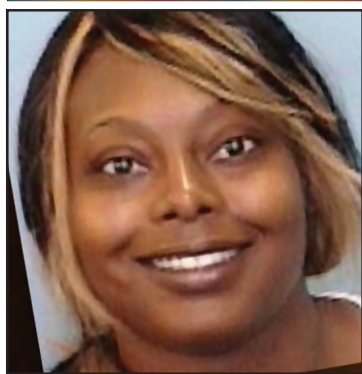


MISSING



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.

**OUTside
Looking IN**

COMMUNITY



Davis Funeral Home honors students with red carpet treatment
PAGE 6

OUR VOICE



Guest Editorial by Marian Wright Edelman
"Moral courage: standing up for what is right"
PAGE 4

BRUNSWICK COUNTY UPDATE



BERNEST HEWETT

DARBY PENS BOOK

BY **BERNEST HEWETT**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

A news release was recently sent to media on an author here in Brunswick County. He is a well known preacher and educator. He holds a Bachelor of Science in psychology, a Master of Religious Education, and a Master of Divinity. He is The Reverend Michael J. Darby, who has worked in the public school system. He has served as a pastor and a Seminary Christian

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THE WILMINGTON
JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

VOLUME 90/No. 3

JANUARY 19, 2017 - JANUARY 25, 2017

FIFTY CENTS



PHOTO BY ROY LEWIS/TRICE EDNEY NEWS WIRE
NAN's Al Sharpton, fourth from left, among other Black leaders, say last Saturday's March is only the beginning of the pressure they will put on Trump to do right by civil rights.

Donald Trump to become President this week amidst growing protests

Rep. John Lewis boycotts inauguration, saying Trump is not 'legitimate'

BY **HAZEL TRICE EDNEY**
EDITOR IN CHIEF
TRICEEDNEYWIRE.COM

President-elect Donald Trump is set to take the presidential oath of office Friday, Jan. 20, amidst protests and even boycotts of the inauguration ceremony. A spokesman for the Presidential

Inaugural Committee says the events will be a grand celebration, nevertheless.

"The inauguration itself is a celebration for the country...It's about a celebration of our Democracy and a peaceful transfer of powers," said Presidential Inaugural Committee spokesman, Alex Stroman, in an interview with the Trice Edney News Wire.

"We are excited about the people

who are participating," he said, noting that President Trump's inaugural address will help calm the discord.

"This president is going to give uplifting and unifying remarks," Stroman said. "I think you will see from this president someone who is going to bring this country together."

Stroman's comments came in response to questions about a tweet sent by Trump after civil rights icon Congressman John Lewis (D-Ga.) announced that he would boycott the inauguration.

"I don't see the President-elect as a legitimate president. I think the Russians participated in helping this man get elected and they have destroyed the candidacy of Hillary Clinton," said Lewis in an interview with NBC News' Chuck Todd. He announced that he will not be attending the inauguration for that reason. More than 50 democrats have since joined Lewis in his boycott, the Washington Post reported Tuesday.

Lewis' words set off a fire storm of tweets from Trump including one in which Trump said Lewis' Georgia district is in "horrible shape and falling apart...All talk, talk, talk - no action or results. Sad!"

Trump's firing back at Lewis, one of the "Big Six" civil rights leaders of the 1960s, then drew ire from the civil rights community. Some expressed their disdain during the "We Shall Not Be Moved" march led by the Rev. Al Sharpton on Saturday, Jan. 14. More than 2,000 showed up in the rain for the demonstration intended to send a message to Trump that any attacks on voting rights and civil rights will be unacceptable.

National civil right leaders, including Sharpton, National Urban League President Marc Morial, and



PHOTO BY ROY LEWIS/TRICE EDNEY NEWS WIRE
Thousands marched and rallied in the National Action Network's "We Shall Not Be Moved" march Jan. 14.

Please see **PROTESTS**/Page 2



REPRESENTATIVE LARRY HALL

Representative Hall to head Military Affairs Department in Cooper administration

BY **CASH MICHAELS**
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

Just three weeks into his new administration, and there seems to be little question about Governor Roy Cooper's commitment to diversity in his cabinet, the most recent addition being District 29 State Representative Larry Hall (D-Durham), who recently stepped down as House Minority leader for the Democrats in the N. C. House after two sessions, as Secretary of Veterans and Military Affairs.

Secretary Hall, who took the oath of office Monday evening, administered by Congressman G. K. Butterfield at Peace Missionary Baptist Church in Durham, succeeds Cornell Wilson, who was appointed by former Governor Pat McCrory as that department's first secretary in 2015.

Hall's appointment is subject to State Senate confirmation after it convenes the long session, beginning January 25, 2017. Cooper made the announcement last week at the Executive Mansion, saying that Hall, who served in the U. S. Marine Corps from 1976 to 1995, "...will be working closely with people in Washington concerning our military bases, and he will be working to make sure that North Carolina veterans are treated like they should be because of their courageous serv-

Please see **HALL**/Page 2

North Carolinians hail Obama but dread Trump presidency

BY **CASH MICHAELS**
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

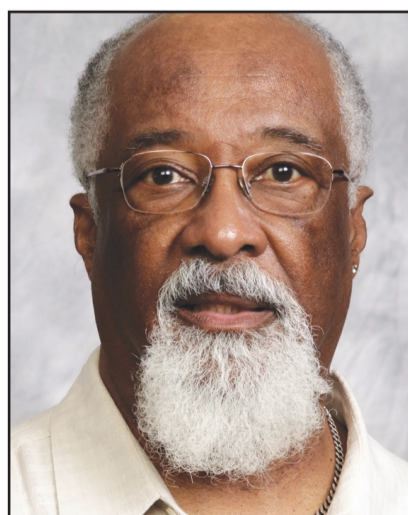
On Friday, Jan. 20, 2017, at the stroke of 12:00 noon, as Barack Hussein Obama officially steps down from power as the nation's two-term elected President of the United States, controversial businessman, Donald J. Trump, will be sworn in as the 45th President, and his four-year term will begin.

As elsewhere in America, North Carolina is virtually split between those sorry to see the nation's first African-American go, and those who are happy to see a new Republican president take office, promising to "make America great again."

In the Black community, though, while there is generally pride in Obama's historic tenure, there is also trepidation about what the Trump presidency will mean for the nation and the world. At King Holiday celebrations across the nation, many speakers praised the outgoing President, while lamenting the policies of his successor.

"When men no better than Klansmen, dressed in suits, are being sworn into office, we cannot be silent," Opal Tometi, a "Black Lives Matter" co-founder, told a King Day

Please see **SPLIT FEELINGS**
Page 2



ATTY. IRV JOYNER



REP. EVELYN TERRY



THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

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

Please send news near the event date. Briefs/news cannot be taken over the phone. Photos and stories may also be emailed to us at wilmjournnews@aol.com. News, but not photos, may be faxed to us at 910-343-1334. Photos may be picked up after appearing in the paper. The publisher is not responsible for the return of unsolicited news, pictures or advertising copy unless necessary postage accompanies the copy on a self-addressed envelope.

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BRUNSWICK

Continued from Page 1

Education Instructor. He is a veteran of the United States Army and has also been a newspaper columnist.

The Reverend Darby now has improved his life calling by writing a book and getting it published by Barnes and Noble Printing and Promotions. After Charleston and Ferguson, this book confronts racial challenges and provides ways to overcome them. This book addresses such issues as law enforcement and the public. It touches on Dylan Roof and speaks of segregation, when bathrooms and water fountains were marked "White and Colored" and when Blacks has to ride on the back of the bus.

This book, written by The Reverend Darby, is very thought provoking and well written. It gives insight on how race impacts America today and offers solutions to race-related challenges that poses a threat to the American way of life.

