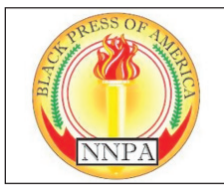
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THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

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

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

Our Voice

GUEST EDITORIAL

BLACKONOMICS

Requiem for Black people

(Via George Curry Media)

Lorenzo Collins, Michael Carpenter, Roger Owensby Jr., Timothy Thomas, Amadou Diallo, Patrick Dorismond, Kenneth Walker, Sean Bell, Timothy Russell, Kimani Gray, Ezzell Ford, John Crawford, Tahir Rice, Oscar Grant, Eric Garner, Kajieme Powell, Malissa Williams, Vonderitt Myers, Dante Parker, Michael Brown, Tyisha Miller, Trayvon Martin, Dontre Hamilton, Tony Robinson, Jason Harrison, Martin Hall, Bettie Jones, Tanisha Anderson, Yvette Smith, Sandra Bland, Matthewe Ajibade, Eric Harris, Keith Childress, Kevin Matthews, Leroy Browning, Gus Rugley, Ray Smoot, Roy Nelson, Miguel Espinal, Jonny Gammage, Nathaniel Pickett, Cornelius Brown, Tiara Thomas, Chandra Weaver, Jamar Clark, Richard Perkins, Akai Gurley, Stephen Tooson, Michael Lee Marshall, Alonzo Smith, Anthony Ashford, Lamontez Jones, India Kager, Samuel DuBose, Felix Kumi, Walter Scott, Billie Ray Davis, Darrius

Stewart, Albert Davis, Jonathan Sanders, Spencer McCain, Freddie Gray, Eric Harris, Charly "Africa" Keunang, Emerson Clayton, Jr., Tommy Yancy, Jerame C. Reid, Corey Tanner, Zikarious Flint, David Andre Scott, Emmanuel Jean-Baptiste, Victor White III, Matthew Walker, Darrien Nathaniel Hunt, Jeremy Lake, Laquan McDonald, Denzel Ford, Pierre Loury, Cedrick Chatman, Alton Sterling, Philando Castille... I could go on, but I am sure you get the point.

"I feared for my life" "He reached for his waistband." "I saw something shiny." "He ran." "He made eye contact with me." "He fit the description." "He resisted." "He threatened me." "He didn't comply." "He would not put the brick down." "He would not put the knife down." "He weighed 400 pounds." "My hand got caught in the steering wheel." "He dragged me with the car." "He lunged at me." "My gun accidentally went off." "I thought I was firing my Taser." "He was acting strangely." "He was holding a screwdriver when he came to the door." "He had a broom when he came to the door." "He was armed with a soup spoon." "He had a prescription pill bottle in his pocket but I thought it was a gun." "He had a BB gun." "He had a toy pellet gun." "He was obese." "He kept saying 'I can't breathe' so we knew he was still breathing." "The stairwell was dark." "He behaved like a thug." "He was wearing a hoodie." "After he survived a car accident, he approached us with empty hands." "He was running toward us but we shot him in the back." "He did not comply within 2 seconds." "He shot himself while being handcuffed behind his back, with a gun that we did not find when we searched him."

"Our hearts go out to the families." "Our prayers and thoughts are with the family." "This can never happen again." "He could have been my son." "R.I.P." "Our condolences go out." "She could have been our daughter." "It's a tragic and sad day for our nation." "We shall overcome." "This has to stop." "We cannot rush to judgment." "We must wait until the investigation is over." "Let the process work." "The video does not tell the whole story of what happened." "We are all saddened by this tragic event." "Our hearts grieve with this family." "They don't get up in the morning saying, 'I am going to kill a Black man today.'" "They want to go home at night." "All police officers are not bad." "The vast majority of officers are good." "Let's not indict all officers because of the actions of one or two." "Black lives matter." "Blue lives matter." "All lives matter." "This is not a Black problem; it's an American problem." "No justice no peace." "Nonviolence is the answer." "We need a national conversation on police violence." "I found no evidence to indict the officer(s)." "It's Ok Mommy; It's Ok, I'm right here with you."

These acts are heinous, horrific, terrible, irresponsible, immoral, reprehensible, indefensible, unconscionable, unacceptable, horrifying, shocking, frightening, inhumane, uncivilized, animalistic, disgraceful, shameful, inexcusable, insulting, depraved, shameless, cowardly, outrageous, scandalous, dishonorable, discreditable, appalling, dreadful, irrefutable, atrocious, unspeakable, ludicrous, indecent, disreputable, brutal, wicked, offensive, brazen, unabashed, gutless, spineless, odious, awful, revolting, blatant, and sinful. Black people are disgusted, dismayed, outraged, fuming, livid, irate, sickened, revolted, repulsed, repelled, offended, affronted, hurt, scared, tenuous, intimidated, fearful, incensed, enraged, nauseated, injured, disrespected, tired, sick and tired, and angry.

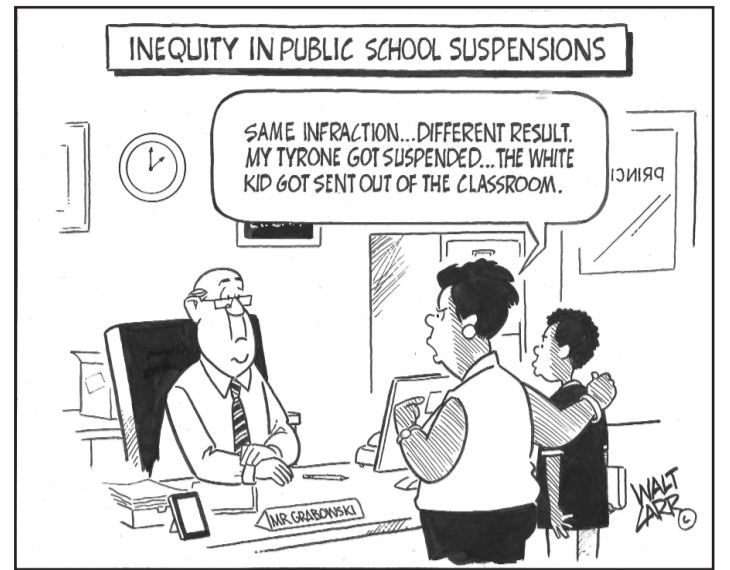
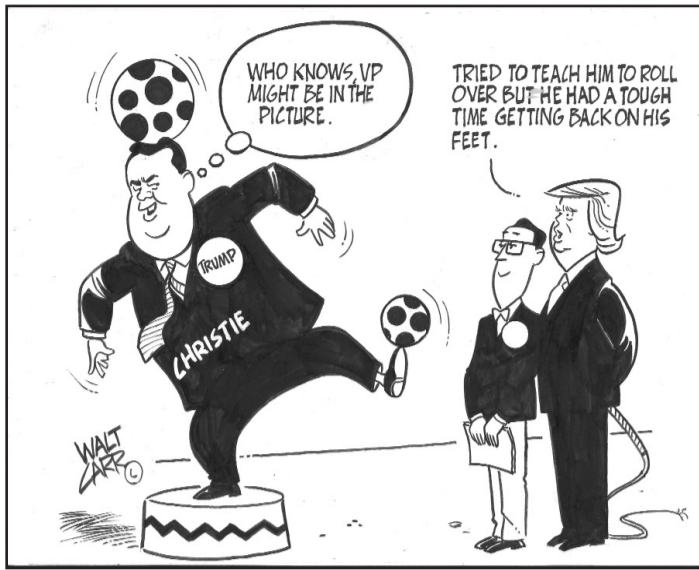
After everything is said and done, much is said and little is done. Our words are like a needle on a scratched record - we are stuck, and we keep repeating the same thing over and over again. If you are conscious and conscientious, join the One Million in Atlanta, Georgia, on August 19-21, 2016 and this time let's take appropriate action to deal with these horrendous times in which we live. www.iamoneofthemillion.com

(At press time, five police officers in Dallas were killed and seven were injured by a Black man who was tired of and angry over Black people being killed by police. Pray for their families, too.)

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.



James Clingman



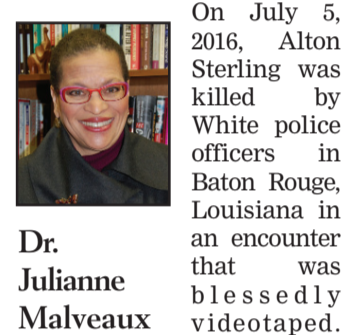
Visual Voice

Matters of Opinion

Recent police shootings show our nation's hypocrisy

(Via NNPA News Wire)

Just a day after millions of Americans celebrated the "Fourth of You Lie," our nation got more evidence of the lie we live when we "celebrate" freedom.



