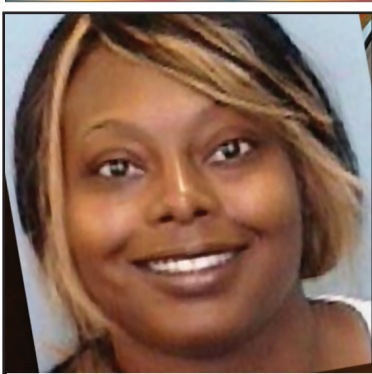




**MISSING**



**EBONEE SPEARS**

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.

**Coming UP**

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**BRUNSWICK COUNTY UPDATE**



**BERNEST HEWETT**

**2017: A NEW YEAR**

**BY BERNEST HEWETT**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This is the last week of 2016. We hope to go into 2017 with the joy of being alive to see another year. As we rejoice in the prospect of entering a brand new year, we have a part in making another New Year's resolution. That is that we hope for, and work toward, a better tomorrow. We can say, "It's another day's jour-

Please see **BRUNSWICK**/Page 2

**THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL**

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

VOLUME 89/No. 52

DECEMBER 29, 2016 - JANUARY 4, 2017

FIFTY CENTS

**Black lawmakers blast HB2 repeal failure**

**BY CASH MICHAELS**  
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

Some are calling it "the failure heard around the world," and, as rhetorical as that seems, the NC General Assembly's inability to follow through on an apparent deal to repeal the infamous House Bill 2 "bathroom" law during a pre-Christmas special session has reverberated well beyond North Carolina's borders.

"Failure to repeal 'bathroom bill' ensures North Carolina politics will remain deeply divided in 2017," belated the headlines in *The Los Angeles Times*.

"North Carolina lawmakers fail to repeal HB 2 'bathroom bill,'" reported *ABC News*.

*The New York Times* called the legislative debacle "a culture war," seemingly between rural and city State lawmakers, not to mention Democrats and Republicans.

Better known as HB2, "the bathroom bill" was passed last March, Republicans in the GOP-led State House and Senate mutinied against their leadership when they convened December 21, 2016 many refusing to repeal the measure which, among other things, prohibited a transgender person from using public bathroom facilities contrary to the sex indicated on his



**BROCKMAN**



**HALL**



**MOORE**



**TERRY**

or her birth certificate.

Democrat Governor-elect Roy Cooper was livid after Republican leaders, not only blamed him and Democratic lawmakers for the failure, but also appeared to use the

Charlotte City Council's belated repeal of their original city ordi-

Please see **LAWMAKERS**/Page 2



**JOHNSIE DAVIS, WILMINGTON CHAPTER PRESIDENT OF LAS AMIGAS INC.**



**MEMBER JACQUELINE DAVIS, VETERAN DENNIS HEATH, CHAPTER PRESIDENT JOHNSIE DAVIS, REGIONAL DIRECTOR MARILYN WESTINGHOUSE-WEBB AT ASHLEY VETERAN CENTER**



**NEW MEMBERS (L-R): LENA WILLIAMS, SARA JOHNSON, PANZA MCNEIL, AND ANSTEEN GRADY**

**The Wilmington Chapter of Las Amigas Inc. continues to serve**

**BY JACQUELINE DAVIS**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Wilmington Chapter of the Las Amigas Inc. has ended 2016 with tremendous contributions to our community. We are always dedicated to serve the community and surrounding areas and to bring joy to all those in need.

In October 2016 we participated in the Domestic Violence Rally in downtown Wilmington and also gave a donation to the Open Gate on Market Street. The donation was delivered by some

of our members and we were introduced to some of the staff members.

On November 11th, 2016, in honor of Veteran's Day, our sisters gave a donation, which consisted of comfort of love blankets and toiletry items to the Eugene Ashley Veteran's Center. Our visit to the center gave us an overall view of the center and the help that is administered to our veterans. We met one of the veterans, Dennis Heath, who was transitioning out of the program. We congratulated Mr. Heath and thanked him for his service to our coun-

try.

On November 20, 2016, Las Amigas Inc. held its new member installation ceremony at the Osteria Cicchetti on South College Rd. We had four new members to be installed into the organization on that day. Members had to go through an orientation period before installation. Congratulations to our new members.

We welcomed our new members and look forward to our sisterhood with them. Las Amigas Inc. is planning our contributions for 2017 and look forward to another wonderful year.

**Anticipation, pride for Justice-elect Morgan's swearing-in next week**



**JUDGE MICHAEL MORGAN**

**BY CASH MICHAELS**  
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

Thanks to a statement from outgoing Republican Governor Pat McCrory, it is now known that GOP legislative leaders were indeed planning to add two more seats to the North Carolina Supreme Court so that McCrory could appoint two more Republicans to offset Superior Court Judge Mike Morgan's stunning 350,000 vote election win, giving Democrats the 4-3 majority.

On January 4, 2017, next week, the investiture of N. C. Associate Justice Michael Rivers Morgan will take place at 2:00 p. m. in the Law and Justice Building Courtroom at 2 East Morgan Street in Downtown Raleigh.

"I feel tremendously wonderful about it," the new justice-elect, 60, said days after his triumph. "The voters of North Carolina have given me a resounding victory and are allowing me to serve the State at the highest level of the North Carolina Supreme Court. So I'm very pleased, very proud and very humbled at this opportunity."

Justice Morgan will become the fifth African-American to serve on the State's High Court in its history, following Chief Justice Henry Frye, and associate justices, G. K. Butterfield, Patricia Timmons-Goodson, James Wynn, Jr., and Cheri Beasley.

"We have been friends since my appointment [to the bench] in March of 2005," said Orange County Superior Court Judge Carl Fox, of his colleague. "Mike is an experienced trial judge who has previously served on both the dis-

Please see **MORGAN**/Page 2

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THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

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LAWMAKER

Continued from Page 1

nance protecting LGBT rights as an excuse. Black Democratic State lawmakers joined Cooper in their denouncements. "North Carolina House and Senate Republicans are unbelievable," said outgoing House Minority Leader Representative Larry Hall [D-Durham]. "Their behavior is shameful. In the nine months since Republicans passed HB2, our State has lost millions of dollars and thousands of jobs due to this dis-

MORGAN

Continued from Page 1

trict and superior trial court benches for [over]25 years. "He is a fair, hard working, and conscientious judge with a wealth of experience. Mike has held court around our State. [and] he has also taught other judges through the N.C. Conference of Superior Court Judges and The National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada." Judge Fox added.

BRUNSWICK

Continued from Page 1

ney, and I'm glad about it." It is good to look forward to having life and health and another chance to help better the lives of our fellowman and "woman." It is our duty to be the light that guides and leads people to a better life, as we come into this New Year. We do not know what our President-elect has in mind for the United States, nor do we know what our local politicians want for our people. We do not know where they intend to lead us, given the internal strife we face. There are serious problems with our educational system. We face problems of the killings of police and police killings. There is a serious shortage of jobs (unemployment, under employment, cutbacks in hiring), more taxes on the poor. We are confronted with unjust laws that would bind the hands of the people who do care. As we come into 2017, we have to keep the faith, pray extra hard, and teach the Word. We shall overcome one day. We shall not be downhearted. We shall stand strong and say, "it's another day's journey, and I'm glad about it! God has allowed me another day which man cannot take away!" Bernest L. Hewett is President of the Brunswick County Branch of NAACP.

criminary legislation. "Working families, the unemployed, small businesses, sports and entertainment North Carolina got scrooged again by the NC GOP's failure to repeal HB2," Representative Hall concluded. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Democrat Representative Rodney Moore likened the GOP HB2 repeal failure to the classic con artist movie, "The Sting." "The GOP majority in the House and Senate played the House and Senate Democrats and the Charlotte City Council like a master grafter," Moore said. "After

convincing the Charlotte City Council to totally repeal its non discrimination ordinance, then they do the old soft shoe for the better part of the day and we adjourn the special session that was called for the extreme circumstance of repealing the most damaging piece of legislation of the year, with no repeal or any substantive action taken. Masterful." Triad Democrat Representative Cecil Brockman [D-Greensboro] said, "I am extremely disappointed by the failure of General Assembly Republicans to follow through on their end of the deal to fully

repeal HB 2. This harmful and discriminatory law has been a disaster for North Carolina, damaging both our economy and reputation on the national stage. Instead of showing that North Carolina is open for business, Republicans decided to play games and wasted our time and taxpayers' money. Brockman continued, "I will continue to speak out against HB2 and push for statewide non-discrimination protection for the LGBT community. We have North Carolinians who are marginalized and vulnerable; it is well past time that we act to help those most in need."