After Charleston and Ferguson is the title of the book, and it is available in soft cover and E-book formats on Amazon and Barnes and Nobles.com. I suggest that you buy a copy The Reverend Michael J. Darby is available for workshops and seminars. Send inquiries to jonah68@gmail.com.

The Reverend Michael Darby is educator, preacher, pastor, community worker and now author.

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

As the curtain comes down on the Obama era, Blacks contemplate his legacy

BY BARRINGTON M. SALMON AND BRITTANY BURTON

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - With President Barack Obama on the verge of leaving office after two terms, discussions are swirling about his legacy and the place he'll eventually take among this most exclusive fraternity.

Even as they celebrate Obama's considerable successes, there is concern among advocates and supporters about the durability of his legacy in light of eight years of intense and sustained opposition from Republicans and the promise by his successor to erase any semblance of the Obama presidency.

"I don't think President Obama has anything to worry about. The notion of erasing his legacy, are you crazy? Legacy is who he is and was," says Tallahassee, Florida-based entrepreneur and psychologist Dr. Sharon-Ames Dennard. "The feeble-minded can always be convinced of anything. There are many things that he

and his wife has done right. There were no scandals. You know they were looking for the women, but every chance he got, he boosted up his wife."

The Rev. Derrick Harkins said Obama's political acumen, graciousness, and consistency endeared him to African-Americans, adding that he believes history will be kind to the 44th president, who leaves office on Jan. 20. "He is a president who sought to speak to the full expanse of America. Much of his legacy spoke to the needs of all Americans," said Rev. Harkins, senior vice president for Innovation in Public Programs at Union Theological Seminary in New York. "I know the president, know him in the sense of a Black man who is the part of a beautiful family. They gave a sense of grace, a sense of who they are. President Obama was never uncomfortable being himself. He never lost his bearing."

Rev. Harkins agreed with Ames-Dennard about the resilience and robust nature of Obama's legacy and framed it in the context of almost a

decade of Republican opposition. "I think the motivation on the part of many people was to negate the last eight years," Harkins, a former Director of Faith Outreach for the Democratic National Committee and Obama advisor. "But you can't erase the inevitable. The US is part of the global community. You can't build walls or separate yourself from those around you. They will try to dismantle many or all of the Executive Orders but the Kansas-Kenyan Harvard Law student will prevail. The attempt to rebuke the last eight years has failed. No one can undo what has happened."

District of Columbia activist and businesswoman Dr. Avis Jones-DeWeever said although her personal belief is that Obama should have adopted a more activist role, she's immensely proud of his accomplishments. Jones-DeWeever said as the country begins to suffer economic whiplash and Republican attacks on the Affordable Care Act, and the erosion of the civil, human and other rights, the appreciation

for Obama will broaden exponentially.

"Generally speaking, I've been proud of the president's character, level of dignity, work ethic and moral compass," said Jones-DeWeever, president and CEO of local consulting firm Incite Unlimited. "His presidency has been beautiful to see. I'm particularly grateful that for my two boys, he has been the definition of what a president is. It has been beautiful. I'm also happy that he has made significant progress in releasing people trapped in the prison-industrial complex."

According to *Forbes Magazine*, the US economy has grown for 78 consecutive months, with the economic recovery under President Obama better in almost every metric compared to the recovery under President Ronald Reagan. The US is enjoying the longest period of private sector job growth in history. Meanwhile, unemployment stands at 4.9 percent, the federal deficit has been reduced by two-thirds since 2009 and the stock market has soared to

record levels. Then there's universal health care in the form of the Affordable Care Act which has 20 million Americans enrolled.

"I believe that history will ultimately fortify his brilliance," said Jones-DeWeever of Obama. "He brought security, standing and respect to the world stage and now we're the laughing stock of the international community."

Documentary filmmaker Mimi Machado-Luces declared herself an unabashed Obama supporter, saying African-Americans love him for a number of reasons, including the way he's led the nation and all the positive examples he's set.

"I will defend President Obama's importance and impact with every ounce of integrity I have as a voting American citizen of African descent," said the producer and promoter. "As a Venezuelan immigrant I have a few issues, however those issues are more

Please see LEGACY Page 3

PROTESTS

Continued from Page 1

Melanie Campbell of the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation, had long planned the march. But it appears that Trump's comments about Lewis added fuel.

NAACP President/CEO Cornell William Brooks tweeted Saturday morning that in "disrespecting" Lewis, Trump "dishonored Lewis' sacrifice & demeaned Americans & the rights, he nearly died 4." Brooks called for Trump to apologize.

At the rally, Brooks said, "It is cold and it is rainy and there are some who believe

that we are frozen in apathy. But, I want to remind our opponents that our hearts are warm with courage, warm with conviction, warm with conscience, warm with determination, warm with resolve, warm with the prophetic Spirit. We're not giving up! We're not giving over! We're going to stand and stand and stand for our rights!"

Reuters has reported that "Washington police and the U.S. Secret Service plan to have some 3,000 extra officers and an additional 5,000 National Guard troops on hand for security" during the inauguration ceremony, largely due to the number of protests that have been planned on the same day. The

biggest protest however, is the Women's March on Washington set for Saturday, Jan. 21, the day after the inauguration. More than 200,000 people are expected.

President Obama has remained consistent in assuring America's tradition of a "peaceful transfer of power."

Trump's vitriolic style of campaigning was marked by insults toward his rivals and often entire groups of people including the handicapped, women, immigrants, and African-Americans among others.

But, Stroman said, "campaigning itself is actually different from governing."

Indicating that the Trump

administration will leave the campaign conduct in the past, Stroman noted how Trump has expressed "his respect, appreciation and admiration" for how President Obama has handled the transition...That speaks for itself."

Nevertheless, Trump has continued to send angry tweets in response to criticism toward him, including that from Rep. Lewis.

A Lewis spokeswoman, Brenda Jones, said the Congressman will make no further public comments about his inauguration boycott. "He's very clear."

Meanwhile, civil rights leaders have doubled down in their intent to let Trump

know they will not tolerate conservative attacks on civil rights. "We will march until hell freezes over, and when it does, we will march on the ice," said NAACP's Brooks, who was arrested last week for trespassing during a sit in he led in the Alabama office of Sen. Jeff Sessions, Trump's pick for attorney general.

Acknowledging the protests, Stroman said there will always be disagreements in politics, but he hopes Trump's supporters and non-supporters will be fair.

He concluded, "Not every person voted for the President, but every person should give the person a chance."

SPLIT FEELINGS

Continued from Page 1

crowd in Brooklyn Monday.

In Atlanta, The Reverend Bernice King, the youngest daughter of The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. told congregants at Ebenezer Baptist Church prior to her brother, Martin Luther King, III's meeting with the President-elect, "At the end of the day, the Donald Trumps come and go. We still have to find a way to create ... the beloved community."

Attorney Irving Joyner, law professor at North Carolina Central University's School of Law in Durham, and chair of the NC NAACP's Legal Redress Committee, laments that President Obama's historic governance has come to an end.

"At the same time, I am filled with pride that President Obama was able to make a significant contribution to the goodness of the United States as its President," Professor Joyner said. "His accomplishments, which are too numerous to list here, were achieved in

the face of the most concentrated and race-based efforts by the Republican Party political leadership that was determined that he would not succeed. In spite of everything that they threw at him, he made America great and moved this country to another level and political reality. At the end of the day, he made us proud."

"Along the way to President Obama's many successes and contributions, a new and more strident campaign of racism has developed," Professor Joyner said. "This development produced, in large part, the surprising election of Donald Trump as the incoming President, who was voted into office by a decided minority of voters"

"As a result of the Trump brand and caustic style of campaigning, his election has done much to divide America and to create a heightened fear for the survival of the democracy to which we are entitled. Following his election, Trump now has the lowest approval rating of any President in U.S. history. The next four years promise to be very challenging and stress-

ful for African Americans, poor people and other racial minorities.