Dr. Julianne Malveaux

On July 5, 2016, Alton Sterling was killed by White police officers in Baton Rouge, Louisiana in an encounter that was blessedly videotaped. The footage showed a man being shot, even as he was down on the ground. A day later, on July 6, 2016, Philando Castile was shot four times as he attempted to comply with a police officer's request to provide identification. Diamond Reynolds, his fiancé, videotaped the encounter, as her 4 year-old daughter sat in the backseat.

If patriotic fireworks make you feel warm and fuzzy about our nation, these two videos ought to be enough to throw ice water on them. I am chilled, disgusted, and angered at yet more senseless killings of Black men by police officers, 136 so far this year (about 25.3 percent of all police killings). You ought to read Frederick Douglass' speech and understand why those videos leave me with cold antipathy for "my country." Many things have changed since he delivered this oratorical masterpiece in 1852. Many things have not.

Watching Philando Castile's

blood seep from his body reminds me of our nation's hypocrisy, and of Douglass' searing words:

"What, to the American slave, is your 4th of July? I answer; a day that reveals to him, more than all other days in the year, the gross injustice and cruelty to which he is the constant victim. To him, your celebration is a sham; your boasted liberty, an unholy license; your national greatness, swelling vanity; your sound of rejoicing are empty and heartless; your denunciation of tyrants brass fronted impudence; your shout of liberty and equality, hollow mockery; your prayers and hymns, your sermons and thanksgivings, with all your religious parade and solemnity, are to him, mere bombast, fraud, deception, impiety, and hypocrisy - a thin veil to cover up crimes which would disgrace a nation of savages."

Indeed, while there is talk of fighting the terrorism of ISIS, when will we fight the terrorism that too many African Americans experience? If a law-abiding person with a right to carry a gun (Hello, National Rifle Association) can be killed because his taillight is busted, that's terrorism, defined as the use of violence and intimidation in pursuit of political aim. The aim is the maintenance of White supremacy "lite." It dictates "the talk" all young African American men get from their dads (White men don't have to have the talk because they aren't the victims of violence and intimidation). It explains the fear and mistrust between so called law enforcement officers and the African American community.

It is a gut-wrenching reminder that, black President or not, it is still important to assert that Black Lives Matter.

Diamond Reynolds is a woman of amazing grace and courage. She had the foresight to use Facebook to livestream what happened after her fiancé, Philando Castile, was shot four times in Falcon Heights, Minnesota. She had the composure to respond with civility and respect, and in a level tone of voice, to the hysterical human being masquerading as a police officer who shot Mr. Castile. She had the presence of mind to remind the officer that Castile had indicated that he had a conceal carry permit for a weapon before he reached into his jacket to provide the identification that had been demanded.

If you had a heart, the ten-minute video would break it at least a dozen times. I know that when the officer barked at Ms. Reynolds to get out of the car and get on her knees, my stomach lurched and I cried out in outrage. After witnessing an execution, and clearly not armed, why was Diamond Reynolds forced onto her knees and handcuffed? Did that sick White police officer think he was a god that had to be knelt to, paid homage to? He already had a license to kill. I guess a badge also gives you a license to humiliate. Diamond Reynolds had done nothing wrong. The police, surely, had a right to detain her as a material witness to Philando Castile's murder. They also claimed the right to demean her and to deny Philando Castile's relatives the right to identify his body the morning after his death.

I am, oh, so weary of these police killings, and all the more weary of our nation's hate, hubris, and hypocrisy. I am weary of the attempts, already, to discuss Alton Sterling's criminal record. And I will be weary of the conversation that will ensue as these murders are investigated and as the so-called police officers are not prosecuted, because there was "reasonable doubt" that they "intended" to kill.

In the wake of Michael Brown's murder, President Obama appointed the Task Force on 21st Century Policing. A year ago, they submitted a report that talked about issues like trust between police officers and communities, and "best practices" for police officers. Nearly fifty years ago, President Lyndon Johnson appointed a similar commission, the 1967 President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice. In their report, "The Challenge of Crime in a Free Society," one of the major findings stated, "Officials of the criminal justice system... must re-examine what they do. They must be honest about the system's shortcomings with the public and with themselves." Not much has changed in 50 years. Too many police officers are guided by hate and hubris, and protected by hypocrisy, and too many Black men are the "collateral damage" of our broken system.

Julianne Malveaux is an author and economist based in Washington, D.C. Her latest offering "Are We Better Off? Race, Obama and Public Policy" is available via Julian.nemalveaux.com or Amazon.com.

CASH IN THE APPLE

Let's get to the truth, shall we?

Since this is supposed to be media column (though I will be the first to admit that I do stray into other areas at time),

there can be little argument that the news we see and read greatly affects, informs, and yes, even misinforms what we know about our world today.

Take last week, for example. By all accounts, a horrendous, emotional week that highlighted two controversial police shootings of black men, and tragically, the assassination of five brave police officers in Dallas, Texas who were protecting a demonstration and march against police violence.

America was clearly not displaying its' best face last week.

Now we had controversial police killings of black men before, and sadly, we've also had black suspects responsible for killing police officers. But what was very different about last week is that these events literally happened, and were headlined virtually one day after another, in effect causing all traditional sides of the "race in America" argument recalibrate their traditional stances almost be the moment.

That's not to say that anyone black with any sense wants to see police officers killed. Of course not. Christian-centered leaders like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. always warned us that "an eye for eye" is nonproductive, and nothing good ever really comes out of violence.

And it's also not to suggest that just because you're white and right-wing, you necessarily want to see black men killed, though some, I'm sure, can make an argument that past conservative pronouncements and public policy rarely expressed much love or concern for the plight of African-American males, let alone black people in this country.

But listening to the punditry in the aftermath of the deaths of Alton Sterling in Baton Rouge, La., Philando Castile in St. Paul, Minn., and the five Dallas officers mercilessly gunned in that Texas city last Thursday evening, while much of the discussion in the media was clearly restrained, and justifiably so as wisely requested by Pres. Obama in his reaction, there were still those who felt the need to wage a war of words because as far as they were concerned, the other side of "Americans" are the enemy, always have

been the enemy, and always will be the enemy, so let's damn them every chance we get."

Here's the problem...when I watched MSNBC and CNN, I heard at least a balance of measured, reactionary voices from both sides. Fox News, the "We hate Black Lives Matters no matter what" cable network, some of the most vicious, evil lies possible were spewing from people like conservative host Sean Hannity and various guests.

But part of what troubled me greatly was hearing from many in or close to the law enforcement community who appeared on these channels. As in the past after a police killing of a black citizen under suspicious circumstances, almost to a person, many of these representatives were saying, "Our job is to put our lives on the line to protect you, and your job as citizens is to love and support us no matter what." They go one to collectively say, "Yeah, yeah, once in a while one of us may screw-up. That's going to happen. But like former New York Rudy Giuliani says, black people need us the police, or else they can learn to live without us and see how far they last."

You also have those who go so far as to blame Pres. Obama for being anti-police just because he expresses sympathy for the victims of

police abuse, while at the same time support for good policing. They also hate Obama for embracing the Black Lives Matter movement, as certainly a Republican president would if one was in office right now.

So when I heard right-wingers doing their best to force a further divide between the black community and the police, and make it seem as if brave officers who leave their homes and families every day to protect and serve are not appreciated, I knew instinctively they were wrong.

Ever been to a National Night Out event in the black community? Ever been to a block party in the black community? How about a carnival or festival at a local park or recreation center? Did you ever notice how many cops there were at each of these events, walking around, saying hello to the people, sharing a laugh or having a neighbor fix a plate of food for the officers?

Hard to share a slice of homemade pound cake and Dixie Cup of Kool-Aid with a police officer who only stays in his/her patrol car watching the festivities from up the block.

And what about communi-

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ty meetings about crime in the neighborhood? Are the right-wingers on TV telling me that there is no positive interaction between residents and police officers then?

And the one that has never left my mind...the summer of July, 1997 just this week, when a young drug dealer fatally shot a white Raleigh police detective in a Southeast Raleigh driveway, and then drove away leaving the officer on the ground to die.

Raleigh police put on a man-hunt like none other, and they caught drug dealer and put him in prison. I covered that story, and I'll never forget authorities

crediting the people of that neighborhood for calling in valuable tips that led to his capture.

Those people detested that an officer was killed, and they wanted to help all they could, and they did. I have no doubt the black community would do the same thing today.

Yes, truth to told, most law enforcement officers are decent individuals who have a firm dedication to upholding the law and protecting the public. And, as I've indicated above, our community does honor them, and thank them, and yea, appreciate them. We need them. We have too many elderly people who need protection; too many young people who deserve safe neighborhoods, and too many families that want to know they will have good futures.