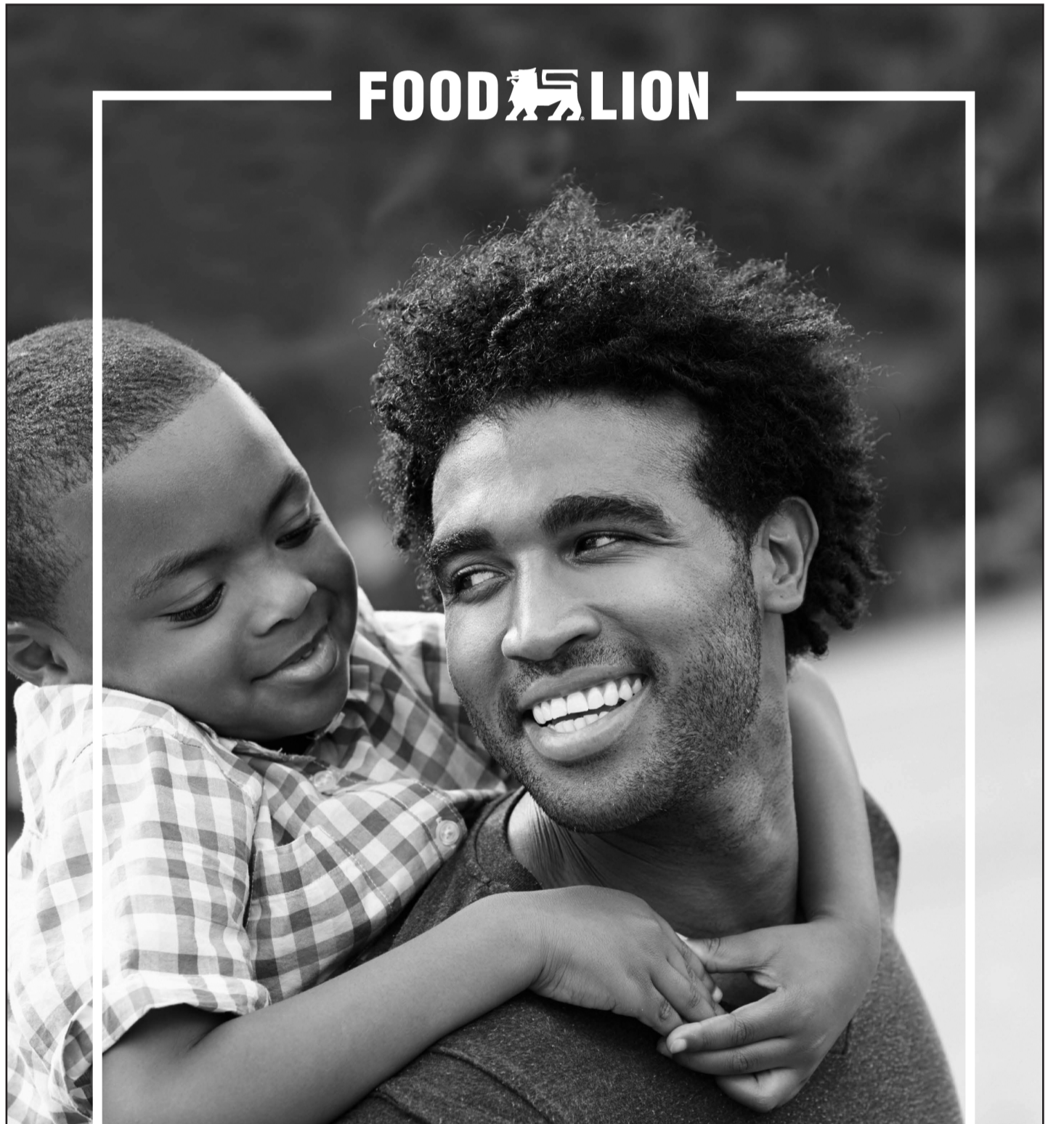
State Representative Evelyn Terry [D-Forsyth] insisted that Governor-elect Cooper and Democrat lawmakers have to stand strong together against the kind of heavy handed governance that Republican leaders have all but promised in the new year. "We just have to rally our forces ...and we have to work within our own communities to restore the faith in democracy, as well as our responsibility as citizens to participate fully," Representative Terry said. "In this atmosphere, we can't do anything but strengthen our own forces."

State Representative Evelyn Terry [D-Forsyth] expressed the boundless pride that many in the African-American community have in Judge Morgan's Supreme Court election and tremendous faith in his ability to serve in the interest of all North Carolinians. "It's difficult for me to express verbally that it just means such a great deal to me, and, certainly, I am hopeful for the people I represent in District 71 ...whose interest in equal justice is very keen."

"So I'm just hopeful because of Judge Morgan's qualifications, his character, his ability, his humanness...all of those things that characterize a fine legal mind," Representative Terry added. "He'll bring a breath of fresh air." A native of Cherry Point, NC, Mike Morgan is the oldest of five children. He graduated from New Bern Public Schools. Morgan got his B. A. in both history and sociology from Duke University in 1976. He earned his Juris Doctor

degree with honors from North Carolina Central University in 1979. From 1983 to 1989, Morgan was an Assistant State Attorney General in the N. C. Dept of Justice. From 1989 to 1994, he served as a North Carolina administrative law judge, from 1994 to 2004, a district court judge; and from 2005 to the present, a Wake County superior court judge. Senate Minority Leader Senator Dan Blue, Jr. [D-Wake] said, "I am very encouraged to see Judge Mike Morgan join

our State's Supreme Court." "His dedication to impartiality and respect for the law is unparalleled. It is crucial for us to have diversity on the bench, and Judge Morgan's win is an important step to broader representation in the court that more accurately reflects North Carolinians." Senator Blue concluded, "I have no doubt that he will bring the kind of balance that is needed to ensure that the judicial system is operating in accordance with the democratic process."



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**HOW REFRESHING**

**FSU CHANCELLOR APOLOGIZES FOR USING "N-WORD"**

[FAYETTEVILLE] The chancellor of Fayetteville State University is apologizing after he was seen on video with a group of students doing a gangsta' rap about guns, and uttering the n-word with the lyrics. Chancellor James Anderson has issued a statement saying, "...I should not



**STATE BRIEFS**

have repeated a song that had inappropriate lyrics, especially with so much violence in today's world, and in a day and time we're trying to instill in our young men and women the importance of respect of others, and each other."

**DURHAM ARCHITECT BATTLING ALS DISEASE**

[DURHAM] Phillip Freelon, the famed African-American architect who designed structures from the new Hillside High School in Durham, to the

new Smithsonian Museum of African-American History and Culture in Washington, D.C., says he was in "shock" earlier this year when he was diagnosed with ALS, more commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease. He now walks with a cane, expecting that within five years he will suffer from muscle loss and paralysis. Instead of wallowing in self pity, Freelon has started a foundation called "Design a World without ALS." There is no known cure for ALS. Freelon's foundation is trying to raise \$250,000 for fur-

ther research for a cure at Duke University.

**GOVERNOR-ELECT COOPER TO TAKE OATH ON JAN. 1ST**

[RALEIGH] While the rest of the world is celebrating the dawn of a new year, North Carolina's 75th governor will be sworn-in shortly after midnight on Jan 1st to begin what is likely to be a contentious term in office. Roy Cooper will take the oath on January 1, days before he's officially inaugurated on Jan. 7th, his transition team says. Cooper

moved the swearing-in up because so much time was lost after his Nov. 8th election victory with recounts, thus stalling his transition planning. Cooper takes office with a Republican-led legislature that has already proven it will test him routinely.

**FEMA HOLDING REBUILDING SESSIONS FOR HURRICANE VICTIMS**

[NEW BERN] Experts with the Federal Emergency Management Administra-

tion will be on hand this week in four North Carolina counties hard hit by Hurricane Matthew, showing those who properties were damaged by the floods how to rebuild their homes and businesses. FEMA specialists will offer advice on repairs and rebuilding at hardware centers this week in Cumberland, Pasquotank, Craven and Harnett counties from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m..

COMPILED BY CASH MICHAELS

# 'We Shall Not Be Moved' March aims to send Trump message on MLK weekend

BY HAZEL TRICE EDNEY  
EDITOR IN CHIEF  
OF TRICEEDNEY  
NEWSWIRE.COM

TriceEdneyWire.com)

The march announced by the Rev. Al Sharpton shortly after Donald Trump was elected president is now taking shape for January 14 and will aim to send a clear message to the President-elect in the "spirit and tradition of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., said a statement from Sharpton this week.

"The 2017 march will bring all people together to insist on change and accountability," said Sharpton. "Martin Luther King Jr.'s struggle for civil rights didn't end with his death, it's a fight we take on each day. The political players may change but our goals stay the same. Donald Trump and his admin-

istration need to hear our voice and our concerns."

He continues, "Participants will demand accountability not just from President-elect Trump but from Senate and Congress members who are charged with overseeing the Criminal Justice Reform Act, the Voting Rights Bill, Supreme Court nominations and other Trump political appointments. Our movement, #WeShallNotBeMoved, will send a clear message to those in power that the fight for equal rights and justice for all continues," he states.

The four top concerns outlined involve police reform, mass incarceration, stop and frisk, the Affordable Care Act, voting rights, education, and climate change.

Sharpton first announced the march on a mid-November teleconference during which he told reporters that he was not fazed by

Trump's apparent change of demeanor toward President Barack Obama. Despite his less vitriolic demeanor, Trump has since surrounded himself with an almost lily White cabinet and advisors, including Steve Bannon, a founder of Breitbart news, the voice of the so-called "alt-right" - White supremacists and racists.

"Whether one whispers or whether one shouts, if the message is the same what does it matter?" Sharpton told reporters on that call. "I think we are mistaking his change in tone with change in content."

That said, Sharpton has organized a march and rally that will include civil rights groups, activists, unions and clergy outside the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial in D.C. The following is the detailed route, according to NationalActionNetwork.net:

WHEN: Sat., Jan. 14

ASSEMBLY: Marchers will assemble at 9 a.m. at the National Sylvan Theater, Independence Avenue Southwest & 15th Street NW.

MARCH STARTING TIME: 11 a.m.  
MARCH ROUTE: March will travel along Independence Ave. SW to West Potomac Park at 1964 Independence Ave. SW

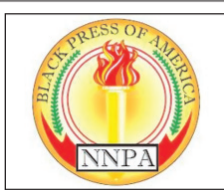
RALLY: 12 Noon in West Potomac Park, directly across from Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial

MORE INFORMATION: NationActionNetwork.net

Sharpton said the march will include "Americans from every state, race, religion and ethnicity," who will "warn President Trump and Congress that the fight for criminal justice, voting rights, affordable health care, improvements in education and other issues around equality and justice continues."



**If the lions do not write their own history, then the hunters will get all the credit.--AN AFRICAN PROVERB**



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 wilmjournal@aol.com or via fax at (910) 343-1334.

## Our Voice

### BLACKONOMICS

#### Kwanzaa 2016 - Celebration or lamentation?

For fifty years Black people in the United States have celebrated the seven principles of Kwanzaa. Established by Dr. Maulana Karenga in 1966, Kwanzaa is an African American and Pan-African holiday celebrated by millions throughout the world African community. Kwanzaa brings a cultural message which speaks to the best of what it means to be African and human in the fullest sense. Our obvious support and celebration of this occasion suggests our commitment, not only to the principles of the Nguzo Saba, but also to their fruition. Thus, we ask you: What Kwanzaa success will you celebrate this year? What have you done during the year that qualifies as a celebratory event during Kwanzaa?



James Clingman

Have you achieved Unity, Umoja, among Black folks in your locale? Are you unified to the point that you love one another more and support one another more? Do you have proof that you have unified around some pertinent issue or cause? If so, then let the celebration begin. If not, let the lamentation begin.

How about Self-Determination? Kujichagulia. What have you done in your city to demonstrate your commitment to determining the future of your children? Are others still controlling your destiny? Or have you taken it upon yourself to build and support your own institutions, open and grow new business, and create your own jobs?

Can you celebrate an accomplishment during 2016 vis-à-vis collective work and responsibility toward one another? Are you celebrating Ujima this year, or are you lamenting about what we have not done? If you have worked collectively on community projects such as neighborhood clean-up, elderly assistance, or tutoring, then your Kwanzaa celebration is in order.

Now, here's my favorite: Cooperative Economics, Ujamaa. Have you done anything cooperatively this year to increase the economic viability and stability of your community? Have you pooled any of your money to finance a project or to form an investment group to assist micro businesses? Have you purchased Black manufactured products on a consistent basis?