"In response, we need to be vigilant, organized, politically educated and committed to elevating the fight to secure and protect the democracy," said Joyner, "which we are entitled to in this country."

When it comes to predicting what the future holds in a Trump administration, State Representative Evelyn Terry, a Democrat from Winston-Salem, was resolute. "Puppetry comes to mind as the transfer of power approaches," Representative Terry said. "We must do our job as good citizens and remain hopeful and vigilant because the things that mattered to a strong America still do matter: the economy, climate change/environment/the planet; criminal justice system and affordable health care... ad infinitum. Remember this-- America is a democracy and not an authoritarian government. As such, peaceful dissent and voting by the people can change anything, even purveyors of the seven deadly sins."

HALL

Continued from Page 1

ice on behalf of our country."

Hall, 61, is gratified to serve the new Democratic Governor in a new role. "I am honored to continue my service to the people of this State in another capacity," the Durham Democrat told reporters. "I come from a multiple military family, the Marines, the Army, and the Air Force, and I have an inherent love, appreciation, and respect for the military and our veterans. Understanding what we owe our military and veterans in this State and understanding the impact of the military and veterans in this State, we will be working to ensure that not only our military and veterans, but their families as well, receive the best care and the best access." Hall continued, "We will do all we can to ensure their position is recognized as an economic leader

in the State and to ensure that position is preserved and advanced. I am happy to be on the team to move North Carolina forward with our new Governor."

"Congratulations, sir, looking forward to your leadership in this important role," wrote Durham's African-American female Police Chief Cerelyn Davis on Hall's Facebook page.

Hall, who has served in the N. C. House of Representatives since 2006, once served as vice chairman of the Veteran Affairs Committee. He is also credited with leading the State House Democratic Caucus in gaining the most seats under a Republican-controlled legislature in 2014.

A native of Durham, Secretary Hall grew up at Fort Bragg during his father's services in the U. S. Army. He later graduated from Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte with a B. S. with honors in politi-

cal science and business and earned his Juris Doctorate from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Law.

During his 16 years in the U. S. Marine Corps and Marine Reserves, Hall was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal, the Marine Corps Reserve Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, and a Meritorious Unit Citation from the United States Marine Corps. He later returned to North Carolina Central University in Durham to teach at the School of Law and the School of Public Administration.

In September, 2016, Hall was named Legislator of the Year by Equality North Carolina because of his "steadfast advocacy of human rights and dignity" when he vigorously opposed the Republican-sponsored House Bill 2, which critics said discriminated against gay and transgender citizens.

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US REPRESENTATIVES ADAMS AND BUTTERFIELD TO JOIN BOYCOTT OF TRUMP INAUGURATION

[WASHINGTON, DC] Add the names of North Carolina US representatives Alma Adams (D-NC-12) and G.K. Butterfield (D-NC-1) to the growing list of over 40 congressional members who are now boycotting the inauguration of Donald J. Trump when he takes the presidential oath of office Friday, Jan. 20th. Both say they are doing so to



STATE BRIEFS

protest Trump's attack on Georgia Congressman John Lewis after Lewis called trump's election "illegitimate."

ATTORNEYS ASK FEDERAL COURT TO ALLOW NC MEDICAID EXPANSION

[RALEIGH] Last week, a federal judge agreed with Republican legislative leaders to block Gov. Roy Cooper's request to expand Medicaid services to poor North Carolinians. This week, attorneys for the NC Dept. of Health and Human Services asked the federal court to allow his request to the centers for Medicaid and

Medicare Services to proceed. That request was supported in court filings by the US Justice Dept., who also asked the federal court to dissolve the temporary restraining order on the governor's request. The GOP says a 2013 state law prohibits the governor from expanding Medicaid without legislative approval. Cooper disagrees, saying, "... it's frustrating and disappointing that we're having to fight our own legislature in court to get it done. Tax dollars already paid by North Carolinians are funding Medicaid expansion in other states and we want to bring that money back home to work for us here."

GOV. COOPER SAYS TALKS CONTINUE TO REPEAL HB 2 LAW

[CHARLOTTE] Gov. Roy Cooper says despite a recent major setback, he's still in talks with Republican legislative leaders in the NC General Assembly to have the controversial "bathroom bill," otherwise known as HB2, repealed when lawmakers return on Jan. 25th to begin the long session. GOP leaders don't want to do it unless a majority of their Republican caucus are ready to move, but Cooper says the law could be repealed immediately with a combination of Democrat and Republican votes in both the House and

Senate. Thus far, North Carolina has reportedly lost hundreds of millions of dollars in sponsorships and events because of what many say is a law that discriminates against gays and transgender citizens. The legislature failed to repeal it after demanding that the Charlotte City Council repeal its ordinance protecting LBGT people in December.

DNC CANDIDATE REP. KEITH ELLISON SPEAKS IN NC FOR KING DAY

[WINSTON-SALEM] "If we confront the era of Donald Trump, then you don't need to get all scared," Congress-

man Keith Ellison of Minnesota told those gathered Monday at the Embassy Suites to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s holiday. "People before you stood up." Rep. Ellison went on to say that "responsible leadership should bring people together" as Donald Trump becomes the new president on Friday, Jan. 20th. Ellison, the first Muslim to serve in Congress, is endorsed by Sen. Bernie Sanders to become the next chairman of the Democratic National Committee.

COMPILED BY CASH MICHAELS



WHITEHOUSE PHOTO

Many young African-Americans will learn a new style of politics under President Trump as President Obama is the only President for whom they ever voted.

LEGACY

Continued from Page 1

based on our policies with my country as a nation and not in the manner in which President Obama led the nation. He was in my opinion the best president this nation has ever had because he truly is a president for all Americans including Native Americans, African Americans, Latin Americans, Afro-Latino Americans, LGBT Americans, Asian Americans, Muslim Americans, and all

other categories we can possibly come up with."

Machado-Luces said she fears for her future and those of her son and daughter. "We're going to go back to some foolishness. I'm going to suffer without Obamacare if there's no replacement," she said.

The Obama legacy of pride in the nation's first Black president will likely remain untarnished in the Black community." In all my years of life I never thought I would ever see a Black president," said Alice Walton, 69, a retiree. Says

Letris Bryant, 53, of Springfield, Ill., "being Black in America is hard enough, and to feel like our new leader does not have my people's best interest at heart..."

Likewise, some millennials worry that Trump will run America into the ground and [that he] simply does not have the best interests of the American people.

Aaliyah Caldwell a 22-year-old student at Howard University said "Donald Trump winning the presidency shows just how powerful people of

wealth really are. He has no political experience, yet people saw him fit to run the United States."

According to theAtlantic.com "fifty-five percent of young voters chose [Hillary] Clinton while 37 percent President elect Donald Trump."

So what does this mean for Black Americans? Devin Jones a student at Howard University exclaimed that "Being Black in America is already hard enough. Now we have to continue to fight for the equality of justice and the right of fair treatment. We cannot let this man get the best of us." Jones concluded, "Protesting isn't enough. We have to educate our people on the truth about American culture and how White washed it is."

For young voters, the Trump presidency is difficult to sink in, in part because Obama is the only president they have ever voted for. "I am not happy and it will take me some time to accept what America has thrown at me," exclaimed Linda McNeil a resident of the District of Columbia.

Jessica Shaw looks positively at the situation, saying millennials can do something about the future. "Moving forward we must not fight with one another. There is too much work that needs to be done. We have to fight, petition, pray and stay in good spirits to be at peace with ourselves in preparation for the future."

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THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL
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Our Voice

CHILDWATCH

Moral courage:

Standing up for what is right

Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable. Even a superficial look at history reveals that no social advance rolls in on the wheels of inevitability. Every step towards the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle. . . This is no time for apathy or complacency. This is a time for vigorous and positive action.