But what the right-wingers refuse to get is when a 12-year-old black boy is shot to death by police in Ohio because they didn't take the time to determine he was playing with a plastic gun in an open carry state, or a grown man is strangled to death by five officers on a Staten Island street corner just because he was selling loose cigarettes, or a young woman goes to Texas to start a job, is jailed, and days later is found dead in her cell with little explanation.... and the legal system we're all supposed to obey does NOT punish any of these officers for these acts, making them, in effect, above the law, then history tells us there is no justice.

And that is supposed to be perfectly fine to some folks.

Tell you what...if we're going to have a dialogue about

these age-old pressing problems in our nation, let's have an open, honest one, with all of the cards on the table. The black community needs good, fully trained, honest cops on our streets. For the most part, that's what we get. But when we see what are supposed to be the good cops covering, or making excuses for the bad ones, that sends a chill through all of us regarding trust. When we see a criminal justice system literally offer protections for bad cops that the average citizen could never get, that chill becomes fear. And soon, many of us are afraid to allow our teenage kids out of the house for fear that they too will become the next tragic national headline.

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CURRY'S COMMENTS

The false dichotomy between supporting police or legitimate protest

(Via George Curry Media)

If Micah Xavier Johnson's goal was to support people in Dallas who were protesting the fatal police shootings of Alton Sterling in Baton Rouge, La. and Philando Castile in Falcon Heights, Minn., he failed miserably.

Not only did he not advance the cause by killing five law enforcement officers, his deadly action was the catalyst for the public discussion to dramatically shift from videotaped police misconduct to the dangers of policing in America.

The news media, which had been giving extensive coverage to the deaths of Alton Sterling and Philando Castile, quickly shifted gears and focused almost exclusively on the police attacks in Dallas, filling the airwaves with touching individual profiles and extolling the virtues of police officers who ran toward danger to protect the public instead of retreating to safety.

The stories of heroism deserved to be told. But so did the unfolding stories behind the deaths of Philando Castile and Alton Sterling. The media coverage mirrored a larger dilemma: American's were being told in no uncertain terms that they had to pick sides - they were either on the side of police officers or the side of protesters.

It's a false dichotomy - one can be supportive of police while also supporting protests against police misconduct. And, as we saw in the news coverage, whenever one is pitted against the other, the police will win every time. And they certainly will win when the killer is Black and all of the victims are White.

The moment the news flashed across television that someone was firing on police officers in Dallas, the natural reflex in Black America was to say: "I hope that person isn't Black." African Americans know how differently Blacks and Whites are perceived in America.

When 12 people were killed in a movie theater in Aurora, Col., it was blamed on the shooter, James Holmes. Adam Lanza was identified as the killer of 20 first-graders and six educators at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn. Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold were fingered as the killers of 13 at Columbine High School in Colorado. Dylan Storm Roof killed nine Black church worshippers in Charleston, S.C. And Timothy McVeigh was put to death for masterminding the explosion of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City that left 168 people dead and more than 600 injured.

However, when a Black individual does something reprehensible, too often that guilt immediately gets assigned to all Blacks, not the individual committing the dastardly act.

President Obama addressed that point at a news conference in Warsaw, Poland.

"The demented individual who carried out those attacks in Dallas, he's no more representative of African Americans than the shooter in Charleston was representative of White Americans, or the shooter in Orlando or San Bernardino were representative of Muslim Americans," he said. "They don't speak for us. That's not who we are."

Conservatives were quick to blame the president, who was 4,480 miles away at the time, for the Dallas rampage.

Rep. Roger Williams (R-Texas) said, "The spread of misinformation and constant instigation by prominent leaders, including our president, have contributed to the modern day hostility we are witnessing between the police and those they serve. As a result, today we are seeing one of the noblest professions condemned by those who could benefit the most."

As the Washington Post observed in a headline, "Police are Safer under Obama than they have been in Decades."

The story noted, "But the simplistic and inflammatory notion of a 'war on cops' is completely undercut by one fundamental data point: Intentional attacks on police officers are at historically low levels under President Obama."

"Data from the Officers Down Memorial Page, which tracks law enforcement officer fatalities in real time, illustrates the point. During the Reagan years, for instance, an average of 101 police officers were intentionally killed each year. Under George H.W. Bush that number fell to 90. It fell further, to 81 deaths per year, under Bill Clinton, and to 72 deaths per year under George W. Bush."

"Under Obama, the average number of police intentionally killed each year has fallen to its lowest level yet - an average of 62 deaths annually through 2015."

Meanwhile, the number of people killed by police is up in the first six months of this year, from 465 in the first six months of 2015 to 481 over a similar period this year.

It's not just a case of driving while Black. African Americans run the risk of being killed when simply breathing while Black, as Washington Post columnist Jonathan Capehart so vividly recounted.

He wrote, "A broken taillight can get you killed (Philando Castile). Selling CDs outside a convenience store can get you killed (Alton Sterling). Selling loose cigarettes can get you killed (Eric Garner). Playing in a park with a toy gun can get you killed (Tamir Rice). Shopping in a Walmart can get you killed (John Crawford III). A missing license plate can get you killed (Samuel DuBose). Worshipping in your church can get you killed (the Mother Emanuel nine). A routine traffic stop can get you shot (Levar Jones) or killed (Sandra Bland, Walter Scott). And as every African American knows, a routine traffic stop is never routine when you're black."

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

MICHAELS

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Make no mistake, our community does not, and will not condone the ungodly, hateful and deadly actions of the lone Dallas gunman who senselessly slaughtered five brave police officers who were protecting the rights of demonstrators. And we certainly pray for their families.

Those brave officers weren't the problem. But those who feel that they are above the law they are sworn to enforce, and take innocent black lives in the process, with impunity, are. Until our

system of justice fairly deals with them, we will be seeing a lot more tragedy on all sides, and Lord knows we ne no more.

Cash in the Apple - honored as the Best Column Writing of 2006 by the National Newspaper Publishers Association. Columnist Cash Michaels was also honored by the NNPA for Best Feature Story Journalist of 2009, and was the recipient of the Raleigh-Apex NAACP's President's Award for Media Excellence in Sept. 2011.

Until next week, keep a smile on your face, GOD in your heart, and The Wilmington Journal in your life. Bye, bye.

Enemies of the people

(Via George Curry Media)

In the hours before the 25-year-old Army veteran Micah Johnson launched his, in the words of President Obama, "vicious, calculated and despicable" attack on White officers of the Dallas police force, something simultaneously remarkable and ordinary occurred.

Department officials took advantage of the peacefulness of the early-evening demonstration there - organized to protest the killings of two Black men by non-Black police officers in Louisiana and Minnesota - to post pictures of it.

"Men, women, boys & girls gathered @BeloGarden Park for the demonstration re: recent police involved shootings" read the caption to one photo that in other circumstances might have suggested a crowd gathered for an evening outdoor music concert.

Who could have imagined those photos would within hours become part of the evidence of what Johnson sought to destroy - the attempt in Dallas to find a pathway out of a troubled past and a difficult present to mutual trust and cooperation.

Johnson's murderous rampage that took the lives of five White officers was the work of an enemy of the people. He wasn't acting "on behalf of" Black Americans in any way. Instead, he was acting out the demons within him he could

no longer even partially control. It is striking and revealing that he acted amid a demonstration that had shown police, whose task was to keep order, and a multiracial throng protesting instances of police wrongdoing could occupy the same space respectfully.

Just 12 months ago, much of America was horrified by another murderous rampage, committed by Dylann Roof, Micah Johnson's mirror image across the color line.

Johnson apparently held some mumbo-jumbo Black separatist notions and declared he wanted to kill White people, especially White cops. Roof, trying to find an excuse for his sense of worthlessness, latched on to the pathetic ideology of White supremacy and talked of wanting to start a race war. Johnson, armed with a semi-automatic rifle, hid under the cover of night in a downtown garage to snipe at police officers whom a day of peace had given no reason to suspect trouble.

Roof chose a house of worship to commit his crime against humanity, concealing his true intentions behind a meek countenance and the welcoming embrace of the congregants of Charleston, S.C.'s Emanuel AME Church.

After this latest tragedy, it would be easy to surrender to the dynamic of hatred and violence and despair swirling furiously in American society.

One could note the vile cover the New York Post posted even before Dallas police officials had finished securing the crime scene there. "Civil War," it screamed - giving vent to the eternal fear-fantasy of White racists of a "Black uprising" against White people.

And one could note the bel-

lowing Twitter rant of Joe Wilson, the former Congressman who infamously yelled "You lie!" to President Obama during his first State of the Union address. Even as the gunfire between Johnson and Dallas police was still raging, Wilson, now a semi-obscure radio talk-show jockey, tweeted that Obama was "cop-hater" and "This is now war: Watch out Obama."