What have you done to build and develop your community in order to restore our people to their traditional greatness? In other words, what is your purpose, Nia, and have you actualized that purpose? If you have, then you definitely have something to celebrate.

Have you created anything lately? What has been the level of your creativity, Kuumba, this past year? Is there anything, not necessarily something material, that you created to benefit your community? Maybe it was a new financial institution, a volunteer food service program for those in need, or maybe it was a new resolve and commitment to do better than you did the previous year. Creativity covers a multitude of endeavors.

Finally, how much faith, Imani, do you have in the things you are celebrating? How much faith do you have in yourself? How much faith do you have in your brothers and sisters? How much faith do you have in the Creator's ability to carry you through in times of struggle? Are you one of "little faith," or is your faith sufficient to support you in your quest to fulfill the other six principles of Kwanzaa?

Aren't you tired of mere spoken words? Aren't you just a little weary of empty rhetoric, events based on words followed by little or no subsequent action? Wouldn't you like to see us, after fifty years of celebrating Kwanzaa, be able to point to something we built and sustained because of our celebration of values we hold so dear?

On December 26th of every year, after fifty years of celebrating, we should be able to look back and revel in the things we have accomplished through our celebration of Kwanzaa. What will you see when you look back this year? If nothing is there except a mere celebration of principles rather than progress, then you have some work to do. Use this year's Kwanzaa to act upon the seven principles so that this time next year you will have some tangible accomplishment to celebrate.

Again, my favorite principle is Ujamaa, so I'd like to offer something you can do to celebrate it. Go to [www.iamoneofthe million.com](http://www.iamoneofthe million.com) and purchase a few bags of Sweet Unity Coffee for yourself and for Kwanzaa gifts for a few friends. Then celebrate by toasting "sweet unity" among our people.

The founder of Kwanzaa, Maulana Karenga, did more than just come up with some nice words and principles for us to recognize and follow during this season. He has shared many words with us on how we must conduct ourselves at all times-not just during Kwanzaa. One thing he warned against was Black folks getting stuck in a place where most of what we do is lament "litanies of lost battles." Kwanzaa must be a true celebration of production and progress, not just another lamentation of having lost.

James Clingman is the nation's most prolific writer on economic empowerment for Black people. His latest book, "Black Dollars Matter! Teach Your Dollars How to Make More Sense," is available on his website, [Blacko-nomics.com](http://Blacko-nomics.com).

## Visual Voice



## Your Voice

### "Sore winners"

A NC political leader was unusually happy (giddy) recently when he appeared on a national cable news show. He was gloating over the "stealing" of power from the governor-elect. North Carolina had already been embarrassed by the current governor and supporters who spent a month falsely accusing county boards (GOP-con-

trolled) of conducting a "rigged" election. One local supporter falsely accused his neighbor of voting in NC and another state.

Although the party in power won the majority of the Council of State seats and all of the judicial contests except one, the General Assembly's appetite for "power" was still not satisfied (sore winners). Its activities during a "lame duck" special session (without public com-

ment) included: removing the NC Board of Elections and all 100 county boards from gubernatorial control; reducing the number of appointments from 1500 to 425; requiring senate confirmation of all cabinet appointments; eliminating appointments to Boards of trustees for UNC institutions; and restoring partisan elections for the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals.

The action of the General

Assembly last week reminded me of my childhood when fantasy games were created with ever changing rules (sore winner). Fortunately, I matured and developed a sense of "fair play". Hopefully, our legislators will do the same so that jobs and NCAA basketball playoff games (hint) will return to North Carolina.

William Flythe  
Southport, NC

## Matters of Opinion

### RAINBOW COALITION

#### This is a season of justice and righteousness

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

On Monday, the Electoral College met to cast their ballots for the new president after a bitterly contested election in a deeply polarized nation. On Sunday, the vast majority of Americans celebrated Christmas, literally the mass of Christ, marking the birth of Jesus.

Christmas is not simply a day for exchanging presents and cards. It is not simply a holiday; it is a holy day. Each year, I use this column to

remind us of the real meaning of Christmas. Jesus was born under occupation to a couple ordered to go far from home to register with authorities. The innkeeper told Joseph that there was no room at the inn. Jesus was born in a stable, lying in a manger, an "at-risk baby."

He came at a time of great expectation among the poor and the oppressed. Prophets had predicted that a mighty Messiah would be born - a king of kings - to defeat the occupiers and free the people. They expected a powerful warrior, one who would lead them against Rome's legions. But Jesus rallied no army. Jesus was a liberator, but He gathered disciples, not sol-

diers. He converted rather than conquered. He accumulated no worldly wealth. He threw the moneylenders from the temple.

We cannot speak of Jesus in the past tense. He is the Prince of Peace today. Peace, He showed us, is not the absence of noise; it is the presence of justice and righteousness.

We will be judged, He told us, by how we treat "the least of these," by how we treat the stranger on the Jericho Road. He called on us to serve the poor, to care for the sick, to reach out to the refugee.

Now, of course, Christmas has become a holiday, more secular than sacred. Too many of us stretch our budgets not to lift those in need but to buy baubles for families

and friends. Christmas often means more debt until Easter. It has become a marketing scheme, a time of malls and sales, of come-ons and discounts. But we should not allow Jesus the Christ, the redeemer, the emancipator to be displaced by Santa the Claus, and more debt and unaffordable things.

Let us use this season to reassess where we are. We are spending trillions in wars without end. Inequality has reached extremes not witnessed since the eve of the Great Depression. We continue to lock up more people than any nation in the world. On an average day, 27 people die from gun

JACKSON  
Continued on page 5

### TO BE EQUAL

#### The nomination of Senator Sessions and the threat to liberty and justice for all

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

"This committee has a duty to our citizens to carefully examine the qualifications of nominees for the Federal bench and to give our approval only to those who have demonstrated a personal commitment to the principle of equality for all Americans and a sensitivity to the long history of inequality which we are still struggling to overcome...Mr. Sessions is a throwback to a shameful era which I know both black and white Americans thought was in our past. It is inconceivable to me that a person of this attitude is qualified to be a U.S. attorney, let alone a U.S. Federal judge. He is, I believe, a disgrace to the Justice Department and he should withdraw his nomination and resign his position." - Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, Senate Judiciary Committee Opening Statement, March 13, 1986



Marc Morial

any indication, for African Americans-and anyone concerned over imminent threats to justice for all Americans-the answer is simple: everything. With Trump's nomination of Republican Alabama Senator Jeff Sessions as attorney general, the stage appears set to roll back the clock on racial justice, immigration policy, LGBTQ movement advances and gender equality, among other hard fought for gains in the American struggle towards equality for all its citizens.

Sen. Sessions first emerged on the national stage in 1986, when President Ronald Reagan nominated the then United States attorney for the Southern District of Alabama for a federal judgeship. His bid for the lifetime appointment was promptly derailed by the Republican-controlled Senate Judiciary Committee as a result of sworn testimony that pointed to a disturbing pattern of racist actions and comments. Among the diverse allegations brought by witnesses, Sen. Sessions was accused of calling an African-American prosecutor "boy" on more than one occasion. He was also accused of calling a white attorney a "disgrace to his race" for representing Black clients in a voting rights case. Sessions labeled the NAACP and the American Civil Liberties Union "un-American" and "communist-inspired" organizations, arguing that the groups "forced civil rights down the throats of people." He also publicly described the Voting Rights Act of 1965 as "an intrusive piece of legislation."

For his alarming and distressing comments, Sen. Sessions became the second man in half a century to be rejected by the Judiciary Committee. By a bipartisan vote of 10-8 with two Republicans joining the Democrats-Sen. Sessions' nomination was rightfully opposed. But he wasn't finished. Sen. Sessions went on to become the attorney general of Alabama, then he moved on to become state's junior Senator. And now, a man once rejected as too racist to hold a federal judgeship, and has demonstrated a career-long, deep hostility to civil rights, is now being considered to serve as the nation's chief enforcer of civil rights law. A man who once described the Voting Rights act as "intrusive," he is now being considered as the nation's top law enforcer, tasked with enforcing our nation's voting rights laws.

It seems the Trump administration is poised to set the fox to guard the henhouse. As it did three decades ago when Sen. Sessions testified before it, we expect and demand that the Senate Judiciary Committee conduct a thorough and complete examination to determine if Sen. Sessions is fit to serve in this crucial federal justice enforcement capacity. But this examination cannot, and must not, be limited to past transgressions. Sen. Sessions, who has worked as a public servant for decades, has amassed a record that can speak for itself and it speaks volumes.

In 2006, Sen. Sessions supported a ban on same-sex mar-

riage. In 2009, Sen. Sessions voted against a bill that would expand federal hate crime legislation, and against Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay. Sen. Sessions has opposed legislation that would restore the pre-clearance provision of the Voting Rights Act-supported by civil rights groups. And, during a debate on immigration reform, Sen. Sessions insulted Dominican immigrants, claiming that, "Fundamentally, almost no one coming from the Dominican Republic to the United States is coming here because they have a provable skill that would benefit us and that would indicate their likely success in our society." As it did three decades ago, the Judiciary Committee must vigorously question Sen. Sessions and seriously contemplate whether his 30-year record of action and statements befits a candidate whose job requires enforcing the constitutional and civil rights of all Americans.

The National Urban League, along with a broader civil rights coalition, are conducting our own review of Sen. Sessions' record. If our examination does not determine that he is fit to serve as chief enforcer of civil rights laws, it will be our responsibility to oppose his nomination. We encourage all senators who are champions of civil rights to refrain from committing their support to this nomination until our examination is complete.

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

VOICE YOUR OPINION!!  
WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR!

**JACKSON**

*Continued from page 4*

violence in the United States; in Canada and other western nations, the average is fewer than five per day.

The good news is that since last year, unemployment is down, poverty is down and incomes have begun to rise. But we've lost ground this century, with more people and more children in poverty than

in 2000. There are 45 million Americans living in poverty, a number that would be far worse without Social Security (which lifts 26.5 million out of poverty), refundable income tax credits and SNAP, or food stamps. Last year, the life expectancy of Americans began to decline.

The rich, on the other hand, have more money and pocket a greater percentage of the nation's income than ever. So

why would an incoming administration focus on more tax cuts for the wealthy and more cuts in basic services for the poor and working people?

You don't need to be a Christian to understand the relevance of the real Christmas story today. Jesus taught us the overwhelming power of faith, hope and charity, and the importance of love. He taught us that people of conscience can make a difference,

even against the most powerful oppressor. He showed leaders the power of summoning our better angels, rather than rousing our fears or our divisions. This Christmas, this surely is a message to remember: Merry Christmas, everybody.

*Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. is founder and president of the Chicago-based Rainbow PUSH Coalition. You can keep up with his work at [www.rainbow-push.org](http://www.rainbow-push.org).*

**We are not exceptional - Just average**

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

**W**e in these United States love to bask in the glory of our "exceptionalism". We are great, we are wonderful, we dominate the world. Scholars who study "us" say that our exceptionalism is rooted in the fact that we have offered leadership in international affairs. We have committed more resources than other countries to the United Nations, to NATO, and to other organizations committed to international peace. But we do this with a sense of paternal largesse, as if we are the greatest, the most wonderful, the benefactor.



**Dr. Julianne Malveaux**

But we have allowed our electoral system to be thrown into chaos because Vladimir Putin has a grudge against former Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton, and he used his minions to actualize his grudge. He has had a man crush with Donald Trump, who asked that Russia hack Hillary's emails, and obeying Trump's bidding, the Russians did. This whole electoral drama is a nightmare. Hillary Clinton got nearly 3 million more votes than Trump, but he has a (maybe) Electoral College victory. Is this American exceptionalism? A hacked democracy vulnerable to the intrusion of foreign powers?

If the Russians are hacking now, imagine what they will do in the future. A recent study from the National Center for Educational Statistics (NCES) shows that 15 year olds in the United States lag behind others in an international context. We talk as if we are number one or number two in achievement, but the fact is that we are number 14 or 15 by many measures. We aren't exceptional - we're just average, ranking below a dozen countries, hitting the median mark.

When science literacy is measured, 24 countries rank higher than the United States. The OECD (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development) average score on science literacy is 493, and the US was close to the average, at 496. Singapore, Japan, Finland, Canada, Vietnam, Australia, the UK, German, Switzerland, Ireland and Portugal were among those with higher scores. Really? These folks will be among those hacking us in a decade if we don't make better investments in education!

We're kind of average with reading literacy, as well. The OECD average is 493, and the US average is 497. Singapore, Canada, Finland, Ireland, Japan, Norway, Germany, Poland and the Netherlands outscore us. We're in the band

with France, the UK, and Spain. What are Singapore, Canada and Ireland doing that we aren't? In a global economy, how do we compete with them?

Our math comparisons with other countries are especially alarming. The OECD average for math literacy is 490, but the US score is 470. At least 30 countries, including Singapore, Japan, Switzerland, Estonia, Canada, Denmark, Belgium, Germany, Poland, Iceland, Norway, Austria, Italy, Scotland, and the Russian Federation have higher scores than the US. Why?

The federal Department of Education should deal with the matter of standards. Common Core, while not popular among some educational leaders, is a way of ensuring that those who graduate from our nation's high schools have a common foundation of knowledge. Implementing Common Core may be challenging, especially when some high schools, especially inner city high schools, lack the resources to offer the broadest curriculum. While many schools off advanced course, including advanced placement (AP) and international baccalaureate (IB), some do not. Every student needs to have an opportunity to access advanced learning.

More importantly, those who do educational policy must look at the ways our students are lagging in the international environment. Are we content to be 14th, 22nd, 34th in international measures, while, at the same time, talking exceptionalism. We aren't especially exceptional when it comes to learning, we are merely average, and often below average when we review international measures.

There are those who will quibble with the ways that the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) measures learning outcomes. I think, though, that when students from 73 educational systems tackle the same tests, objections can be pushed aside. Even with a flawed measure, even with adjustments, we must conclude that the United States is not exceptional, just average.

If we want to be exceptional, we need to do more than sell wolf tickets and crow over our competitors. Here's the bottom line - the Russians were smart enough to hack us and mess with our elections. Are we as smart as they are, or are we average? Mr. Trump says he will create jobs. He needs to make resources available to the Department of Education. If he wants to "Make American Great Again", he needs to make American smart again by investing in education.

*Julianne Malveaux is an author, economist and Founder of Economic Education. Her latest book "Are We Better Off? Race, Obama and Public Policy" is available to order at [www.juliannealveaux.com](http://www.juliannealveaux.com).*

**Forward with faith**

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

**I** believe that it's the inclination of humankind to cling to the surety of the 'here-and-now' despite any accompanying discomfort possibly experienced. There's little debate that the uncertainty of future outcomes holds many in the grip of inaction. That's why so many are forced, "kicking and screaming," into the future - both physically and emotionally. Unfortunately for them, progress and the march of time require forward movement. As 2016 closes, this fact has never been more accurate for some!

Each year's end, I'm compelled by habit to reflect on my blessings, achievements and disappointments. I remain blessed in good health. I have an amazing, loving mother. Her energy and stamina at 94 are still inspiring. My siblings and I share love that's been



**Dr. E. Faye Williams**

nurtured throughout our lives and continues to grow. The generations who follow have been indoctrinated in that spirit by our words and deeds. We enjoy a family bound in the spirit of love and mutuality that supersedes possession or material gain.

I think fondly of friends who, on January 1st, joined me on this journey we call LIFE. I grieve, but not too much, for those who left the journey during the year. All of my friends - living or dead - have weaved their place in the tapestry of my life and leave me a better person for it. Often without speaking, we have agreed to take the best from each other and incorporate it into our own lives for our collective benefit. Thus, we achieve our immortality by the good that we do and the inspiration we give to others to do more.

I've been blessed to be called to leadership in the National Congress of Black Women—one of our nation's most progressive women's organizations. I take great pride in our membership and their unyielding endeavors of growth and achievement. With the objective to improve the quality of

life for women and our families, our organization plays an increasingly significant role in communities of color.

All of 2016 hasn't been positive. Most noteworthy in the negative is the "election" of Donald Trump. Pragmatically and, especially, measured from announced Cabinet nominations, the future seems grim. If the best prediction of future conduct is past performance, then our nation's most vulnerable appear to be at serious risk. Trump has demonstrated himself to be an unprincipled narcissist willing to exploit and take advantage of any circumstance that will benefit Trump.

In the weeks leading to his inauguration, there have already been multiple accusations of impropriety. Notably, at the moment he takes the oath of office, he stands in violation of his lease for the property housing his new DC hotel. Whether Plutocracy or Kleptocracy, Trump's election is predicted to bring a monumental shift in the political structure of this nation.

Thus far, Trump has nominated a Labor Secretary who's openly hostile to Labor. He's

nominated an HHS Secretary who's vehemently opposed to Obamacare and is an ally of the goal to privatize Social Security and Medicare. He's nominated an Education Secretary who's committed to dismantling public education. Egregiously, he's nominated an Atty. General whose record of racism previously disqualified him from appointment as a Federal Judge.

From where I view the future, 2017 holds no prospect for "political enlightenment" or improving the prosperity of the masses who suffered under Congressional Republican obstruction. I am only encouraged by my faith in God and the fact that WE have survived threats greater than or equal to those which face us now.

"I don't feel no ways tired - come too far from where I started from. Nobody told me the road would be easy, but I don't believe He brought me this far to leave me!"

Let us move forward with that faith.

*Dr. E. Faye Williams, Esq. is National President of the National Congress of Black Women. 202/678-6788. [www.nationalcongressbw.org](http://www.nationalcongressbw.org).*

**Why African-Americans should care about Aleppo**

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

*"If we are to have peace on earth, our loyalties must become ecumenical rather than sectional. Our loyalties must transcend our race, our tribe, our class, and our nation; and this means we must develop a world perspective... It really boils down to this: that all life is interrelated."*



**Dr. Wilmer Leon**

*We are all caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied into a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. We are made to live together because of the interrelated structure of reality." - Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "A Christmas Sermon on Peace" 1967*

**F**irst, some background and context. Aleppo is a city in Syria. Syria, officially known as the Syrian Arab Republic, is a country in Western Asia, bordering Lebanon and the Mediterranean Sea to the west, Turkey to the north, Iraq to the east, Jordan to the south, and Israel to the southwest.

For centuries Aleppo was the largest city in Syria; the third largest in the Ottoman Empire after Constantinople and Cairo. According to the BBC, "Aleppo, or "Halab" in Arabic, is one of world's oldest continually inhabited cities, being mentioned in Egyptian texts from the 20th Century BC."

The president of Syria is Bashar al-Assad. He was elected president when he ran unopposed after the death of his father, the previous president Hafez al-Assad died in June of 2000. It is important to know that al-Assad is an Alawite Shia Muslim. This community is a minority faction in Syria.

Syria is an ally with Russia. Their relationship goes as far back as 1947. Syria sided with the USSR against the United States during the Cold War. In 1971 former president Hafez al-Assad allowed the USSR to open a naval base in Tartus. This base provides Russia a stable presence from which to operate in the Middle East and is

Russia's only naval facility in the Mediterranean region and only remaining military facility outside the former USSR. Obviously, this naval base and the relationship with Syria are very important to Russia and its president Vladimir Putin. President Putin is also concerned that Chechen rebels who are fighting in Syria will return to Russia and threaten him. Syria is also aligned with Iran, as well as Lebanon's Iranian-backed Hezbollah militant group.

The relationships in this region are very complex. They not only involve nations but religions and ethnic groups as well. Suffice it to say, just from the perspective of the national governments involved, with the United States being allied with Israel, any conflict involving Syria will become a proxy conflict between The United States and Russia. President Putin is using Syria as a way to demonstrate to the world that contrary to President Obama's belief, Russia is a little more than just a "regional power". Russia is a major player in the Middle East.

Bashar's father Hafez ran a very tightly controlled and repressive government. As a minority Alawite Shia he needed the support of a loyal and repressive military and business interests to stay in power. When Bashar came to power, he implemented a brief period of change. He eased restrictions on the press, released some political prisoners and tolerated a small amount of political debate.

These changes made the minority Alawites and the military very nervous. They feared Bashar's attempts at a more open society would result in a call for increased political power and threaten the minority Alawite control over the country.

As the Arab Spring in Tunisia and Egypt spread to Syria, President Bashar al-Assad reversed course and ordered his military and police forces to crush the Sunni dominated dissent. This has led to what we now know as the Syrian Civil War. The Syrian Civil War has also become tide to the battle with ISIL, the Kurd's fight for autonomy in Turkey and other struggles in the region. As stated above, the relationships in this region are very complex. They not only involve nations but religions

and ethnic groups as well.

Why should African Americans care? The fear of an Alawite minority of losing control of a Sunni majority is very similar to the European American fear of the "browning of America". According to NPR, "Non-whites now make up a majority of kindergartners; by the next presidential election, the Census Bureau predicts they will be a majority of all children; and by 2044, no one racial group will be a majority of the country." White Americans are losing their demographic dominance of America and many are losing their minds. Hence, the politics of resentment of an African American president contributing to the election of a totally inept and unqualified, race baiting, misogynist, narcissistic and xenophobic Donald Trump.