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

On Wednesday, Senator Cory A. Booker (D-NJ) and Representative John Lewis (D-GA) joined the list of speakers testifying before the Senate Judiciary Committee against the nomination of Senator Jeff Sessions (R-AL) for Attorney General of the United States. Both were assigned to a panel at the very end of the hearing process, a slot fellow panelist Representative Cedric L. Richmond (D-LA), the head of the Congressional Black Caucus, called "the equivalent of being made to go to the back of the bus." Several Senate committee members who have already publicly supported Senator Sessions left before Senator Booker's and Representative Lewis' important testimony began. But that didn't deter them from speaking out against the threat they see to the civil rights progress our nation has made if Senator Sessions becomes Attorney General.

Congressman Lewis noted that he was born in rural Alabama too, not far from where Senator Sessions grew up, but as a Black child he inherited a far different society: "There was no way to escape or deny the choke hold of discrimination and racial hate that surrounded us." He said, "A clear majority of Americans say they want this to be a fair, just, and open nation. . . They are concerned that some leaders reject decades of progress and want to return to the dark past, when the power of law was used to deny the freedoms protected by the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and its Amendments. These are the voices I represent today. We can pretend that the law is blind. We can pretend that it is even-handed. But if we are honest with ourselves, we know that we are called upon daily by the people we represent to help them deal with unfairness in how the law is written and enforced. Those who are committed to equal justice in our society wonder whether Senator Sessions' call for 'law and order' will mean today what it meant in Alabama, when I was coming up back then. The rule of law was used to violate the human and civil rights of the poor; the dispossessed, people of color."

In additional written remarks Congressman Lewis was even clearer about some of his current fears: "Some people argue that the 48 years of a fully-operational Voting Rights Act simply erased hundreds of years of hate and violence. This is not ancient history; the scars and stains of racism are still deeply embedded in our society. This is proven by the thousands of pages of evidence submitted to Congress which verify continued voting rights discrimination across our nation and in the Deep South. Representing Alabama on this Committee, Senator Sessions had an opportunity to lead. Instead, the Senator turned a blind eye to the persistent and consistent efforts to make it harder and more difficult for minorities, the poor, the elderly, and others to exercise the right to vote. . . After the Shelby v. Holder decision [the 2013 Supreme Court decision striking down key provisions of the 1965 Voting Rights Act], minorities were in mourning as Senator Sessions was celebrating. He declared the decision was 'good news for the South.' Alabama and other states immediately adopted voter ID legislation - making it harder for minorities to execute their right to vote. We must face the truth. We are a multi-racial, multi-ethnic country. . . [a]nd we cannot avoid the fact that there is a systematic, deliberate attempt to destroy the advances of civil rights in this country and take us back to a period when America declared its greatness on one hand, but fostered the worst kind of racial discrimination on the other."

Senator Booker, born after the Civil Rights Movement, made it clear that he feels personally indebted to heroes like John Lewis who were attacked and some even killed during the struggle to make America a more just nation - and equally resolute against moving backwards. He took the courageous step of being the first sitting Senator to testify against the confirmation of another Senator. In his prepared remarks he said, "I want an Attorney General who is committed to supporting law enforcement and securing law and order. But that is not enough. America was founded heralding not law and order, but justice for all. And critical to that is equal justice under the law. Law and order without justice is unobtainable. . . If there is no justice, there is no peace. The Alabama State Troopers on the Edmund Pettis Bridge were seeking law and order. The marchers were seeking justice - and ultimately the greater peace."

Senator Booker added: "If confirmed, Senator Sessions will be required to pursue justice for women, but his record indicates that he won't. He will be expected to defend the equal rights of gay and lesbian Americans, but his record indicates that he won't. He will be expected to defend voting rights, but his record indicates that he won't. He will be expected to defend the rights of immigrants and affirm their human dignity, but his record indicates he won't. His record indicates that as Attorney General he would obstruct the growing national bipartisan movement toward criminal justice reform. His record indicates that we cannot count on him to support state and national efforts toward bringing justice to a justice system that people on both sides of the aisle readily admit is biased against the poor, drug addicted, mentally ill, and people of color. His record indicates that at a time when even the FBI director is speaking out about implicit racial bias in policing and the need to address it; at a time when the last two Attorneys General have taken steps to fix our broken criminal justice system; and at a time when the Justice Department he would lead has uncovered systemic abuses in police departments all over the United States including Ferguson, including Newark; Senator

EDELMAN

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Visual Voice



Matters of Opinion

TO BE EQUAL

Assessing President Obama's impact & legacy

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

"That faith that I placed all those years ago, not far from here, in the power of ordinary Americans to bring about change, that faith has been rewarded in ways I could not have possibly imagined." - President Barack Obama, Farewell Address, January 15, 2017

Throughout our history, the National Urban League has taken seriously our responsibility to hold the President of the United States accountable to the needs of urban - and communities of color. During the Great Depression, Executive Secretary Eugene



Marc Morial

Kinkle Jones served on President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's "Black Cabinet." Lester Granger, who headed the League during World War II, is among those credited with persuading President Harry Truman to desegregate the Armed Forces. Whitney M. Young advised presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon

Johnson and was instrumental in the passage of the landmark Civil Rights Act. Urban League Presidents Vernon Jordan, John Jacob and Hugh Price continued our engagement with the Presidents with whom they served to further the work of civil rights and secure support for Urban League programs.

The first African-American Presidency quite naturally has held special significance for the National Urban League. In recognition of Barack Obama's unique place in American history, we set out to create a comprehensive analysis of his two terms, which we released earlier this week to great national interest.

Any evaluation of the Obama administration must first recognize that he inherited the worst economy since the Great Depression, and was faced with Congressional opposition unprecedented in its intensity and sinister nature. Both his accomplishments and his failures must be evaluated against those conditions.

In creating our scorecard, the National Urban League harkened back to the famous question Ronald Reagan asked the nation during his sole

debate against President Jimmy Carter: "Are you better off than you were four years ago?" In this instance, the question is, "Is the nation better off than it was eight years ago?" And, "Is Black America better off than it was eight years ago?" The answer to both questions is, unequivocally, yes.

President Obama is leaving office with an approval rating even higher than Reagan's, exceeded only by Presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt, Dwight Eisenhower and Bill Clinton. During Obama's presidency, the economy has added 15 million new jobs, and the jobless rate has dropped from 7.6 percent to 4.7 percent - and from 12.7 percent to 7.8 percent for African Americans. The high school graduation rate for African Americans has increased from 66.1 percent to 75 percent. There are 614,000 fewer long-term unemployed. Wages are up 3.4 percent. More than 16 million Americans who were uninsured now have health care coverage, with the uninsured rate for African Americans cut by more than half.

Barack Obama's passion and steady hand made a huge difference in charting a progressive course and positive-

ly impacted the lives of ordinary Americans. Black Americans felt both the pride of his accomplishments and the pain when it was clear his opponents sought to diminish a great American. I am confident the long arc of history will judge him favorably.

While we scored many of the administration's achievements with our highest rating, "Superior," President Obama's tenure as a whole had shortcomings due to some notable missed opportunities and outright failures, such as the economic development of urban centers, gun violence and the foreclosure rate and bank closure rate in communities of color and low-income neighborhoods. On these and other issues, we rated the Obama administration "Fair" or "Poor." Our evaluation springs from a consideration of his accomplishments balanced against the conditions under which he served. The National Urban League has given the Obama Administration an overall rating of "Excellent," our second-highest rating.

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

A paradigm shift - creative disruption!

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

When Dr. Martin Luther King envisioned the Poor People's Campaign in 1968, he envisioned all kinds of people descending on our nation's capital, bringing demands to federal agencies. He envisioned people pushing for affordable housing, for quality education, for better health care, for minority business development programs, and more.