And one could note the revealing reactions of the National Rifle Association to the police involved killings of Alton B. Sterling, in Louisiana and Philando Castile and the Dallas massacre.

The NRA's statement, issued soon after the Dallas gunman had been killed, expressed the "deep anguish all of us feel for the heroic Dallas law enforcement officers who were killed and wounded, as well as to those who so bravely ran toward danger to defend the city and the people of Dallas. With heavy hearts, NRA members honor their heroism and offer our deepest condolences to all of their families."

What the NRA had to say about the two other tragedies was starkly different. It was completely silent about Alton Sterling's death. Nor could the NRA leadership bring itself to even mention the name of Philando Castile - who was licensed to carry a gun and, according to his girlfriend, Diamond Reynolds, had told the police officer who was to shoot him to death that he had a gun in his car.

Instead, the brief NRA statement meekly read: "... the NRA proudly supports the right of law-abiding Americans to carry firearms for defense of themselves and others regardless of race,

Healing after trauma in Baton Rouge and Falcon Heights, Minn.

(Via George Curry Media)

Thanks to technology, and social media, in the last week alone, we have seen the life, literally, ooze out of the bodies of two African American men. We have seen two African American women, dazed and in shock. Then, I saw Cameron. He is the 15-year old



Glenn Ellis

son of Alton Sterling. Cameron has watched, like most of us, his father shot, seemingly unarmed, while on the ground restrained by two Baton Rouge, La. police officers. His crime? Wrong place, wrong time. Alton was selling CDs in front of a convenience store, when the two officers responded to a 911 call, by a homeless man, that Alton had pulled a gun on him.

The resulting altercation between Alton and the police ended with Alton dead from several gunshots. After a natural death the family of the deceased can begin the process of mourning, the family of a murder victim may be left with a hollow feeling. They may realize that no amount of punishment given to the murderer can relieve their sorrow or bring the victim back to life.

Events that once brought a family together - holidays,

birthdays, anniversaries - become reminders of loss. The internalized grief felt by most men, and many women, may precipitate a variety of serious illnesses. Research shows that some who survive the violent murder of a loved one soon follows them to the grave. I pray for Cameron, who from the video of him breaking down, will, at the very least, go through life as a victim of Post-Traumatic Stress Syndrome (PTSD).

It has been stated that PTSD may represent "one of the most severe and incapacitating forms of human stress known." Traumatic stress encompasses exposure to events or the witnessing of events that are extreme and/or life threatening. Traumatic exposure may be brief in duration (e.g., witnessing a murder) or involve prolonged, repeated exposure (e.g., sexual abuse). The means of death notification can influence a survivor's development of PTSD. Facebook and the internet didn't help in this regard.

How do you heal this young boy's heart and mind?

Violence claims two victims, the person or people victimized and the community or loved ones that experiences trauma, fear, and stress. Each year in the United States, millions of residents fall victim to violent crime, which also causes fear and stress to neighbors, children, and other community members.

The chances that young men who experience trauma

in their neighborhood will end up in jail are astronomically high, studies show. Studies have also shown a high correlation between neighborhood disorder and physical abuse.

According to the National Association for Mental Illness, some 70 percent of youths in state and local juvenile justice facilities suffer from mental health problems - part of a broader trend of prisons and jails becoming warehouses for the mentally ill. These youths are in many cases cut off from mental health care and from their communities and families; an untold number will be released back into society as hardened, unstable adults.

Studies show that, overall, about 8 percent of Americans suffer from PTSD at some point in their lives. But the rates appear to be much higher in communities - such as poor, largely African American pockets of Detroit, Atlanta, Chicago, and Philadelphia - where high rates of violent crime have persisted despite a national decline.

A growing number of programs treat post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) in war veterans. But far fewer treat Americans who suffer from the PTSD that comes with their ZIP code. And this kind of PTSD may be affecting even more people.

For most people, untreated PTSD will not lead to violence. But "there's a subgroup of people who are at risk, in the wrong place, at the wrong

time, of reacting in a violent way or an aggressive way, that they might not have if they had had their PTSD treated," according to Dr. Kerry Ressler, a medical investigator and psychiatrist, who studied this issue extensively.

Researchers at Drexel University in Philadelphia found that people with symptoms of PTSD may be more likely to carry a weapon in order to "restore feelings of safety."

Cameron represents yet another generation of African Americans growing up with resentment and mistrust for police, with an uphill climb.

Remember, I'm not a doctor: I just sound like one. DISCLAIMER: The information included in this column is for educational purposes only. It is not intended nor implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice. The reader should always consult his or her healthcare provider to determine the appropriateness of the information for their own situation or if they have any questions regarding a medical condition or treatment plan.) Glenn Ellis, is a regular media contributor on Health Equity and Medical Ethics. He is the author of Which Doctor?, and Information is the Best Medicine. Listen to him every Saturday at 9 a.m. (EST) on www.900amwurd.com, and Sundays at 8:30 a.m. (EST) on www.wdasfm.com. For more good health information, visit: glennellis.com.

New Hanover County

Community Services Block Grant Program at Eastern Carolina Human Services Agency, Inc. is now accepting applications for Onslow, Duplin and New Hanover Counties, Monday- Friday from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Onslow County call 910-347-2151, Duplin County call 910-285-5331 and New Hanover County call 910-762-0010.



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.

Community Briefs

The New Hanover NAACP monthly meeting will be held Thursday, July 28th at 7:00 p.m. at St. Stephen AME Church, 501 Red Cross St. Members and friends are encourage to attend. For more information call 910-765-0102 or email nhnaacp@gmail.com.

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.

Pender County

Pender County Training School-South Pender High Alumni Association, Inc., will hold their 2016 School Reunion Cookout on Friday, July 1st from 11:00 a.m.- until at PCTS/SPH Museum and Community Resource Center, 1814 Shaw Highway, Rocky Point, NC and Saturday, July 2nd the banquet will be held at Hampton Inn, 2320 S. 17th St., Wilmington, NC.

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

HOMETOWN NEWS FROM BRUNSWICK COUNTY

Vacation Bible School 2016 at Saint John's Missionary Baptist

Vacation Bible School was held at St. John's Missionary Baptist Church in Bolivia, where the pastor is Pastor Quan K. R. Stewart. Vacation Bible School program is for all children and adults in the community. Joy is learning more about the Bible everywhere and all the time. Our Vacation Bible School was held this year from June 27, through July 06, 2016 in the dining room of the church. There was fun for all ages. Snacks were served, and the participants enjoyed taking part in different games and activities. The Saint John Van Ministry was available and helped provide transportation for those who needed it.



Verniece Stanley

We started every day with a pledge to the following three

flags: Pledge to the Christian Flag: "I pledge allegiance to the Christian Flag and to the Savior for whose kingdom it stands, one Savior; crucified, risen, and coming again with life and liberty to all who believe." Pledge to the American Flag: "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, with liberty and justice for all." Pledge to the Holy Bible: "I pledge allegiance to the Bible, God's Holy Word. I will make it a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path and will hide its words my heart that I might not sin against God."

The devotionals were led each evening by the following classes and leaders: Monday - Adult Class - The Reverend Helen Boynton; Tuesday - Teens - Brother Allen Smith; Wednesday - Older Elementary Students - Sister Shenicka Smith; Thursday - Younger Elementary Students - Sister Sylvia Ford; Friday -

Pre-schoolers - Mother Lizzette Smith

The Weekly Memory Verses came primarily from Psalm 100. "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands! Serve the Lord with gladness: Come before His presence with singing. Know ye that the Lord He is God: it is He that hath made us and not we ourselves; we are His people and the sheep of His pasture. Enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him and bless His name. For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting; and His truth endureth to all generations."

We offer our thanks to all who helped make Vacation Bible School a great success! The summer camp is in the process of being completed at the church. There will be children present from other communities in Bolivia. Each child will be expected to obey the strict rules and regulations inside and outside of the

building. It will possible for each child to get individual attention and the feeling of being a part of summer camp. It's very helpful for everyone in the camp to enjoy a good working relationship with one another. Obeying rules is very significant to achieving good behavior.

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.

Kayleigh A. Taylor honor graduate

CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE

Kayleigh Ann-Gerrie Taylor graduated from Pine Forest High School on June 9, 2016. She graduated with a 4.5 GPA and was listed as an outstanding senior. Special designations for Kayleigh include: honor graduate, National Honor Society member, North Carolina Academic Scholars, academically/intellectually gifted and received music honor as being selected concert mistress as the first chair violinist.