Given this backdrop, why should African-Americans care about Aleppo and the Syrian Civil War? First because it is a tragedy that all in the human family should be concerned about. The U.N. estimates about 400,000 people have been killed in Aleppo since the battle first started back in March 2011. More recently, at least 463 civilians, including 62 children, were killed in eastern Aleppo since mid-November, according to data collected by the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. According to "I Am Syria" 50,000 children have died as a result of the larger Syrian Civil War. We must develop a world perspective.

Why should we care? Dr. King said that war is an enemy of the poor. In the broader context of the Middle East, according to a report published by Brown University, "US spending on Middle East wars, Homeland Security will reach \$4.79 trillion in 2017." The US can spend trillions in the Middle East and can't provide potable water to a small town in its Midwest.

According to The Guardian, "The infrastructure fixes to the city's [Flint, Mich.] water system over the next several decades [is] at an estimated cost of at least \$216m." This is a drop in the proverbial bucket [no pun intended] to what America is wasting on wars it created and conflicts that its failed policies are exacerbating. As Dr. King said in "Time to Break Silence", "Then came

the buildup in Vietnam (War on Terror), and I watched this program broken and eviscerated, as if it were some idle political plaything of a society gone mad on war, and I knew that America would never invest the necessary funds or energies in rehabilitation of its poor so long as adventures like Vietnam (War on Terror) continued to draw men and skills and money like some demonic destructive suction tube."

I should discuss the impact that the Syrian refugee crisis is having around the world but that will be another article at another time.

As the battle for Aleppo wages on and Middle East conflict(s) continue to escalate, in a Trump administration, who will be called upon to fight these wars? As Minister Louis Farrakhan said to President George W. Bush, "America, you can't win this with your technology...eventually you will have to send your troops in here...and when you do, they will deal with you."

Why should we care about Aleppo?

Dr. King said in "Time to Break Silence": "Perhaps a more tragic recognition of reality took place when it became clear to me that the war was doing far more than devastating the hopes of the poor at home. It was sending their sons and their brothers and their husbands to fight and to die in extraordinarily high proportions relative to the rest of the population. We were taking the black young men who had been crippled by our society and sending them eight thousand miles away to guarantee liberties in Southeast Asia which they had not found in southwest Georgia and East Harlem."

Will it be your son or daughter that President Trump sends to fight? Rest assured, Ivanka, Don, Jr. and Eric won't be going. They are busy.

Why should African-Americans care about Aleppo?...Because it matters!

*Dr. Wilmer Leon is the Producer/ Host of the nationally broadcast call-in talk radio program "Inside the Issues with Leon," on SiriusXM Satellite radio channel 126. Go to [www.wilmerleon.com](http://www.wilmerleon.com) or email: [wjl3us@yahoo.com](mailto:wjl3us@yahoo.com). [www.twitter.com/drwleon](http://www.twitter.com/drwleon) and *Dr. Leon's Prescription at Facebook.com*.*

**THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL**

—SALUTES—

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

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## New Hanover County

The New Hanover County Lupus Foundation Support Group meets on the third Tuesday of each month from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00pm in Classroom D, Service Level, NHRMC. There is no charge to attend the meeting, and drop-ins are welcome. Contact the LEANC at info@lupusnc.org or at 877-849-8271, ext. 1. For more information, visit www.lupusnc.org. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 19, 2016.



## Community Briefs

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

## Brunswick County

Solid Waste & Recycling Office closed Monday, January 2 and will reopen on Tuesday, January 3. Landfill operating a regular schedule. Convenient sites closed Monday, January 2 and will reopen Wednesday, January 4. Curbside Trash & Recycling Collections operating a regular schedule.

## Onslow County

S.O.U.L. Society, a non-profit organization based in Jacksonville, North Carolina, is proud to present "Sankofa Sessions: Rebuilding The Village," January 1, 2017, from 6 pm to 10 pm, at the M&L Center, 141 Gray Town Road, Jacksonville, North Carolina. The event will feature a drum circle, music, testimonials, open mic, performances from Miss Black America Lyn Walker, T. Walker, spoken word artist Dasan Ahanu, a 20-minute screening of the award-winning documentary "Wilmington On Fire," a question/answer period with the director Christopher Everett, and the film's participants, Kent Chaffield and Larry Reni Thomas. For more information call Brad Simmons at (252) 503-0907 or go to: soulsocietync.org.

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

Thank you for your prayers and acts of kindness, shown during my illness and recovery. Your love and kindness means a lot to me. Please continue to keep me in your prayers.

Sincerely,  
Barbara Lewis



Alphonzo S. Yates (Piney)

There was an empty space in God's garden, so he looked and saw your tired face. He wrapped his arms around you and took you from this place. We know it must be beautiful, because they say he only takes the best. A light form our lives has gone, a voice we loved is still. A place is vacant within our hearts which can never be

filled. Hard days may be before us. It's all a part of God's plan. Why you left so soon, we may never truly understand. You'll be alone no longer and you'd tell us "Don't be sad." Please believe, you were no burden. We'll always love you, Dad! So rest in peace Daddy and thanks for all you've done, go be that superman in heaven as you were on earth with the crown that you have won.

The family will receive visitors and friends on Thursday, December 29, 2016 from 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm at John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home, 520 Red Cross St., Wilmington, NC

The funeral service for Alphonzo S. Yates (Piney) will be held on Friday, December 30, 2016 at Union Missionary Baptist Church, 2711 Princess Place Drive, Wilmington, NC.

## HOMETOWN NEWS FROM BRUNSWICK COUNTY

## Changing times can be harmful

There are many things we remember about lifestyles of long ago. Years ago, early in the morning, parents would get out of bed and get the heat stated for the family. As far as country living is concerned, because electricity was so expensive, the wood heater and the fireplace were the most common ways of heating the home. For



Verniece Stanley

poorer farm families, times were especially hard. On the land were plenty of trees, and trees were cut down and the wood was cut into suitable lengths for burning in a fireplace.

In the old days, people had

various ways of passing their time. Sometimes people just relaxed and enjoyed sitting on comfortable chairs in the old living room. Sometimes the ladies would arrange quilting days and get together to make beautiful handmade quilt tops. They would help one another complete each quilt. This usually proved to be an enjoyable activity and helped to bring about a good relationship among friends and neighbors. It was also a way to help provide families with an ample supply of quilts to help keep them warm in cold weather.

Speaking of trying to stay warm in winter, I'm reminding of a scene I witnessed on Old 17 HWY, as I passed a mobile home village near Bolivia, NC. I cannot dismiss from my mind the image of a man sitting in a chair on the

outside. He sat with a blanket draped around his shoulders. I don't know whether he did not have enough heat in his mobile home to keep him warm or just had nowhere else to go. Either way, he seemed to be in need of assistance.

Times have surely changed in this modernistic society to the point wherein we move so fast that we have little or no time or concern for each other. We find low income families and poor people in different neighborhoods all over the place. In this holiday season, it would be good to keep our focus others' needs more so than our wants. We ought to teach our children how important it is to have great respect for ourselves and others. We ought not get so caught up in the changes of the times that we lose our care concern for

the poor. Not only should we stay in touch with those who can, and will, help us but also those to whom we can be of help.

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.

## CASH IN THE APPLE

## FENCES

It makes you darned proud to see to of the best actors in the business - Denzel Washington and Viola Davis - apply their trade at the very top of their game in a stunning production that reminds us that true acting and great writing still have a place in American cinema.



Cash Michaels

That's why I was so pleased that the Monday 3:25 p.m.

showing of August Wilson's "Fences" was sold out when my family and I went to see it. Rarely do we see true black theater on the screen, but there it is. Washington, Davis along with most of the cast were reprising their performances from the 2010 Broadway stage production of playwright Wilson's master work.

August Wilson, who also wrote "The Piano Lesson," "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom" and "Joe Turner's Come and Gone," winning two Pulitzer

Prizes and a Toney Award. He wrote ten plays about black life in all. The playwright died in 2005, writing the screenplay for "Fences" before his death. He insisted that an African-American direct the film version of his play, which Denzel Washington did last April in Pittsburgh.

"Fences" is a stunning motion picture, and the cast, ably led by Washington and Ms. Davis, should be immensely proud. I'm certain August Wilson would be.

THE NEW YEAR - The line begins behind me when it comes to being thankful that 2016 has come and gone. Lord knows this has been a bad news year all around, and yet many of us are living to tell about it.

Personally, it was the year when I was diagnosed with acute leukemia, a unique form of cancer that the great doctors and nurses at UNC-Chapel Hill Cancer Hospital and Rex Hospital helped me overcome. I have a 50-50 chance of living a normal life (I'm in remission), and with their skill, and GOD's grace, I believe the odds are on my

side.

Politically, the presidential election tore this nation apart in ways that may never heal. 2016 also signaled the end of the Obama Administration, and the great pride that many of us had in seeing a black president who led with confidence, professionalism, style and grace. The courage of Barack Obama to serve as our first African-American commander-in-chief is now legend, and years from now history will be kind indeed, and place him among the top of all presidents who have served our nation.

We will certainly miss him, First Lady Michelle Obama, and the entire family as they leave the White House. Their place in history is now secured for all time.

YEAR 2017 - So what will the new year hold for us all? There is much to be concerned about, given the constant drumbeat of dread we're hearing everyday about the incoming Trump Administration, and some of the people he has selected to serve.

Even though the

Republicans, once again, control both houses of Congress, the White House, and shortly the US Supreme Court once again, something tells me all is not going to go well for our conservative friends. It seems clear that our new president has his own ideas for governing, and is not likely to follow anyone's lead but his own.

I guess the only way to properly end this last column for 2016, besides wishing each and every one of you a Happy New Year, is hope that all of us pray for a safe and blessed 2017! Pray, pray often, and pray hard.

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.

## NHCS students named Coca-Cola Scholar semifinalists

High School students chosen for next level in prestigious scholarship program

Students from several high schools in New Hanover County Schools (NHCS) have been named semi-finalists for the 2017 class of the Coca-Cola Scholars Program. With the 2016 class, the Coca-Cola

Scholars Foundation will have provided more than 5,700 Scholars nationwide with over \$66 million in scholarships. Below is a list of semi-finalists from NHCS:

- Colton Casto and Mina Yakubu - New Hanover High School
- Thy Le - Laney High School
- Abigail Scholer - Hoggard High School

"We are extremely proud of all of these students," Superintendent Dr. Tim Markley, "They are all excellent students."