Dr. Julianne Malveaux

He envisioned them demanding these things, and occupying government offices until these things were produced. Unfortunately, Dr. King's death and the curse of disorganization prevented the Poor People's Campaign from being exactly what Dr. King imagined. But it still made a difference, and people still refer to its conception as brilliant.

The Poor People's Campaign was a paradigm shift in our manner of protest. It wasn't just marching, and it wasn't just protest. It also involved the creative disruption that would come if thousands of people sat in federal offices and demanded change. Can this

kind of creative disruption be useful in the age of Trump? After all, Mr. Trump has already told us what he thinks of most of the American people. His nomination of Senator Jeff Sessions (R-AL) as Attorney General is a flash of the middle finger to men of color, especially the Black men who have been tossed around as cavalierly as the term "law and order". It is a slap in the face to the immigrants and women who have already seen what Sessions stands for. And it is not as if other Trump appointments are better.

Indeed not a single Trump appointment passes the centrist smell test or suggests a willingness to reach across the aisle. Indeed, Trump seems to do little more than create a cabinet of billionaires who are as far removed from the way ordinary people live that the public policy they attempt to create will be little more than self-serving.

None of them seems to understand the concept of public service. They don't think they should have to release their financial information, and they shrug off the notion of conflict of interest. Contrast them with Dr. King who only got a big paycheck when he won the Nobel Peace Prize, and he gave "every penny" of the \$54,000 that he won in 1964 to the civil rights movement.

Dr. King was extremely clear about those he identified with. He once said: "I choose to identify with the underprivileged, I choose to give my life for the hungry, I choose to give my life for those who have been left out of the sunlight of opportunity. . . This is the way I'm going. If it means suffering, I'm going that way. If it means dying for them, I'm going that way, because I heard a voice saying **DO SOMETHING FOR OTHERS.**"

Our President-Elect has also heard a voice, but the voice he heard said "Do Something for Me, Myself, and I". Absent a sense of service or of social/public consciousness, Mr. Trump seems to believe that his own personal richness makes America great again (hate again, sick again). His swaggering dismissal of anyone who dares ask a question that challenges suggests that he thinks he is ascending a monarchy, not leading a democracy. And the tone-deaf lemmings that surround him, some (like Kellyanne Conway) called "Trump whisperers" must be whispering sweet nothings because the behavior modification so many expected has not yet happened.

Still, we who are progressive play ourselves cheap when we respond to his smug tweets. We play ourselves cheap when we

moan and whine. The time for whining is over now. This is the time for a paradigm shift in the way we respond to institutional stupidity. This is the time for us to consider creative disruption whenever, wherever, and however. What does that mean? Let's channel the energy of the Poor People's Campaign. Let's show up in those federal offices. Let's carry demands; let's ball up our fists. Let's get it on!

The last two times Dr. King's birthday was celebrated, it was days before Barack Obama, our first publicly identified Black President (there were other folks, but it wasn't so public), took office. I loved the way that the 44th President took his oath holding Dr. King's Bible. I'm not sure which Bible Mr. Trump is going to hold, but it is probably a bible that is missing the book of Matthew, and the exhortation (Matthew 25:40) about the least of these. This is why the President-Elect will need creative disruption to remind him that his job is to share the American dream, not the American nightmare.

Julianne Malveaux is an author and economist. Her latest book "Are We Better Off? Race, Obama and Public Policy" is available via www.amazon.com for booking, wholesale inquiries or for more info visit www.julianne-malveaux.com.

new onslaught of attempts to push the arc of our nation away from justice - and seek leaders vigilant and determined to keep fighting every step of the way to make America a better and fairer nation. As we prepare to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day we all should find the courage to honor him by standing up for what is right to stop a Senator who has fought against racial justice over a lifetime from becoming the nation's

chief law enforcement voice. That's like putting the fox in charge of the chicken coop. Marian Wright Edelman is President of the Children's Defense Fund whose Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities. For more information go to www.childrensdefense.org.

Senator Booker and Congressman Lewis for their extraordinary testimony and moral leadership. At the end of his statement Congressman Lewis said, "Leadership is not easy. You are expected to make tough decisions - to do what is right, what is just, and what is fair for all the people of this nation who rely on you to speak up and speak out on their behalf." They spoke on behalf of the majority, millions of Americans, who are afraid of a

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Sessions would not continue to lead urgently needed change. . . Challenges of race in America cannot be addressed if we refuse to confront them. Persistent biases cannot be defeated unless we combat them. The arc of the universe does not just naturally curve toward justice - we must bend it." I'm deeply grateful to

REALITY CHECK

My wishes for a Black, productive 2017 and beyond

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

I wish most black folks would join the One Million Conscious Black Voters and Contributors Movement as advocated by Prof. James Clingman. Prof. Clingman, whose column "Blackonomics" is a must read for anyone who has a serious commitment to our people, says the movement "is for conscientiously conscious black people who are not only aware but are willing to work on and contribute their skills, knowledge and treasure to solving our problems and bringing solutions to fruition." Its website is www.iamoneofthemillion.com.



A. Peter Bailey

I wish we as a people would act on the words of wisdom from Brother Malcolm X in which he said, "U.S. politics is ruled by special interest blocs and lobbies. What group has a more urgent special interest than the black man?... Twenty-two million black people should tomorrow give a dollar a piece to build a skyscraper lobby building in Washington, DC. Every morning every legislator should receive a communication about what the black man in America expects, wants and needs. The demanding voice of the black lobby should be in the ears of every legislator who votes on any issue." I wish our people would cease honoring Martin Luther King Jr., as some kind of other-worldly dreamer and act on his stated belief, "A second important step that the Negro must take is to work passionately for group

identity. This does not mean group isolation or group exclusivity. There must always be healthy debate...this form of group unity can do infinitely more to liberate the Negro than any action of individuals. We have been oppressed as a group and we must overcome that oppression as a group." I wish we would listen to and act on a statement made by Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune in her last will and testament in which she wrote, "I leave you the challenge of developing confidence in one another. This kind of confidence will aid the economic rise of the race by bringing together the pennies and dollars of our people and ploughing them into useful channels." I wish we, as a people, would do something which I first advocated in a 1992 column in the Richmond Free Press. That was to pull together a

conference in that would focus on our group and individual strengths. I noted that contrary to popular propaganda and beliefs, we have many such strengths. Only a strong group of people could have survived the physical and psychological attacks that we have had to deal with in the United States of America. We need to identify, analyze and document our cultural, economic, political and educational strengths and build on them. Such a conference would truly be educational, productive and history-making. It's time for us as a people not to watch what's happening or wonder what's happening but to make things happen for current and future generations. A. Peter Bailey, whose latest book is *Witnessing Brother Malcolm X, the Master Teacher*, can be reached at apeterb@verizon.net.

BLACKONOMICS

Business owners, take care of your business

(Via NNPA NewsWire.com)

I hear it all the time. "I patronized a Black-owned business and was treated terribly." How about this one? "I went to that Black restaurant and the service was bad, the food was cold, and the staff was discourteous and very slow." And the grand-daddy of them all: "I tried to do business with Black contractors, but they didn't show up on time, they wanted me to pick them up, because they didn't have transportation, and they wanted me to go out and buy the materials needed for the job."

James Clingman

As the "Buy Black!" hue and cry is raised by more and more of our people, we should do a collective self-assessment of our businesses and our relationship with them. Last week I proudly wrote about one of the best and most conscious businesses in the nation: Compro Tax. Now I want to discuss those businesses that are not so good and not conscious at all when it comes to reciprocity.

I write a lot about the responsibility of Black consumers to support Black owned businesses, and sometimes it's brought to my attention that I do not spend enough time dealing with the obligation Black businesses have to provide good products and services and likewise give their support to other Black owned businesses. I get that; believe me, because I know that everything black (small "b" intended) ain't Black.