Kayleigh received a scholarship from the Teacher's State Employees Credit Union in the amount of \$10,000. She also received a \$2,000.00 from the Junior League of Fayetteville, NC.

Kayleigh will attend East Carolina University in the Fall of 2016.

Kayleigh is the daughter of



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
KAYLEIGH
ANN-GERRIE TAYLOR

Kenneth and Rada Taylor. She is the granddaughter of William and the late Geraldine Crummy; also Herbert and the late Elizabeth Taylor.

Support The Port Foundation, Inc, Cape Fear Habitat for Humanity and The Community Boys & Girls Club Inc. present Community Alumni Clean Up

(Wilmington, NC) -Support The Port Foundation Inc., Community Boys & Girls Club(CBGC), and Cape Fear Habitat for Humanity, will host a Community Alumni Clean Up for the Community Boys & Girls Club on Saturday, July 16th located at 906 Fanning St. from 8:00am to 11am. The Community Alumni Cleanup is conducted and supported by concerned and proud citizens and organ-

izations of Wilmington and have a strong passion for youth and the Community Boys & Girls Club.

Citizens and organizations are invited to come out to help improve the environment that local children grow up and play in. Programs like the Community Boys & Girls Club have positively impacted the lives of hundreds of kids around Wilmington. Support the Port's Founder Cedric

Harrison was a former member of CBGC in Wilmington and in an effort to demonstrate his commitment to youth leadership and development as well as to show appreciation of the service and mentorship given by the organization is leading the way to organize improvements to the 906 Fanning St center. This event will include free food and drinks provided for all volunteers by the

Community Boys & Girls Club's own Chef Tony. This community cleanup is also supported in partnership with Cape Fear Habitat for Humanity. Other organizations are also sought to partner by way of donating time, cleaning equipment and supplies, or monetary contributions to help purchase items, as well as to hire a landscaping company for ongoing maintenance.

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Message paid for by Duke Energy shareholders

Michael D. Lucas

Michael Dean Lucas was born on August 25, 1953 to the late Frederick Lucas and Hazel Lucas in Onslow County. He quietly passed into eternity on July 6, 2016 at home.

He was educated in the Onslow County School System and graduated from Jacksonville Sr. High School in 1971. He graduated from Miller-Mott College and attended UNCW. Michael was employed with Occidental Chemical Company for over 28 years. He also had his own business "Auto Brokers". His love and hobby was working with cars and cooking.

Michael suffered with Alzheimer's Disease at an early age. He loved the Lord and church. Worshipping and singing in the choir with many churches. He was a devoted and active member of New Covenant Holiness Church until his declining health. In addition to singing in the choir, Michael was a trustee and served on various committees.

Michael was a loving son, husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend. He was preceded in death by his father Frederick Lucas.

Michael leaves to cherish his memories his wife of thirty-eight years, Rachel Lucas of the home; three sons, Juan Lucas (Shamon), Ryan Lucas and Justin Lucas of Wilmington, NC; his mother, Hazel Lucas of Washington, DC; grandchildren, Ty Lucas of Southport, NC and Zanetta Mitchell of Wilmington, NC; sister, Allison Ogden of California; brother, Samuel Lucas of Berkeley, California; brother-in-law, Alton Vann (Janet); sisters-in-law, Jaquelyn Vann, Tavanne Vann, Carolyn Vann all of Wilmington, NC, Annie Hendrix (James) of Baltimore, MD; and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and many dear friends. Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhomenc.com.



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Love, Abiemwense, Madeline, Aretha, Ali, Ifueko, Kashina, Daryll, Belle, Tasha and great grands

In Loving Memory Of



Deborah Denice Hill Jude June 11, 1959 to June 26, 2010

Gone so Quickly, Yet not forgotten: You were a precious gift from God above, So much beauty, grace and love. You touched our hearts in so many ways, Your smile so bright, even on the bad days. You heard God's whisper calling you home, You didn't want to go and leave us alone. You loved us so much, you held on tight, Till all the strength was gone and you could no longer fight. So you gave your hand to God and slowly drifted away, knowing that with our love we will be together again someday.

We miss you dearly, Husband Anthony Jude; children, Monique Hill French (Joseph), Chantella Jude and Maurice Hill; grandchildren; parents, Rev. Macio Hill, Sr. and Mrs. Hazel Hill; sister, Delia Hill; aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, relatives and friends

CHILDWATCH

Seed sowing for a beloved nation

(Via George Curry Media)

It was a gloriously beautiful morning in Atlanta on September 11, 2001. I was attending the first public event of organizations that had joined together to sponsor a breakfast with several hundred Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Bahai, Buddhist, Hindu, and political and community leaders of every color, to affirm our joint responsibility to ensure a safe and fit nation and world for all of God's children. I was moved to tears as the angelic Harmony Children's Choir, who looked like a little United Nations, sang the anthem of our Civil Rights Movement, "We Shall Overcome," as sweetly, movingly and convincingly as I had ever heard.

This taste of heaven and hope on earth was shattered by hate and hell on earth as my friend Andrew Young met me at the door with the news of terrorists' planes crashing into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. After I ran to call family members, my next urgently felt need was to go to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Atlanta gravesite to share the loving, hopeful vision of the morning dark-

ened by despair and death and ask how he would react and what he would tell us to do and say.

I wondered what God was teaching us through this unspeakable tragedy. Could it be a chance to bring us closer to our world neighbors, or would it push us further apart? Surely the extraordinary courage, generosity and sacrifice of so many trapped in or near the World Trade Center renewed our belief in human beings and human kindness. One survivor of the twin towers attack said: "If you had seen what it was like in that stairway, you'd be proud. There was no gender, no race, no religion. It was everyone, unequivocally, helping each other." It was an unforgettable vision of community that terrible day in the very epicenter of catastrophe. Imagine what our nation and world could become if we realized and practiced this example of beloved community in less catastrophic times.

The group of Atlanta interfaith leaders meeting that September 11th had a vision for their own version of a beloved community. Instead of being deterred by terror and hate, they planted the seeds for what grew into the Interfaith Children's Movement. Luther E. Smith, Jr., Professor Emeritus of Church and Community at Emory University's Candler School of Theology and coordinator of the Pan-

Methodist Campaign for Children in Poverty, has been a leader in the movement since the beginning.

He recently shared with me some of their good work: "Three years ago we helped to pass one of the most progressive juvenile justice reforms in the country. Georgia had not had major reform to its juvenile justice program in 43 years. It was a long and stressful journey, full of disappointments, but we worked with other major child advocates to make it happen. We've also taken a leading role in addressing child sexual trafficking and in getting legislation passed to address contributing factors to child sexual trafficking. We also helped to pass legislation that offers this November a state constitutional amendment for funding programs to help children who have been trafficked. And just in the last two years we have trained about 3,000 persons on matters of child nurture and advocacy."

Professor Smith is among the many people of faith who have been part of the Children's Defense Fund's annual Samuel DeWitt Proctor Institute for Child Advocacy Ministry every third week in July at CDF's Haley Farm that brings together clergy, seminarians, Christian educators, young adult leaders and other faith-based advocates for children for spiritual renewal, networking, movement-building workshops,

and continuing education about the urgent needs of children struggling to grow up at the intersection of race and poverty.

This year there will be a special focus on engaging the faith community on behalf of our youngest and poorest children. It's an experience of beloved community and the sharing of skills and strategies to build the movement for children - equipping others to do the same kind of effective faith-based advocacy work Atlanta's interfaith alliance has been doing since 2001.

We are at another moment where we desperately need to see and hear strong faith voices for justice for children and to spread examples of interfaith, interracial, multi-ethnic communities rising together above all voices that threaten to divide us. My parents and community elders had faith that we will reap a harvest at the right time if we do not give up and that love is still stronger than hate. I try every day to remember and act on their faith.

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

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New Hanover County

Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, 3701 Princess Place Dr., will hold Vacation Bible School 2016, "We have Gifts Sharing Them For God" from Monday, July 11th- Thursday, July 14th from 6:30 p.m.- from 8:00 p.m. at Rachel Freeman School, 2601 Princess Place Dr. Also the church will hold their Revival Kickoff on Sunday, July 17th at 4:00 p.m. Revival will be held Monday, July 18th - Wednesday, July 20th. Praise and worship service will be held 7:00 p.m.- 7:30 p.m. each night, with various choirs throughout the region. The revival program will begin at 7:30 p.m. The guest revivalist will be Rev. Debra L. Haggins of Hampton, VA.



Religious Briefs

Pastor Reddigo Long and the Greater Morning Star Apostolic Church will be the guests at Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church-Masonboro Sound for Friends and Family Day on Sunday July 24th at 11:00 a.m. Dinner will be served. For more information contact Dr. Kimberly McDuffie or Sister Missy Pellom at (910) 799-9534.