"As a premier scholarship provider, we recognize our role in helping young people achieve their college goals," said Mark Davis, President of the Foundation. "The economy continues to affect many students' ability to attend the college of their choice, so it is critical we continue to stay the course. The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation received nearly 86,000 applications this year, and the Semifinalists are truly some of the most accomplished students in the country."

Colton and Mina rank with approximately 1,900 high school seniors who are in the running for 150 college scholarships worth \$20,000 each. Students are selected to advance to this next phase based on academic excellence, leadership and service demonstrated in school and community activities. The class of 2017 Coca-Cola Scholars will mark the 29th consecutive year that the Foundation has awarded scholarships.

In addition to receiving college scholarships, those students selected as Coca-Cola Scholars will be welcomed into a vibrant and growing family of alumni that fosters lasting connections with its members. No other scholarship program maintains such lifetime connections or nurtures such a unique culture. Coca-Cola Scholar alumni stay in touch through regional councils, special events, and through their local Coca-Cola bottling facilities. In 2006, a Coca-Cola Scholar Alumni Advisory Board was created to build on

the efforts of the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation through networking, mentoring, collaborations and friendships in order to make an even greater positive impact together.

The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, a joint effort of Coca-Cola Bottlers across America and The Coca-Cola Company, is one of the largest corporate-sponsored, achievement-based scholarship programs of its kind in the United States. The program recognizes a diverse group of extraordinary high school seniors who have demonstrated academic and civic excellence in their schools and communities.

The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation was created in 1986 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Coca-Cola and to establish a legacy for the education of tomorrow's leaders through college scholarships.

Find the full list of Semifinalists from across the country at [www.cocacolascholars.org](http://www.cocacolascholars.org).

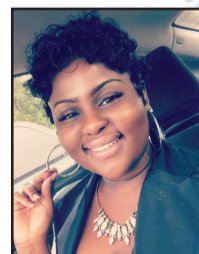
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**Jose Perez**

Jose Perez was born March 10, 1947 to the late Georgino Perez and Augustina Vazquez in Naguabo, Puerto Rico. He departed this life December 15, 2016. His funeral was held Sunday, December 18, 2016 at St. Mary Missionary Baptist Church, Winnabow, NC. Burial followed in the Church Cemetery.

Joe, as he was lovingly called, and his mother relocated to Paterson, NJ where he obtained his education through the New Jersey public school system. He was employed with Herman's Sporting Goods and with Home Care Industries before retiring. In 2013, Joe and the love of his life, Brenda relocated to Shallotte, NC. He became a member of St. Mary Missionary Baptist Church. His humor, resiliency and love will truly be missed.

Leaving to cherish his precious memories are: his loving wife, Brenda Perez; son, Jose Perez, Jr. (Kim); daughter, Tinesha Nicholas (Daron); grandchildren, Shanay Mouzone, Taheem Singletary, Madison Nicholas and Malia Nicholas; brother, Orlando Delgado; uncle, Juan Vazquez; aunt, Matilda Vazquez; cousins, Lydia and Cristino Fontanez, Wilfredo Vazquez, Noelia Vazquez, Lydia Hernandez, Myriam Sosa and Blanca LeDuc; special friends, Joseph Jones, Tony, Sonny, Jack and Vic; a host of other family, friends and loved ones. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

**Carrie Hankins Brown**

Carrie Hankins Brown was born June 3, 1922 to the late Osceola and Leola Hankins. She quietly answered God's call Thursday, December 15, 2016 at Westminster Presbyterian Senior Living Center in Dover, Delaware.

She was united in holy matrimony to the late Oscar E. Brown in 1957. They shared a wonderful life together and produced three amazing identical triplet girls born June 16, 1959, Veronica Brown, Vergie Benton (John Benton) and Vernetta Foxe (Stanley Foxe). Prior to her marriage to the late Oscar Brown, she was married to the late Eli McCrimmon. They produced two children, Barbara Jean McCrimmon (Mack) who preceded her in death and Eli Vanda McCrimmon (Mary Ann). Carrie received her education in the New Hanover County School System. In her youth, she accepted Christ and joined the St. Luke AME Church in Wilmington, NC. Her most enjoyable times were when she was with her daughters and grandchildren. She would light up when seeing them. She loved riding in the car and having dinners at her daughters. Also, she enjoyed talking on the phone with her

son, Eli and daughter-in-law, Mary Ann. She enjoyed looking "Fly" and dressing from head to toe. We are giving God the praise for blessing us with 94 years of her unconditional love, wisdom, joy and courage. A Graveside Service will be held Thursday, December 22, 2016 at Calvary Memorial Cemetery in Wilmington, NC. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

**Marsha Lynn Reid**

Marsha Lynn Reid was born February 16, 1981. Her funeral was held Saturday, December 17, 2016 at St. Stephen AME Church. Burial followed in Calvary Memorial Cemetery. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

**Mr. Audury "Sonny" Moore**

Audury Moore was born December 17, 1945 in Rocky Point, NC to the late Charles Moore Sr. and Lubertha Moore. Audury passed away on December 12, 2016. He was preceded in death by on son Bryan Moore, two sisters Gerylane Edgehill and Charmaine Moore, two brothers Charles Lyndbyrd and Hubert L. Moore.

Audury was better known as "Sonny" and "Cowboy". He was educated in the Philadelphia public school system. Sonny loved his family with a passion, and shared that same love with his friends. Giving of himself in many ways, Sonny gave of his heart through love, kindness, understanding and sympathy. Most of his life was spent in Philadelphia, PA. He worked for the City of Philadelphia and Duffy Oil Company for many years.

Sonny returned to Wilmington and worked at American Skins for fifteen years. Sonny found favor with his boss Less Edwards and his family, also with the family of James Lewis. What a likeable person he was.

Sonny leaves to cherish his memory two sons Audury Davis Moore and Kawon Colson, one daughter Rozella Moore, and four grandchildren, all of Philadelphia, PA; Ernest Nixon (Anna) whom he affectionately called his brother; one sister-in-law Lorraine Moore of Patterson, NJ and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Services were held at Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church on Saturday December 17, 2016. Internment at Calvary Memorial Cemetery, Wilmington, NC. *Arrangements by Adkins-Drain Funeral Service. 515 South Eighth Street, Wilmington, North Carolina 28401. Condolences may be shared at www.adkinsdrainfuneralservice.com.*

**Mrs. Francis Mae Thompson Simmons**

Francis Mae Thompson

Simmons, was born to the late Effie Ruth Green Thompson and Frank Thompson on July 17, 1932 in Elloree, SC. The youngest of thirteen children, she is the last of her siblings to be called home.

Francis was preceded in death by her husband George, her daughter, Frances, Granddaughter Charmian Hand, Grandson, Edward Webb, Jr. And Alexander Webb and stepson, George Wayne Simmons.

Francis came to Wilmington in 1952 to stay with her uncle Joseph Greene and his wife to make a new start in Life. She met, fell in love and married George Simmons in 1953, during this time her uncle introduced her to Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church. Francis enjoyed attending this church so much that she became a watch care member. As an active member of the church, she served on the Senior Usher Board, where she later became President, she was also a member of the Missionary Department. Later on in life she joined the Daughters of Zion. She loved her church and her church family.

Francis was our friend, fishing partner; mom, grand-ma, auntie and the last head of our Thompson Clan.

Francis leaves to cherish her memories Sons, Richard Simmons (Barbara), Eddie Thompson (Marguerite) of Charleston, SC, George Simmons, Jr.(Connie) of Masonboro Sound, NC and daughter, Victoria Wilcox (Alfonso) of Tampa, FL, Nine grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, with two special great-grand-children; Courtney Hand of Durham, NC and Calvin Hernandez of the home. As well as a host of nieces, nephews, other family and friends.

Services were held at Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church on Saturday December 17, 2016. Internment at Calvary Memorial Cemetery, Wilmington, NC. *Arrangements by Adkins-Drain Funeral Service. 515 South Eighth Street, Wilmington, North Carolina 28401. Condolences may be shared at www.adkinsdrainfuneralservice.com.*

**Ms. Judy A. Davis**

Judy A. Davis was born in Wilmington, NC on October 12, 1949 to the late Willie and Annie Moses. She departed on to glory on December 14, 2016. She was preceded in death by her brother, Franklin "Bubba" Moses.

Judy graduated from Williston Senior High School in 1968. She enlisted into military service in the United States Marine Corps in January 1969. Judy took advantage of her VA benefits and returned to school at Cape Fear Community College and graduated with an Associate's degree in Criminal

Justice. She held a variety of jobs over the years from C.O. at the state Department of Corrections to Security Officer at Verizon Wireless. She remained active with her church, St. Stephens A.M.E. Church, where she served on the Usher Board when her health allowed her to do so.

Judy leaves to cherish her memories two loving sisters, Mrs. Bonnie Burns (Dan) and Gaye Lynette Bradley (Jeff), two brothers Robert Watkins (Maxine) and Rochester "Chick" Moses (Bertha), and her nieces and nephews who she held near to her heart.

A Memorial service was held on Thursday, December 22, 2016 in the chapel at Adkins-Drain Funeral service. *Arrangements by Adkins-Drain Funeral Service. 515 South Eighth Street, Wilmington, North Carolina 28401. Condolences may be shared at www.adkinsdrainfuneralservice.com.*

**Ms. Lucille Rhooney Wade**

Lucille was born November 2, 1943 to Lucy Mae Rhooney and the late Louis Harry McQuillen. On Friday, December 9, 2016 Lucille Rhooney Wade made her transition from earth to glory.

She was a loving and devoted mother, grandmother, sister and aunt. She was always ready and willing to help others. While her health permitted she was an active member of New Light ministries under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Mary L. Benjamin. She participated in any capacity she was able to. She had a passion for the prison ministry and usher board.

She lived by the scripture "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might" (Ecclesiastes 9:10)

She leaves to cherish her memories: sons David McNeil (Sabrina) of Atlanta, GA; Emmett Wade (Tonya) of Burgaw, NC; grandchildren Shanique Pearson, Katiri Wade, Emmett Wade, Riannah Wade, Elijah Wade, Jade McNeil; brother Raymond Freeman (Elaine), Wilmington, NC; sister Joan Lonnicie Graham and a host of nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends.

Services were held at Myrtle Grove First Born Church on Wednesday December 14, 2016 at 1PM. Internment at Oak Grove cemetery. *Arrangements by Adkins-Drain Funeral Service. 515 South Eighth Street, Wilmington, North Carolina 28401. Condolences may be shared at www.adkinsdrainfuneralservice.com.*

**Thaddeus Montey Cromartie**

Thaddeus Montey Cromartie also known as "Money" departed this life on Friday, December 16, 2016. He was born in Wilmington, NC on January 26, 1974 to Ruby Mae Cromartie and the late Freddie Kenneth Keaton.