In my entrepreneurship and business planning classes I always placed an emphasis on good service, integrity, and simply doing what you say going to do for the customer. Our businesses have it hard enough without heaping more problems on themselves by not following through on agreements, not opening on time, not showing up to do the job on time, cheating and stealing from their customers, and the list goes on.

You would think they would make sure they are providing the very best customer service. You would think, considering our mental enslavement, that Black business owners would try a little harder, do a little more, and make that extra effort to please their customers, especially their Black customers. You know how quick we are to turn our backs on one another: Some of our business owners

feel it's all right to do a brother or a sister wrong, maybe because we never expect to be dragged into court and sued. But we sure are afraid of mistreating others; and we make every effort to take care of our obligations to them, because we know what will happen if we don't. Shamefully, some of us go about our business ripping off our customers with schemes and practices that pull us farther and farther apart, and we wonder why we cannot "come together."

But what do we do? First of all, Black business owners, get your act together! Stop taking short-cuts, stop cheating and lying to your customers, and read or re-read what Jawanza Kunjufu in his book, *Black Economics*, calls the African American Creed Business Commandments. He points out that our customers are our most important resource and in the final analysis, if they stop coming, we go out of business. So respect your customers above all, treat them fairly, and do what you say you are going to do.

We must work very hard to bring the ultimate economic partnership together, that of Black consumers and Black business owners. Once upon a time, during segregation, we had that ideal relationship but were not allowed to have access to the general marketplace. Our access is virtually unlimited now, but we must still have a firm economic foundation among our own people. Our charge as business owners is to meet our consumers a little bit beyond the middle and do what is necessary to change them into repeat customers. "The best customer is the one who returns."

We can ill-afford the lack of support for one another that we see in today's Black economy, especially when you consider what little bit of an economy we have. So, indeed, "Buy Black," but learn the difference between "black" and "Black," and emphasize to them the importance of circulating some of their Black dollars to another Black business along the way. Let's work together to build our relationships, our love, our respect, and our trust for one another. Through business ownership and good business management we can win.

Take care of your business and your customers, and they will take care of you. 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, Blackonomics.com.

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Congress choose healing at home over killing abroad. Dr. King would be heartbroken to see the top priority of the new administration is making affordable health care harder to get, focusing on "law and order" over justice, advocating a nuclear build-up rather than continuing the reduction of nuclear weapons, and promoting incivility in our politics over civility and civil and human rights. Our challenge today is to not let Dr. King's rationality and action die. Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. is founder and president of the Chicago-based Rainbow PUSH Coalition. You can keep up with his work at www.rainbowpush.org.

RAINBOW COALITION

Dr. King held a mirror up to a nation's values

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

How should Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday be celebrated? It should be celebrated in many different ways. Dr. King was an intellectual who reflected seriously and critically on the dilemma facing African-Americans, people of color generally and poor people specifically - of all races. He was also an activist. He didn't get bogged down in the paralysis of analysis. The choices he saw available to the oppressed were threefold: The first option was to respond to institutional violence with violence. But he didn't see that as moral, practical or able to really address and solve their problems. In fact, he saw it as counterproductive. Secondly, the poor and people of color could just endure injustice and essentially do nothing. Again, he



Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.

didn't see that as moral or practical, and he thought that such repression would eventually explode into violence. The final choice, the one he recommended, was nonviolent active resistance. He brought thought and action together morally and practically as the best way to bring about structural change. Dr. King's birthday also allows us to hold up a mirror and reflect on the nation's commitment to human rights, democracy and justice. Dr. King believed in human rights for all human beings, and he believed that it should be measured by one yardstick. He believed people should and could learn to live together and find the joy and benefit of such diversity. These benefits are all around us in sports, entertainment, the press, business, our work places and the professions. This mixture of ideas, experiences and perspectives helps all of us to grow, see and feel things we never have thought, saw or felt before. When Clemson and Alabama played for the national college football championship, whites and

blacks played harmoniously together and fans cheered side-by-side. Both Southern teams had black quarterbacks. In many ways it was the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Bowl. He knew that we had learned to survive apart, but he challenged us to do a much harder and more gratifying thing: to learn to live together. I shall never forget our SCLC staff meeting and being with Dr. King on his last birthday. He had convened Native Americans, Appalachian whites, blacks from the Deep South, Latinos from Texas and California, Jewish allies from New York and others to work on the Poor People's Campaign. Why poverty? He certainly struggled and suffered to advance a racial agenda - the 1964 Civil Rights Act to bring down the cotton curtain of legal apartheid in the South and the 1965 Voting Rights Act to allow African-Americans to vote without discrimination. But he saw the crisis as deeper than merely race. He also saw caste, which was the moral and economic common

ground where black, brown, yellow, red and white, male and female, could fight together for the common good. He believed poverty was a weapon of human destruction. He saw the War in Vietnam stealing resources from the War on Poverty at home. He was planning a Poor Peoples' Campaign to challenge the nation to choose bread over bombs. He argued that a bomb dropped in Vietnam was exploding in urban America because of neglect of the poor. Dr. King wanted a floor beneath the poor that no American would fall below. He saw that the keys to peace and tranquility were economic security, jobs, education, health care, housing, justice and mercy. Beyond analyzing the problem, Dr. King was acting. He and we were putting our bodies on the line - that is, we were willing to be beaten, die and go to jail, and we went many times. We were demanding that

JACKSON

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CASH IN THE APPLE

Doubting Trump

As we head toward the inauguration of our nation's 45th president, despite the troubling questions that surround him, there are those who question that despite our many, many doubts about him and his "vision" for America, shouldn't we all just put all of that to the side, and just "unite" behind him, working together for a "better" future? Well, I know it's a bad habit of many of us, but there are times I see tremendous value in answering a question with an even more pertinent question, because doing so reminds us of the context in which we really live, and what we really face together. Permit me here to state something controversial, but true. Both the Russians and the Republicans (and by extension the incoming Trump Administration) have something very much in common - they both are very adept at bending and shading the truth in order to conceal their true intent, that is until they actually do what they've intended the whole time. The Russians see nothing wrong with taking over surrounding sovereign states like Crimea, saying they have the "right" to do so. The Republicans say they have to suppress the African-American vote, in the words of the US Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, with "surgical precession," and redraw voting districts that pack the majority of black voters into a handful of



Cash Michaels

districts in order to reduce their voting influence, again because Republicans believe being in the electoral majority gives them the "right" to. Ask Russians why they have a clear documented record of attempting to influence elections in other countries, including this one, and they deny it. Ask Republicans why they have a clear documented history of supporting old Southern relics like Sen. Jeffrey Beauregard Sessions, a man with a clear record of opposing civil rights, for important positions like US attorney general, and they deny there's anything wrong with Sessions, or Robert Bork, or former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani. I mean, I could go on, But you get the picture. Both the Russians and the Republicans are good at dancing up a storm when they're up to something, and both groups are always up to something. So back to my answering a question with a question. Actually with several questions, if you don't mind. Why weren't you who are asking about "unifying" behind Donald Trump, just as concerned about "unifying" behind President Obama when Trump and other miscreants raised disturbing and erroneous questions about Obama's citizenship and fitness for office? What was "unifying" about that behavior, except whatever unity it brought to those who vowed they'd always oppose the nation's first black president? I could go on about the disgraceful and demeaning way Pres. Obama was treated for eight years, but allow me to ask more. When it became very clear