Wilmington College of Theology, a fully accredited Christian Bible College is now accepting applications for the 2016 Fall Semester. For more information call Dr. Lorraine King Cooper at 910-431-7714.

Brunswick County

Saint James AMEZ Church will hold 100 Men In Black Gospel Fest on Saturday, July 16th at 4:00 p.m. at ILA Hall, 211 West 10th St., Southport, NC. Contact Pamela Ferguson at 910-523-2395 for more information.

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

When a nation has no conscience

(Via George Curry Media)

What happens when a nation has no conscience?

Even as the country is grappling with the fact that two Black men were killed by White police officers within 48 hours of each other, so many people in positions of power have said little, if anything.



Rev. Susan K. Smith

As some were trying to deal with the tragic shooting death of Alton Sterling, we were jolted yet another time as we watched the Facebook "Live" account of the shooting death of Philando Castile in Minnesota. Police stopped this man's car because he had a broken taillight and Castile, trying to conform to expectations of police when stopped, apparently did everything right, yet a police officer shot him multiple times. As he moaned, his body bloodied and his arm severely mangled, his girlfriend "told the story" of what happened. To make matters worse, the girlfriend was ordered out of the car, told to keep her hands up, was handcuffed and put into a police car, and her 4-year-old daughter was taken away in a separate patrol car.

In the case of Sterling, his 15-year-old son broke down as his mother tried to give an account to the media of what happened. He didn't cry. He sobbed. Audibly. His anguish was palpable.

And the powers that be have said little, if anything. They are more concerned about Hillary Clinton's emails than they are about the lives of two people snuffed out by what looks to be reckless police behavior. There has been no outpouring of concern or compassion by political leaders.

It is curiously painful to me how this nation treats people of color, how the majority population still treats people of African descent, as though they really are only a fraction of a human being. Part of the reason so many Blacks are killed by police as compared to Whites is because Whites operate in a bubble of White supremacy that makes them automatically denounce and denigrate Black people and treat them like objects without feelings.

Police didn't see 12-year-old Tamir Rice as a young kid, nor did they treat Eric Garner like he was a human being. On the other hand, they took care to take Dylann Roof, who massacred nine people in a church in South Carolina, to a Burger King to get something to eat before they took him to the police station to be booked for murder.

Any nation whose majority population can look at a wife or mother tell a heartbreaking story of unfair stop and seizure, which cannot relate to the cries of a young, 4-year-old child trying to comfort her distraught mother, who cannot understand that people of color are in fact human beings

with feelings, has no conscience, and a nation without a conscience is bound to ultimately fall and fail.

Germans during the Holocaust looked at Jewish people not as people but as objects, objects that obstructed the will of the Anglo-Saxons. Consequently, Germans were able to indiscriminately kill millions of people. They could do that because they didn't consider the Jewish people to be human; they were "things," and things are made to be disposed of.

This nation had a conscience problem from the beginning, as it worked to extricate Native Americans from the land that was theirs. Our American ancestors thought nothing of engaging in projects of extermination, not any less abhorrent than that in which the Germans engaged hundreds of years later; and they have never been concerned with what their hatred and bigotry has done to the African American population of America. There is no conscience working in the realm and world of White supremacy. The only way White Americans have been to live as they have, denying American citizens their rights and humane treatment, is by them seeing people of African descent not as people, but objects to be used and manipulated.

I do not hear enough remorse or horror at what happened to Alton Sterling and Philando Castile. I have not heard news reports expressing horror over the pain of the children of these two slain men. I have not felt the outrage, actually that I felt when the gorilla that roughed up a little boy who somehow fell into his pen, had to be killed. I didn't feel empathy for the pain Trayvon Martin's mother must have felt, or empathy for the parents and families of Jordan Davis or Rekia Boyd or Tamir Rice ...or any of the others who were slain by police officers.

The lack of empathy worries me. It worries me because it is resulting in a nation that is "failing to thrive." When a baby is born, it must be loved, touched, connected with - in order to properly develop. If that connection does not happen, the baby can and often does, die. In this nation, people of color have been ignored, abandoned, shunned, ignored and dehumanized. It is the job of a nation to take care of all of its citizens. America has not done that, and it surely has not embraced African American people, no matter how young they might be.

Any nation that is that callous has no conscience, and I am afraid that this very lack of conscience will lead to America's ultimate downfall.

Rev. Susan K. Smith is an ordained minister who lives in Columbus, Ohio. She is the author of several books, including "Crazy Faith: Ordinary People; Extraordinary Lives" and "The Book of Jeremiah: The Life and Ministry of Jeremiah A. Wright, Jr. She is available to preach or do keynote addresses. Reach her by emailing revsuekim@sbcglobal.net.

TELL SOMEBODY

"Praying for leadership"

"Exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplication, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good, and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour."

Intercession - Praying on behalf of someone else
Supplication - Making specific request on behalf of someone
Prayer - Petition made to God
Leadership - The position or office of a leader

Many of us think of leadership as the place to turn to for help, guidance, and support. This is true to a great extent, but in God's way of doing things, and getting things done, we find that we all need each other to survive! We need our leaders, and our leaders need us. Let's focus on two important roles of leadership, that The Church should be praying for;

1. The Pastor; 2. The President of the United States. If we, (the Church) would humble ourselves and pray for our leaders, God has already promised to heal the land! (II Chronicles 7:14) We also need to pray for all public servants and government leaders, that they will not fail to uphold their offices with pride and dignity, and walk worthy of their vocation.

Praying for the Pastor
Statistics confirming the need to pray for Pastors show that, 1,500 pastors in America leave the ministry each month due to moral failure, spiritual burnout or contention in the church. Not knowing who the next statistic will be, we should be quick to include our pastor and family when praying for the church and its members. The Pastor, may in fact be the prime target of greater spiritual attacks, because of the high position they hold, and their

impact upon the souls of men and women in the congregation and the community. "Smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered." Zechariah 13:7

It has been said that, prayer in the pew, brings power to the pulpit! God has a way of bringing balance into the circle of life. None of us are invulnerable, and all of us have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Romans 14:10 says, "But why does thy judge thy brother? For we shall all stand before the judgement seat of Christ."

When praying for the pastor, we must remember, that their authority has been established by God, who has anointed and appointed them for leadership. If we are to live in peace and harmony, we must live a godly lifestyle, and provide for honest things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men. (II Cor 8:21)

We should pray for our Pastor's mind, body, and soul. We should pray for him/her to have the mind of Christ, which is fully submitted to fulfilling the will of God. We should pray for our Pastor to have wisdom and sound judgment in making decisions for The Body of Christ. We should pray for our Pastor to be in good physical health, for he/she will need to have good stamina to serve a congregation's multi-faceted needs. We should pray for balance in his/her life, so they won't become a statistic of burnout, or moral & spiritual failure through overwork and not enough personal time for rest. We should pray for the soul of our pastors, to stay uplifted and encouraged, lest after they have preached to others, they themselves, become a cast-away. Each church should have a faithful following of members, who are committed to praying for their pastor and his/her family. We must

remember they are human and subject to err, and need prayer as we do!

Praying For The President of the Unites States

The role and the vast responsibility of the President of the United States is so far reaching, surely, The Church of The Living God fully realizes his great need for prayer!!! As President, he is Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces, and head of the U.S. military. He can authorize the use of troops overseas without declaring war. With the approval of Congress, he can declare war. He has the authority to make Treaties with 2/3 consent of the Senate. He has the power to receive and appoint Ambassadors, Supreme Court justices, federal judges and any officials as provided for by the Congress, with the approval of the Senate. He can grant reprieves and pardons for offenses against the U.S.

If anybody in the whole world needs prayer, it is our very own, President Obama! He needs, by virtue of his great assignment to have the constant presence of the prayers of the righteous, because the bible states, "They availeth much!"

Among the many petitions we make on his behalf, we should ask God to keep our President with a sound mind, so he will make wise decisions for the good of our nation and world. We should pray for him to receive the strength and the integrity it takes to carry the weight and the responsibility of the office of President. We should ask God to bless him with good health and protect him from the enemy who seeks to steal, kill, and destroy him. We should pray for his soul to be saved and subject to the Higher power of God Almighty, to whom belongs all Praise, Glory, Honor, Dominion, and

Power!

We should pray for the safety, health, welfare, and well being of his courageous wife, Michelle, and his bright and beautiful daughters. Our nation's President should be able to count on the prayers of the Church of The Living God, for it is In God, that We trust! The job of the church is not to judge our leaders, but to pray for them and leave the judging to the Lord. The problems we face today are too enormous for a mere man to handle. America needs to turn to God. The church needs to turn to God. Our leaders need to turn to God, for such a time as this. Our President needs to turn to God, for he too is a man and subject to err.