He accepted Christ at a young age and joined New Covenant Holiness Church. He was a devoted member and was actively involved in church activities.

Montey graduated from John T. Hoggard High School in 1993. He worked as a chef in many of the local restaurants such as Elijah's for a number of

years. In 1996, Montey, along with four other friends, started a non-profit organization called "FIVE KINGS" (Kids In Need of Guidance and Support). This organization helped build kid's confidence and give them a positive start in life. Montey was a man of many talents. His greatest pastime was cooking which he learned from his maternal grandfather who was also a chef. He was never afraid to try something new but his specialty was baked chicken and rice. Montey was best known for his captivating smile which he wore like a badge of honor. He was also a member of the Black Lodge Mason.

After leaving Wilmington, N.C., Montey decided to move to Renton, Washington where he has lived for the past 15 years. Montey started working with (WREN) Washington Real Estate Network in which he was very successful. Later Montey landed a job with Boeing Aircraft where he was recently promoted to Floor Manager.

He adored his family, the love of his life, his fiancé Leighann and their two children, Cheyanne and Montey Jr.

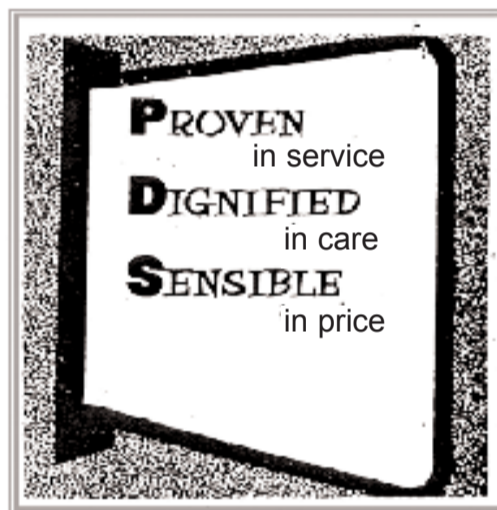
Montey lived by this creed: "Yesterday is history, tomorrow is the future, and today is a gift, that's why they call it, the present."

He leaves to cherish his memory, his mother, Ruby Mae Cromartie, (Willie) of the city, fiancé Leighann Joseph, daughter, Cheyanne Marie Cromartie and son, Thaddeus

Montey Cromartie Jr. all of Renton, Washington, his brother, Brandon Keaton of San Diego, CA; fraternal grand-

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Allene and Samuel Drain, Jr.  
In Memoriam



Connie Drain Green  
Funeral Director



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## New Hanover County

The Better St. Phillip A.M.E. Zion Church, 2913 Acorn Branch Rd. (in the Wrightsboro community), will be Hosting the Annual Community Watch Night Service, on December 31st at 10:00p.m. The Speaker will be the Rev. Dr. Teresa Holmes and she will be accompanied by her choir & ushers. Breakfast will be served. Other participating Pastors and Churches Rev. Isaac Alderman, Pastor of Mt. Holly Missionary Baptist Church and Rev. Wilma Hansley Pastor of St. John A.M.E. Zion Church. For more information, please call 910-540-4406 or you may call 910-540-4477. Also St. Phillip will hold their annual New Year's Gospel Blowout Celebration on January 1st at 3:30 p.m. "First Stage Entertainment Max-A-Million Johnson Production" Featuring; Mr. Charles Montague formerly of the Alabama & Mississippi Blind Boys, pastor "officer" Jacob Wills, with his new cd release... "God's grace is amazing", solo artist Rosco Stanton and Johnny Stringfield & family. Featured guest: the new revivals, solo artist Tyaun Bryant, the sensational gospel travelers, solo artist Jerry Wayne, The M&R Gospel Singers and the Burgaw Male Choir just to name a few. The 2017 M. C's are Rev. Dr. Mary C. Nixon, Rev. Dr. Jermaine B. Armour, Elder Paula Moore and Bro. Albert "Al" Harrison. Doors open at 2:30p.m. For the sake of space, the 2017 New Year's Gospel Blowout will be held at their "mother church" The New St. Luke A.M.E. Zion church. The New St. Luke is located at 709 Church St. For more details or any information, please call Rev. Dr. Mary C. Nixon at 910-540-4406 or sister Dentrail boykin at 910-200-4953.

## Religious Briefs

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

## Brunswick County

Crystal Spring Missionary Baptist Church will hold their Holiday Banquet, "Holidays Under the Stars" on Saturday, January 7th at 6:00 pm in the fellowship hall. Colors are black, silver and white.

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

## OBITUARIES

## Monique Moses

Continued from page 7

mother, Niece Keaton of the city, fraternal grandfather, Freddie Baker of Palmdale, CA; aunts, Dorothy George of the city, Carleen Singletary of Raleigh, NC; LaQuanas Bloodworth of the city, Janice Cromartie of the city, Debra Adom of Mt. Juliette, TN; uncles, Randall Baker, of Los Angeles, CA; Carlton Baker of Dover, Delaware, Terry Bloodworth of the city, and Stafford Cunningham of Brooklyn, NY; great aunts, Ada Mae Williams of Rocky Point, NC; Ruth Cromartie of Baltimore, MD; Frances Cromartie of the city, Isabele Cromartie of Brooklyn, NY; and Victoria Sheridan of the city, great uncles, James Williams of Rocky Point, NC; and Russell Cromartie of Baltimore, MD; his cousins who he adored and a host of other relatives and friends, special cousins, La'vel, Clyde Shelly, and Eddie Keaton, friends who were like brothers, Joey Watkins, Atiba Johnson, Xavier White, Lamont Gause, Frederick Smith and Donald Smoakes, special family, Pam, Nichelle, Nicole, Jeffrey, Vicky and Averin Reid.

A service was held on Tuesday, December 27, 2016 at Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church at 12:00 noon. Interment was held at Calvary Memorial Cemetery. Arrangements by Adkins-Drain Funeral Service, 515 South Eighth Street, Wilmington, North Carolina 28401. Condolences may be shared at [www.adkinsdrainfuneralservice.com](http://www.adkinsdrainfuneralservice.com).

Heiris Monique Burwell (Moses), age 37, of Wilmington, passed away Sunday, December 25, 2016. A visitation will be held 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm on Friday, December 30, 2016 at Davis Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 11:00 am at Union Missionary Baptist Church. Burial will follow in Greenlawn Memorial Park. 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](http://www.davisfuneralhomenc.com).

## Clure A. Fisher, Jr.

Clure A. Fisher, Jr., age 73, of Wilmington, passed away Tuesday, December 27, 2016. A visitation will be held 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm on Thursday, December 29, 2016. Funeral services will be held at 2:00 pm on Friday, December 30, 2016. Both services will be held at Davis Funeral Home. Burial will follow in Greenlawn Memorial Park. 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](http://www.davisfuneralhomenc.com).

## Elaine D. Wade

Elaine D. Wade, of Wilmington, passed away Monday, December 26, 2016. Services are pending and will be announced by Davis Funeral Home. 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](http://www.davisfuneralhomenc.com).

## TELL SOMEBODY

## "A new beginning"

"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty." Rev. 1:8

The True source of new beginnings, is Jesus Christ, according to Revelation 1:8



Sylvia Hooper

It is in him that we live, move, and have our being, and He gives us the power to start all over again, when ever the need arises. If we make ourselves available to him, he will work in us, through us, and for us to bring about the manifestation of the grace of a new beginning.

There are many things we need to let go of, in order to achieve the new beginning. One of the first things to let go of... is the past. Whether we failed or succeeded, the past has passed, and we need to prepare for the future. Even when we do not have a plan, God has a plan for each

of us, if we would dare to ask him what it is.

"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart. Jeremiah 29:11-13.

We need to let go of past offenses. It is a waste of time and energy to hold on to grudges, feuds, and unfor-giveness. Vengeance belongs to the Lord, and he will repay. Let go and let God have his way. God is not blind, deaf, nor is he forgetful. All of us will one day reap what we have sown. God has promised this to each and every one of us in Galatians 6:7.

We need to let go of the familiar, and trust God when he leads us into unfamiliar territory. We must be willing to change and make great effort to do so, realizing we

can do nothing in our own strength, but by his power, we can do all things! Phillipians 4:13.

In preparing for a new beginning, we must allow God the Holy Spirit to give us a new heart, mind, and spirit. Our personality, character, and attitude could all use an upgrade, as we grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. II Corinthians 5:17, says, "Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." Ephesians 4:24 declares, "And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness."

Your new beginning is just a prayer away, so, what are you waiting for? Don't say you are waiting on the Lord, for he is always ready to grant a new beginning. He is waiting on you to say those two special words he longs to hear from his children. "Yes Lord!" THANK God for your

new beginning.

Prayer: Father, I ask you for a new beginning. Help me to start over and forgive me for past mistakes as I 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!

## Brown's Chapel will hold MLK, Jr. celebration

Brown's Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church, 795 Jabber town Rd., Southport, NC, where the pastor is Reverend Avery McAllister, will hold their Pre-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration on Sunday, January 8, 2016 at 3:00 pm. The guest speaker will be Deaconess Winifred Uribe Ellerby.

Deaconess Ellerby was born and raised in Wilmington, NC. Deaconess Ellerby is a graduate of North Brunswick, Class of 1993 Deaconess Ellerby is a member of Uplifting Faith ministries in Wilmington, NC under the leadership of Apostles Ricky and Sandra Randolph. Ellerby was ordained in 2012. Currently Ellerby is a Behavior Healthcare Coordinator, Certified Medical Unit Clerk and LPN at MedNorth Health



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO WINIFRED ELLERBY

Center. She is mother of three wonderful children, Ali Iquan Rouse recently deceased, age 23, Anthony Joye, age 10 and Makiya Lanay James, age 6. She is engaged to Anthony Joye.

## Tell them you read it



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THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

## THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL



—SALUTES—

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OR SIS. DENTRAIL BOYKIN AT 910-200-4953.