that the Russians indeed took measures to influence our 2016 presidential elections, why were Republicans so overwhelmingly silent? Where was the American unity then, which would have shown that no matter what our partisan preferences, we, as a people and a nation would not tolerate even the thought of a foreign power interjecting itself into our precious electoral process? Where was the statesmanship from Trump and others on the right strongly denouncing what Wikileaks was doing with Hillary Clinton's emails, knowing darn well that the shoe could be on the other foot next time (as Sen. Marco Rubio, the only Republican to do so, said)? What has Trump and company shown us to make us believe that "unity" is not only welcomed, but needed? Attacking Congressman John Lewis for saying flat out that he has no reason to trust Trump, or trust the way he was elected, by attacking the black community, is not an example of unity-proving Rep. Lewis' point that Pres. Trump is a divider and not a uniter. And what amazes me is that Trump had a special meeting with entertainer Steve Harvey last Friday, pledging to work with the "Family Feud" man to help rebuild the inner cities, only to then publicly belittle those areas in his backhanded response to Congressman Lewis the next day by tweet, calling them "crime-infested." FACTS - not all black communities are in the inner city, and not all inner cities are "crime-infested." Finally, the popular quip in defense of Trump is that Democrats haven't "gotten over" losing the election to

him. That may indeed be true, but it's not so simple. With the exception of Election Night, when Hillary Clinton displayed grace and leadership by calling him to concede (plus she and Pres. Clinton will be at his inauguration on Friday), followed by Pres. Obama's subsequent grace and leadership in being as cooperative in the peaceful transition of power as possible with the incoming Trump Administration, Trump has never shown what can be considered genuine grace about his victory. Everything has either been an unvarnished brag at one of his phony "thank you" tour rallies, or one of his blistering, infantile tweets that take the art of stretching the truth to a new art form. So my final question to you Trumpites (or is it Trumpets, I don't know), is how long do you hope the rest of us will play dumb just to satisfy your thirst for power? If this is what you call "making America great again," I prefer to stay on the job to make America good. You see, leaders can be "great" and still evil. But leaders who are evil, are never good. *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.*

The
BLACK PRESS
USE IT or
LOSE IT!

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 LFANC at info@lupusnc.org or at 877-849-8271, ext. 1. For more information, visit www.lupusnc.org. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 19, 2016.

Community Briefs

The New Hanover NAACP monthly meeting is Thursday, January 26, 7 pm at St. Stephen AME Church, 501 Red Cross Street, Wilmington. Information on the upcoming Historic Thousands on Jones Street 11th Annual Moral March on Raleigh Saturday, February 11, 2017 will be on the agenda. The opportunity to sign up for the bus trip to Raleigh will be available. Other important city, county, and state issues will also be discussed. Members and friends are encouraged to attend. For more information, call 910-765-0102 or email nhcnaacp@gmail.com.

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

Williston Senior High Class of '61 will hold its first 2017 class quarterly meeting on Sunday, January 22nd (Fourth Sunday) at Mount Olive AME Church Fellowship Hall, 1001 S. 7th St. at 4:00 pm. The focus of the meeting will be planning activities for 2017. All graduates are asked to participate in the meeting, as well as others who were "on track" with Class of 61 Williston but graduated from somewhere else. Also, there is a special invitation to out-of-town classmates who are in Wilmington on the 22nd.

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

HOMETOWN NEWS FROM BRUNSWICK COUNTY

A cold winter

Winter is the coldest season of the year. Winter comes between autumn and spring. It seems it's going to be a long cold winter, and many people, particularly the homeless, are likely to be adversely affected by it. Some homes and lives have been destroyed by floods and other hazardous winter weather. Both large and small families have been affected by it. Many have had to find other places to live and better jobs to support and a better education for their children.

In various places in North Carolina, there are other

hardships which people face. Besides cold temperatures and severe winter weather, the rate of unemployment is increasing and more Mexicans are coming across the border. There are one hundred counties in North Carolina, and there are poor people in all of them. Some of the poor are facing major cuts in food stamps and medical help. Therefore, there are extremely malnourished

children who go without the necessary help needed to live a better life. This struggle is nothing new to African Americans. For centuries, we've had to persevere through many such hardships.

There is much work to be done, so that hardworking people can achieve the dreams they hold dear for their families. This will require us to come together and work as a community to help us all stay warm., safe, secure. Above all, this gives us a sense of inner peace.

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.

Davis Funeral Home honors high-achieving students at downtown schools with limo rides and breakfast



Jennifer and Javoke Terrell roll out the red carpet at Snipes Academy of Arts and Design.



Students head to limo at Snipes Academy of Arts and Design.



Left to right: Emri Deppa (second grade), Javoke Terrell, Alyanah Miller (third grade), Ben Benson (fifth grade), Qynasha Canty (fourth grade), Jennifer Terrell, London Cole (first grade), and Sara Ann Hooks (kindergarten).

BY CAMMIE BELLAMY
STARNEWS STAFF
SPECIAL TO THE
WILMINGTON JOURNAL

Good grades usually come with a gold star, but how about a red carpet?

A new initiative is giving high-achieving students at two downtown Wilmington schools the star treatment. Each month from January to May, a student in each grade at Snipes Academy of Arts and Design and Rachel Freeman

School of Engineering will get a break from class for a red carpet walk, limo ride and breakfast at a local restaurant.

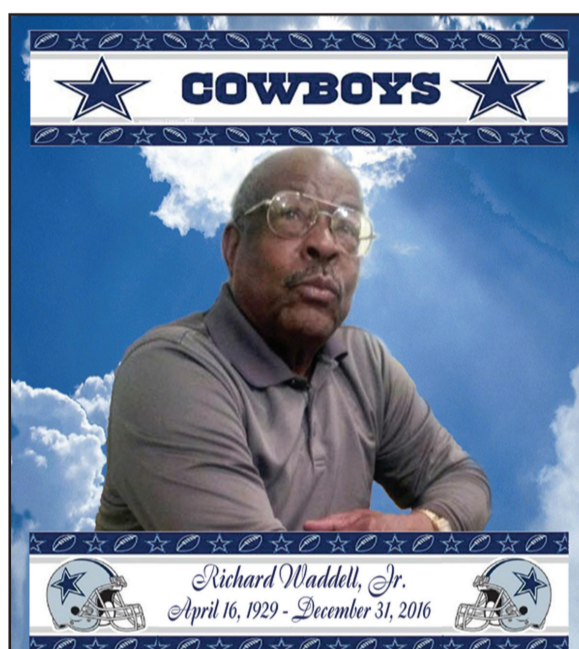
Davis Funeral Home owners Javoke and Jennifer Terrell are funding the program, which Jennifer dreamed up shortly after the couple arrived in Wilmington last March. After 13 years in Baltimore, they wanted to jump into public service in their new home. "We have four sons so we know what it's like to have kids in

school," Javoke Terrell said. "This is about encouraging (students) to do better, stay in school." "I came from an inner-city school in Houston, Texas," he said. "There were men and women in that community that really spent a lot of time mentoring and grooming me, and so that's something that my wife and I just wanted to make sure that we did once we got to Wilmington."

Tuesday morning at Snipes the Terrells helped six

beaming kids into a limo destined for a local cafe and free breakfast. The students were chosen by teachers based on grades and attitude. Javoke Terrell said he hopes this is the first of many service programs he and Jennifer take on. "My wife and I are just glad to be a part of Wilmington and the community," he said. "We're just here to serve and to give back as much as we possibly can to ensure that the future is bright for the kids."

PHOTOS BY CAMMIE BELLAMY OF THE STARNEWS



Richard Waddell, Jr.
April 16, 1929 - December 31, 2016

We take this opportunity to say **Thank You** to everyone for reaching out to us with love, deeds of kindness and compassion, during the brief illness and sudden passing of our father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, **Richard Waddell, Jr.** This is truly a difficult time for our family. He is truly missed.