Prayer: Father, we ask you to give us a spirit of prayer, for our families, churches, nation, and world. Help us not to stand in judgement of others, but to walk in obedience to your Word as much as lies within us. Forgive us as we forgive others. In Jesus' name. Amen!

Tell Somebody!!!

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

Wilmington District Lay Council celebrates 'Discipleship'



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Mrs. Margaret Clemmons is Wilmington District Lay Person of the Year 2016. Pictured here with Presiding Elder Alexander Jones, Mr. William Evans, Wilmington District President, and her pastor, Rev. Dr. Clifford Barnett.

The Wilmington District Lay Council held its Seventeenth Annual Lay Council Banquet on Sunday, May 29, 2016 at Evergreen AME Zion Church, Delco. Mr. Athelston Bethel, 2nd Vice President, declared the meeting open. Mr. Alphonso Robinson, 1st Vice President, conducted the celebration. Mrs. Delma Jones led the devotion with music provided by the Browns Chapel AME Zion Church Male Chorus. The host pastor, Rev. Dr. William Ballard, First Lady Juanita Ballard, and Lay Council President Ms. Deniece Wells welcomed the Wilmington District to their newly constructed Fellowship Building with a fine dining experience arrayed in the Lay Council colors of black and gold for a standing room only gathering of over 200 attendees. The presence of Mr. Oliver Dobson, Cape Fear Conference Lay Council President, was a special blessing to the celebration.

The 21 celebrants wearing the title of Lay Person of the Year (LPOY) from their local churches received an award for their demonstration of Christian Discipleship in word and deed. The celebrants were introduced, using a brief sketch of their discipleship, by Mrs. Janice Robbins, Treasurer of the Wilmington District Lay Council. These celebrants included: Mary Thompson, St. Paul AME Zion Church, Bolton, NC, Mr. Jefferson Graham, Lay Council President, Rev. Thomas Williams, Pastor; Kenneth White, Browns Chapel AME Zion Church, Southport, Mrs. Sylvia Jenrette, Lay Council President, Rev. Avery McAllister, Pastor; Stephanie Jackson, St. James AME Zion Church,

Southport, Mrs. Edna Bernard, Lay Council President, Rev. Patricia S Smith, Pastor; Aimee H. Brown, St. Phillip AME Zion Church, Wilmington, Mr. Leroy McAllister, Lay Council President, Dr. Mary Nixon, Pastor; Willie Ray Alston, Mt. Hebron AME Zion Church, Hallsboro, Mr. Donald Freeman, Lay Council President, Rev. Alonzo Braggs, Pastor; Lakashia Robbins, Moore's Chapel AME Zion Church, Leland, NC, Mr. Reginald Ballard, Lay Council President, Rev. Valarie Robbins, Pastor; Gwendolyn Joy, Walters Chapel AME Zion Church, Bolton, NC, Mr. Eu-gene Neal, Lay Council President, Dr. Gonzalez Harris, Pastor; Alphonso Robinson, St. James AME Zion Church, Leland, Mr. Alphonso Robinson Lay Council Pre-sident, Rev. Christopher Jones, Pastor; Craig Robinson, Evergreen AME Zion Church, Delco, Ms. Deniece Wells, Lay Council President, Dr. William Ballard, Pastor; Louise P. Turner, St. Mark AME Zion Church, Whiteville, Mrs. Nadine Ward, Lay Council President, Rev. Charlean Mapson, Pastor; Fred D. Waddell, Johnson Chapel AME Zion Church, Leland, NC, Mr. Fred Waddell, Lay Council President, Dr. Henry Young, Pastor; Willie L. Johnson, Lees Chapel AME Zion Church, Bolton, Mrs. Daphne Smith, Lay President, Rev. Thomasina Brailford, Pastor; Janice Robbins, Summerville AME Zion Church, Leland, Mr. Roy Robbins, Lay Council President, Rev. Nathaniel Johnson, Pastor; C. Delores Johnson, St. Luke AME Zion Church, Wilmington, Mrs. Alice Fennell, Lay Council



Twenty-one recipients of Lay Person of the Year represent Wilmington District churches.

President, Dr. Jermaine Armour; Pastor; Mary Johnson, Zion Chapel AME Zion Church, Mary Johnson, Lay President, Rev. Barbara Lee, Pastor; Robert Benson, Mt. Zion AME Zion Church, Lake Waccamaw, NC, Mr. Robert Benton, Lay Council President, Rev. Corrine Rolls-Brown, Pastor; Margaret E. Clemmons, Warner Temple AME Zion Church, Wilmington, Mrs. Audrey James, Lay Council President, Dr. Clifford Barnett, Pastor; Linda C. Smith, Price Cathedral AME Zion Church, Wilmington, Mrs. Cynthia Brown, Lay Council President, Rev. Maria Lacewell, Pastor; Marjorie Williamson, St. Andrews AME Zion Church, Wilmington, Frank Walker, Lay Council President, Rev. Henry Gregory III, Pastor; Diane Carty, Bowen Chapel AME Zion Church, Wilmington, Mrs. Dorothy Barnett, Lay Council President, Rev. Carolyn Lewis, Pastor; and David Waddell, Blackwell Chapel AME Zion Church, Mr. Ricky Henderson, Lay Council President, Rev. Felicia Jones, Pastor.

These persons were nominees for Wilmington District Lay Person of the Year. The winner of this title is the decision of an independent committee. Mr. William Evans, President of the Wilmington District Lay Council presented the 2016 Wilmington District Lay Person of the Year award to Ms. Margaret E. Clemmons of Warner Temple AME Zion Church, Wilmington. She will represent the district at the Cape Fear Conference Lay Person of the Year Luncheon. She received a stipend and her church received a stipend. By executive privilege, Mr. William Evans presented two "Keeper of the Flame Awards" to support-

ers of the Wilmington District Lay Council. The recipients were Mrs. Anna Briggs Moore of St. Luke AME Zion Church and Mrs. LaVerna Hargrove of St. James AME Zion Church, Southport. These recipients received a plaque in the form of the Connectional Lay council emblem.

A very inspirational meditation, "Christian Discipleship: Doing it God's Way" was presented by Mr. Treadwell Bell of St. James AME Zion Church, Leland, NC. Mr. Bell is serving his 25th year as the Pastor's Steward. The speaker gave five key points of discipleship as defined by Christ: (1) One who is willing to deny themselves, take up the cross daily and follow him (Luke 9: 23-25); (2) One who puts Christ before self, family, and possessions (Luke 14: 25-35); (3) One who is committed to Christ's teaching (John 8: 31); (4) One who is committed to world evangelism. (Matthew 9: 36-38); (5) One who loves as Christ loves. (John 13, 34-35). Then Mr. Treadwell anchored his message with 2 Chronicles 7:14. "If My people who are called by My name put away their pride and pray, and look for My face, and turn from their sinful ways, then I will hear from heaven. I will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

The Wilmington District Lay Council remembered those that have gone to be with the Lord with a Litany of Remembrance and Memory cards for the families.

Rev. Alexander Jones, Presiding Elder, thanked the Wilmington District Lay Council for its efforts to bring others to Christ and congratulated those that had been recognized in special ways.

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LEGAL NOTICES

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the estate of **Wade R. Shanklin**, 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 **16th day of October 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 7th day of July, 2016

Phyllis C. Shanklin, Executrix of the Estate of Wade R. Shanklin
924 Arboretum Drive
Wilmington, NC 28405
Murchison, Taylor & Gibson, PLLC
16 North Fifth Avenue
Wilmington, NC 28403

July 7, 14, 21, 28, 2016

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the estate of **Marie Belle Gentry**, 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 **30th day of September, 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 30th day of June, 2016

Wendell Lavern Hansley, Executor
717 Nixon St.
Wilmington, NC 28401

June 30, July 7, 14, 21, 2016

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the estate of **Harold Tyne Johanson**, 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 **7th day of October, 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 7th day of July, 2016

Laura Johnson, Administrator
402 Mochian Trail
Wilmington, NC 28409

July 7, 14, 21, 28, 2016

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

The undersigned, Preston A. McLendon, III, having qualified on the 16th day of May, 2016, as Administrator of the Estate **Debra M. McLendon**, deceased, this is to notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the Estate that they must present them to the undersigned at **GRAVES MAY PLLC**, c/o Attorney David Anderson, 5700 Oleander Dr. Wilmington, North Carolina, 28403, on or before the **26th day of September, 2016**, or the claims will be forever barred thereafter, and this notice will be pleaded in bar recovery. All persons, firms, and corporations indebted to said Estate will please make prompt payment to the undersigned at the above address.

This 16th of June, 2016.