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St. Stephen A.M.E. Church  
501 Red Cross St  
Wilmington, North Carolina

**December 26, 2016-January 1st, 2017**  
**6:00pm-8:00pm**

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Special Guests Including  
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Spoken Word by  
**Rhonda Sekhmet Ra**

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**LEGAL NOTICES**

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

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **Hassan Abdulkadri (16-E-1559)**, late of New Hanover County, North Carolina the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 701 Market Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401 on or before **March 10, 2017** or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 5th day of December, 2016

Charlotte Noel Fox, Administrator of the Estate of Debra Ward Craige & Fox, PLLC  
701 Market Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
910-815-0085

December 8, 15, 22, 29, 2016

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the estate of **Charmian Hand**, 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 **22nd day of March, 2017**, 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 22nd day of December, 2016

Courtney B. Hand, Administrator  
311 S. Lasalle St. Apt. 51D  
Durham NC 27705

December 22, 29, 2016, January 5, 12, 2017

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF  
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER  
IN THE DISTRICT COURT  
JUVENILE SESSION  
FILE NO. 15 JT 127**

**IN THE MATTER OF:  
N.R.R. ( January 9, 2012)**

**TO: RESPONDENT LEGAL FATHER, MICHAEL WALKER AND ANY UNKNOWN BIOLOGICAL FATHER OF THE ABOVE CAPTIONED MALE, CHILD BORN IN MYRTLE BEACH, HORRY COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA TO NIC-HOLE MARIE PRIVITERA**

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

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

You are required to make defense to such pleading within forty (40) days following December 15, 2016, which date is the date of first publication of this Notice. Upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

Christine Farrell, has been appointed to represent Michael Walker, legal father to the above named Juvenile and she can be reached at 2802 Market Street, Wilmington, NC 28403, or at CFarrell@MulliganEpstein.com, 910-763-1100.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT A HEARING ON THE PETITION TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS IS SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 6, 2017, AT 9:30 A.M., or as soon thereafter, at the Office of Juvenile Justice, 138 N 4th Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401.

This the 15th day of December, 2016.

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

December 15, 22, 29, 2016

**LEGAL NOTICES**

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

Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **Gladys Dickie (16-E-1371)**, late of New Hanover County, Wilmington, North Carolina the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 701 Market Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401 on or before **March 22, 2017** or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 12th day of December, 2016

Richard Dickie, Executor of the Estate of Gladys Dickie Craige & Fox, PLLC  
701 Market Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
910-815-0085

December 22, 29, 2016, January 5, 12, 2017

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

Having qualified as CTA administrator of the Estate of **Susan Peck (16-E-1523)**, late of New Hanover County, Wilmington, North Carolina the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 701 Market Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401 on or before **March 25, 2017** or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 16th day of December, 2016

Charlotte Noel Fox, Administrator CTA of the Estate of Susan Peck Craige & Fox, PLLC  
701 Market Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
910-815-0085

December 22, 29, 2016, January 5, 12, 2017

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF  
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER  
IN THE DISTRICT COURT  
JUVENILE SESSION  
FILE NO. 16 JT 10**

**IN THE MATTER OF:  
M.R.I.W. (dob: 15 May 2003)**

**TO: ANDRES IBARRA-RAMOS**

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

Termination of all parental rights you have to M.R.I.W.

You are required to make defense to such pleading within forty (40) days following Thursday, December 29, 2016, which date is the date of first publication of this Notice. Upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought. You have the right to attend this hearing and you have the right to be represented by counsel. Mr. Ibarra-Ramos you are assigned Attorney Emily Jones. Counsel may be contacted at (910)762-7771, 110 N. 5th Avenue, Wilmington, North Carolina 28401.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT A HEARING ON THE PETITION TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS IS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2017, AT 9:30 A.M., or upon a date and time set thereafter, at the Office of Juvenile Justice, 138 N 4th Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401.

This the 29th day of December, 2016.

Jennifer G. Cooke  
Attorney - New Hanover Co. Dept. of Social Services  
1650 Greenfield Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
PO Drawer 1559  
Wilmington, NC 28402-1559  
(910) 798-3612  
(910) 798-3772 \* fax

December 29, 2016, January 5, 12, 2017

**LEGAL NOTICES**

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

THE UNDERSIGNED, Tiffany B. Earle, having qualified on the 21st day of October, 2016, as Personal Representative of the Estate of **Charlene W. Brown (16-E-1566)**, deceased, this is to notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against said Estate that they must present them to the undersigned at GRAVES MAY PLLC, c/o Attorney David Anderson, 5700 Oleander Dr. Wilmington, North Carolina, 28403, on or before the **9th day of March, 2017**, or the claims will be forever barred thereafter, and this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. All persons, firms, and corporations indebted to said Estate will please make prompt payment to the undersigned at the above address.

This 1st day of November, 2016.

Tiffany B. Earle, Personal Representative  
ESTATE OF Charlene W. Brown  
David Anderson  
GRAVES MAY, PLLC  
5700 Oleander Dr.  
Wilmington NC 28403

December 8, 15, 22, 29, 2016

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER  
In the Matter of the Estate of  
Elsie Mae Benton Sikes,  
Deceased**

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **Elsie Mae Benton Sikes**, deceased, late of New Hanover County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before **March 20, 2017**, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. All persons indebted to the said decedent or estate shall please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 15th day of December, 2016.

Amanda L. Sikes  
Executor of the Estate of  
Elsie Mae Benton Sikes  
c/o Anthony L. Register  
Alley, Register & McEachern  
701 North 4th Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401

December 8, 15, 22, 29, 2016

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

Having qualified as Administrator CTA of the Estate of **Edward Rodman (16-E-1451)**, late of New Hanover County, Wilmington, North Carolina the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 701 Market Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401 on or before **April 1, 2017** or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 21st day of December, 2016

Charlotte Noel Fox, Administrator CTA of the Estate of Edward Rodman Craige & Fox, PLLC  
701 Market Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
910-815-0085

December 29, 2016, January 5, 12, 19, 2017

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

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **Hassan Abdulkadir (16-E-1559)**, late of New Hanover County, Wilmington, North Carolina the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 701 Market Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401 on or before **April 1, 2017** or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 21st day of December, 2016

Charlotte Noel Fox, Administrator of the Estate of Hassan Abdulkadir  
701 Market Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
910-815-0085

December 29, 2016, January 5, 12, 19, 2017

**LEGAL NOTICES**

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

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **Gene Francis Rackley (16-E-1225)**, late of New Hanover County, Wilmington, North Carolina the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 701 Market Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401 on or before **March 25, 2017** or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 16th day of December, 2016

Charlotte Noel Fox, Administrator of the Estate of Gene Rackley Craige & Fox, PLLC  
701 Market Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
910-815-0085

December 22, 29, 2016, January 5, 12, 2017

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the estate of **Judy Ann Moses Davis**, 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 **1st day of April, 2017**, 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 29th day of December, 2016

Gaye L. Bradley, Administrator  
119 South 10th Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401

December 29, 2016, January 5, 12, 19, 2017

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF  
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER  
IN THE DISTRICT COURT  
JUVENILE SESSION  
FILE NO. 15 JT 70**

**IN THE MATTER OF:  
C.B.R. (January 26, 2015)**

**TO: RESPONDENT : ROWDY BROWNSON, LEGAL FATHER OF THE ABOVE CAPTIONED MALE, CHILD BORN IN WILMINGTON, NEW HANOVER COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA TO ASHLEY ROSS BROWNSON**

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

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

You are required to make defense to such pleading within forty (40) days following December 15, 2016, which date is the date of first publication of this Notice. Upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

Attorney Brian Moore has been appointed to represent you in this matter and he can be reached at 705 N. 4th Street, Wilmington, NC 28401, 910-362-1100 or at bjm@lawyeremoore.com.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT A HEARING ON THE PETITION TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS IS SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 27, 2017, AT 9:30 A.M., or as soon thereafter at the Office of Juvenile Justice, 138 N 4th Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401.

This the 15th day of December, 2016.

Dean W. Hollandsworth  
Staff Attorney - New Hanover Co. Dept. of Social Services  
1650 Greenfield Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
PO Drawer 1559  
Wilmington, NC 28402-1559  
(910) 798-3509  
(910) 798-3772 \* fax

December 15, 22, 29, 2016

**LEGAL NOTICES**

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the estate of **Marguerite Anne DiFulvio**, 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 **15th day of March, 2017**, 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 15th day of December, 2016

Courtney D. Newcomb, Executrix  
2535 Tar River Road  
Creedmoor, NC 27522

December 15, 22, 29, 2016, January 5, 2017

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the estate of **Katherine White**, 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 **15th day of March, 2017**, 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 15th day of December, 2016

Joyce Irving Jones, Executrix  
319 Bristol Road  
Wilmington, NC 28409

December 15, 22, 29, January 5, 2016

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the estate of **Andrea Jaffe**, 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 **22nd day of March, 2017**, 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 15th day of December, 2016

Ira H. Jaffe, Administrator CTA of the Estate of Andrea Jaffe  
1806 Odyssey Drive  
Wilmington, NC 28405  
Murchison, Taylor & Gibson, PLLC  
16 North Fifth Avenue  
Wilmington, NC 28403

December 22, 29, 2016, January 5, 12, 2017

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

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **Don Wilson (16-E-1522)**, late of New Hanover County, Wilmington, North Carolina the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 701 Market Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401 on or before **April 1, 2017** or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 21st day of December, 2016

Charlotte Noel Fox, Administrator of the Estate of Don Wilson Craige & Fox, PLLC  
701 Market Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
910-815-0085

December 29, 2016, January 5, 12, 19, 2017

**LEGAL NOTICES**

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the estate of **Mary Elizabeth Janicki Blanchard**, 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 **15th day of March, 2017**, 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 15th day of December, 2016

Margaret Blanchard Jones, Executrix  
6104 Sycamore Ave.  
Castle Hayne, NC 28429

December 15, 22, 29, 2016, January 5, 2017

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF  
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER  
IN THE DISTRICT COURT  
JUVENILE SESSION  
FILE NO. 15 JT 300**

**IN THE MATTER OF:  
T.S.J. (dob: 20 December 2010)**

**TO: ROBERT GRAHAM AND ANY UNKNOWN FATHER**

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

Termination of all parental rights you have to T.S.J.

You are required to make defense to such pleading within forty (40) days following Thursday, December 15, 2016, which date is the date of first publication of this Notice. Upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought. You have the right to attend this hearing and you have the right to be represented by counsel. Mr. Graham you are assigned Attorney Dawn Oxendine. Counsel may be contacted at (910)397-7979, 4932 Oleander Drive, Wilmington, NC.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT A HEARING ON THE PETITION TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS IS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, JANUARY 30, 2017, AT 9:30 A.M., or upon a date and time set thereafter, at the Office of Juvenile Justice, 138 N 4th Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401.

This the 15th day of December, 2016.

Jennifer G. Cooke  
Attorney - New Hanover Co. Dept. of Social Services  
1650 Greenfield Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
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December 15, 22, 29, 2016

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