Preston A McLendon, III, Administrator
ESTATE OF DEBRA M. MCLENDON
David Anderson
GRAVES MAY, PLLC
5700 Oleander Dr.
Wilmington, NC 28403

June 23, 30, July 7, 14, 2016

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the estate of **John E. Cuttino**, 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 **30th day of September, 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 30th day of June, 2016

LaTonya Cuttino, Administrator
604 Forest Rd.
West Haven, CT 06516

June 30, July 7, 14, 21, 2016

LEGAL NOTICES

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the estate of **James A. Taylor**, 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 **30th day of August, 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 30th day of June, 2016

Jeffrey Brian Taylor, Executor of the Estate of James A. Taylor
P.O. Box 182
282 Hidden Pond Lane
Roseboro, NC 28382
Murchison, Taylor & Gibson, PLLC
16 North Fifth Avenue
Wilmington, NC 28403

June 30, July 7, 14, 21, 2016

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the estate of **Miriam A. Proctor**, 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 **30th day of August, 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 30th day of June, 2016

Deborah P. III, Executrix of the Estate of Miriam A. Proctor
1533 S. Moorings Drive
Wilmington, NC 28405
Murchison, Taylor & Gibson, PLLC
16 North Fifth Avenue
Wilmington, NC 28403

June 30, July 7, 14, 21, 2016

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator C.T.A. of the estate of **Taylor Ray Holcomb**, 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 **30th day of September, 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 30th day of June, 2016

Jason Ray Holcomb, Administrator
C.T.A.
238 Northern Blvd.
Wilmington, NC 28401

June 30, July 7, 14, 21, 2016

**NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION
OF
OW PROPERTIES, LLC**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, pursuant to 57D-6-11 of the North Carolina General Statutes, **ASHTON HOLDINGS, LLC**, a North Carolina limited liability company (the "Company"), has elected to dissolve and has filed Articles of Dissolution with the North Carolina Secretary of State. YOU ARE HEREBY REQUESTED THAT, if you have a claim against the Company, you present it to the Company in accordance with the terms of this notice as follows:

1. Notify the Company in writing of your claim setting forth the name and address of the claimant (or agent) and a detailed statement of the nature and amount of the claim (a "Claim").

2. Mail your Claim to the following address:
OW PROPERTIES, LLC
2716 Ashton Drive
Wilmington, NC 28412-2489
Attn: Stephen L. DeBiasi

3. UNLESS A PROCEEDING TO ENFORCE THE CLAIM IS COMMENCED WITHIN FIVE (5) YEARS AFTER THE PUBLICATION DATE OF THIS OITCE, YOUR CLAIM WILL BE BARRED BY LAW.

This 14th Day of July, 2016

OW PROPERTIES, LLC, a North Carolina limited liability company
By: R. Mark Rodger, M.D.
Title: Member/Manager

July 14, 2016

LEGAL NOTICES

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the estate of **Leona Bethune Bellamy**, 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 October, 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 July, 2016

Joann Bellamy, Executor
811 3 Frenchorn Lane
Fayetteville NC , 28314

July 14, 21, 28, August 4, 2016

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the estate of **John A. Evans**, 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 October, 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 July, 2016

Brittany Aarin Evans, Administrator
9179 Honeywell Rd.
Lakewood, FL 33467

July 14, 21, 28, August 4, 2016

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the estate of **Mary Kathryn Best Evans**, 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 October, 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 July, 2016

Frank Lee Evans, Administrator
1929 Dobbins Holmes Rd.
Eastover, NC 28312

July 14, 21, 28, August 4, 2016

**NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION
OF
ATOR PROPERTIES, LLC**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, pursuant to 57D-6-11 of the North Carolina General Statutes, **ASHTON HOLDINGS, LLC**, a North Carolina limited liability company (the "Company"), has elected to dissolve and has filed Articles of Dissolution with the North Carolina Secretary of State. YOU ARE HEREBY REQUESTED THAT, if you have a claim against the Company, you present it to the Company in accordance with the terms of this notice as follows:

1. Notify the Company in writing of your claim setting forth the name and address of the claimant (or agent) and a detailed statement of the nature and amount of the claim (a "Claim").

2. Mail your Claim to the following address:
ATOR PROPERTIES, LLC
2716 Ashton Drive
Wilmington, NC 28412-2489
Attn: Stephen L. DeBiasi

3. UNLESS A PROCEEDING TO ENFORCE THE CLAIM IS COMMENCED WITHIN FIVE (5) YEARS AFTER THE PUBLICATION DATE OF THIS OITCE, YOUR CLAIM WILL BE BARRED BY LAW.

This 14th Day of July, 2016

ATOR PROPERTIES, LLC, a North Carolina limited liability company
By: OW PROPERTIES, LLC, sole Member/Manager of ATOR Properties, LLC
By: R. Mark Rodger, M.D.
Title: Member/Manager

July 14, 2016

LEGAL NOTICES

**NORTH CAROLINA
NEW HANOVER COUNTY**

IN THE MATTER OF THE REMOVAL AND RELOCATION OF APPROXIMATELY 31 GRAVES FROM THE MT. ARARAT A.M.E. CHURCH CEMETERY (PARCEL 202) AND FROM THE BELLA HIGHSMITH CEMETERY (PARCEL 204) IN NEW HANOVER COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, STATE PROJECT/WBS NO. 40191.2.1, I.D. NO. U-4751.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the known and unknown relatives of those persons buried in approximately 31 graves in the Mt. Ararat A.M.E. Church Cemetery and in the Bella Highsmith Cemetery located in New Hanover County, North Carolina, found within the right of way of State Project/WBS No. 40191.2.1, Parcel Nos. 202 and 204, I.D. No. U-4751; that said cemeteries are located approximately at or near left of the centerline of Survey Station 62+00 to approximately 69+75, Survey Line-Y1- on Market Street in Wilmington, New Hanover County, North Carolina; that the name of the known deceased person to be moved from the Mt. Ararat A.M.E. Church Cemetery is Henrietta Green; that the names of the known deceased persons to be moved from the Bella Highsmith Cemetery are Priscilla Jane Williams, William H. Newkirk, James Williams, Louisa F. Foy Moore, Rosa Lee Moore, and Carrie Moore Vann; that the unknown deceased persons to be moved are in unmarked graves found within both named cemeteries; that the Department of Transportation has been able to ascertain the closest next of kin or the only known relative for the said deceased persons is Carrie L. Nixon; that the subject graves to be moved will be relocated and re-interred to the remaining available area within the Bella Highsmith Cemetery, in Wilmington, North Carolina; that a complete record of where the approximately 31 subject graves of the known and unknown deceased persons will be re-interred will be on file with the Register of Deeds of New Hanover County, North Carolina.

You are further notified that there are a total of approximately 31 graves found within the Mt. Ararat A.M.E. Church Cemetery and the Bella Highsmith Cemetery which are being moved and the Department of Transportation will be responsible for all reasonable expenses pertaining under the provisions of North Carolina General Statute § 65-106 and that the removal will begin after this notice has been published once a week for four consecutive weeks over a period of thirty (30) days in the Wilmington Journal newspaper, in Wilmington, North Carolina.

This the 27th day of June, 2016.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
By: Tom Childrey
Manager of Right of Way

Lisa B. Finkelstein
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

June 30, July 7, 14, 21 ,2016

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF SALE

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5 Jacksonville St.
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July 14, 21, 2016

**NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION
OF
ASHTON HOLDINGS, LLC**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, pursuant to 57D-6-11 of the North Carolina General Statutes, **ASHTON HOLDINGS, LLC**, a North Carolina limited liability company (the "Company"), has elected to dissolve and has filed Articles of Dissolution with the North Carolina Secretary of State. YOU ARE HEREBY REQUESTED THAT, if you have a claim against the Company, you present it to the Company in accordance with the terms of this notice as follows:

1. Notify the Company in writing of your claim setting forth the name and address of the claimant (or agent) and a detailed statement of the nature and amount of the claim (a "Claim").

2. Mail your Claim to the following address:
ASHTON HOLDINGS, LLC
2716 Ashton Drive
Wilmington, NC 28412-2489
Atten: Stephen L. DeBiasi

3. UNLESS A PROCEEDING TO ENFORCE THE CLAIM IS COMMENCED WITHIN FIVE (5) YEARS AFTER THE PUBLICATION DATE OF THIS OITCE, YOUR CLAIM WILL BE BARRED BY LAW.

This 14th Day of July, 2016

ASHTON HOLDINGS, LLC, a North Carolina limited liability company
By: OW PROPERTIES, LLC, sole Member/Manager of Ashton Holdings, LLC
By: R. Mark Rodger, M.D.
Title: Member/Manager

July 14, 2016

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