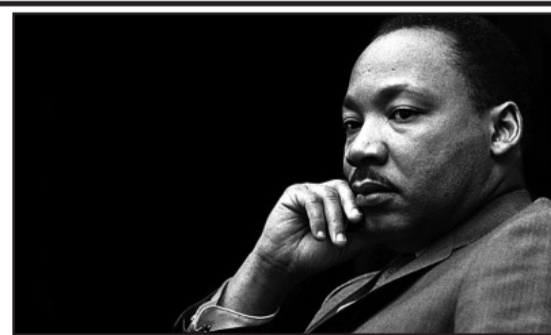
Your expressions of concern and sympathy, from everywhere, is greatly appreciated. Daddy was truly a great, loving and amazing person. His legacy will live on in our lives. We thank God for the many years that He allowed us to spend with him. Daddy's faith, courage and love for his family is an inspiration to many. The love that all of you have shown us will always be a special part of our hearts. We thank you for your presence at the service, good thoughts for that day, cards, flowers, visits, monetary gifts, food, telephone calls, talents rendered, and prayers. To those who left messages and could not be present due to the weather, we received your love from a distance.

Whatever you did to console our hearts we Thank You, whatever the part. In each life, some rain must fall, but God, takes care of His own. God watches as we live out our lives and then brings us home. It's friends like you, who care, that make this burden easier to bear. May God continue to richly bless each of you and forever keep you in His care.

The Waddell, Mack and Burrell Family

making an impact

"Happy Dr. Martin Luther King Day"
Wilmington (NC) Alumnae Chapter Of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
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The Senior Citizen Fellowship sends congratulations to *The Wilmington Journal* in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., The Drum Major for Justice

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Ailsaleen J. Corbett

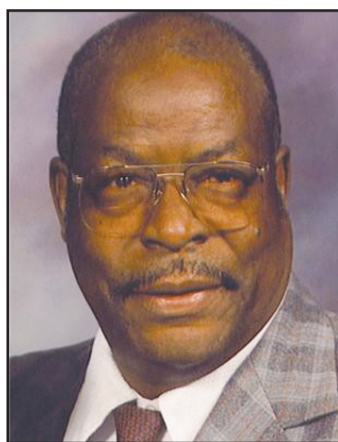
Ailsaleen J. Corbett was born to Raynell and Eva Sanders on February 8, 1953 in Wilmington, North Carolina. She attended New Hanover High School and graduated in 1971. She married her high school sweetheart, Lawrence the same year on July 24th. She departed this earth suddenly on December 29, 2016 at Emory University Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia.

Ailsaleen was successful in many jobs over the years including being the owner of a flower shop and an in-home daycare. She also was an employee with Siemans for many years.

Throughout her life, she served as a minister, faithfully serving God. She became an ordained minister in 2000. She loved to bake, crochet and play games. She enjoyed making flower arrangements and nurtured everyone around her with love and faith.

Ailsaleen is survived by her husband of 45 years, Lawrence Corbett, four children, Coquitta Butler, Lawrence Corbett II (Staci), Tondra Allen (Timothy), Heather Samuels; ten grandchildren, Trejon, Tylon, Aijalon, Christen, Jadon, Anaiah, Lawrence III, Tori, Atarah and Amariah and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, January 4, 2017 in Stockbridge, Georgia.



Richard Waddell, Jr.

Richard Waddell, Jr. was born April 16, 1929 to the late Richard Waddell, Sr. and Lula Simpson Clemons. He departed this earth peacefully after a brief illness on December 31, 2016. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 7, 2017 at Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church. Burial followed in Greenlawn Memorial Park.

"Jr." as he was also known, attended school in Brunswick

County. He later moved to Wilmington and eventually married his childhood sweet heart, Vivian White, who preceded him in death. Richard was a life-long member of Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church. He enjoyed attending church. Richard served his country in the Naval Reserves and Merchant Marines. He was a master plasterer, and an avid hunter and fisherman. He was employed early in life with the Coca Cola Bottling Company with his father. Richard worked for over 30 years as a longshoreman on the ports of North Carolina. He retired from the International Longshoremen's Union Local #1426 in 1990. He was a mentor to many young men, indoctrinating them to the work as a longshoreman. He loved his work as a longshoreman, made lifetime friends, and talked about his work often. During his last stay in the hospital, God blessed him with a room which had a view of the cranes at the Wilmington State Port. He proudly told his family, friends, and nurses about his work there. Richard was a diehard Dallas Cowboy Football Fan. He proudly flew his Dallas Cowboy flag in his front yard. His hobbies included raising gold fish from babies to adults in the fish pond he built. He also loved gardening, shopping on eBay, and landscaping. He artfully maintained his yard and his daughter Carolyn's yard. Richard could always be seen sitting on the porch or working in his yard. Most importantly, he enjoyed spending quality time

with his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He also enjoyed spending time with his friends and family friends. Everyone, young and old, loved him and enjoyed his jokes and funny stories of events that had taken place. His favorite holiday was Christmas. He enjoyed decorating his house for Christmas and was often featured in the local newspapers for his decorations. People looked forward to riding by the house at Christmas just to see his decorations. Many people often stopped at the house to let him know how much they loved the decorations. Richard loved the ocean and beach; he frequently took his children to the beach for swimming, fishing, and picnics. He also enjoyed boating. His love of the beach led to annual beach weekends at Topsail Beach in April to celebrate his birthday. He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

He leaves to cherish fond memories: his children: Patricia A. Waddell, Eleanor M. Waddell, Richard B. Waddell, III and Carolyn Waddell Mack of Wilmington, NC and Atty. Gwendolyn Waddell-Burrell (Gary) of Raleigh, NC; grandchildren: Reginald E. Waddell of Chicago, IL, Rodney L. Waddell (Latasha) of Raleigh, NC, Richard B. Waddell, IV, Samuel T. Waddell, Jillian N. Waddell, E. Michelle Waddell and Krystal L. Mack of Wilmington, NC, Jordan C. Waddell (Meagan) and Gordan E. Burrell of Raleigh, NC and Sharisse Berry of Charlotte, NC; great-grandchildren: CPL Rodja C. Flippin od Arifjan, Kuwait, Ja'Mez Waddell, Ja'Qurion Waddell, Zoi Smith, Ja'Tori Waddell, and Kailynn Smith of Wilmington, NC and Mackenzie Waddell of Raleigh, NC. sisters: Barbara W. Mike (Darnell) and Josephine Waddell of Wilmington, NC; brothers: James W. Clemmons, Jr. of Jacksonville, NC, George I. Clemmons of Richmond, VA, Leon Waddell of Durham, NC and Preston Waddell of Wilmington, NC; adopted children: Rev. Dr. Terry L. Henry, Arnold Dixon, Roy Codrington, Robert Franklin, Marilyn Troy, Michelle Brooks, Gwendolyn Brown, Minister Michelle A. Hines, Clarence Hill, Jr., Brenda Wilson, Vernon Devane, Gwendolyn Rogers; adopted families: Windell (Felbie) Butler, Darryl (Tia) Brown; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and many, many friends, including, but not limited to: Mrs. Clara Devaughn, Talmadge Jones, Robert Becton, Robert Boney Lavance, Myra Burnett, Carlton Smith and Family. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Albert Leon Small

Albert Leon Small, born September 11, 1944 to Martha Waddell and Gilbert Waddell in

Brunswick County, NC, slipped into eternal rest on Saturday, January 7, 2017 surrounded by loved ones. Funeral service for Leon was Friday, January 13, 2017 at Warner Temple AME Zion Church. Burial followed in the St. Thomas Cemetery, Leland, NC.

Leon was educated in the Brunswick County School System. He worked faithfully at Ennis Foundry for over 25 years. Leon, previously a member of Blackwell Chapel AME Zion Church, later joined Warner Temple AME Zion Church. Leon was married to Dorothy Boynton Small who preceded him in death. In addition to his wife, Leon was also preceded in death by his parents; three sisters, Mary Lou Waddell, Mary Frances Small and Ruth Waddell; one brother, Horace Small.

He leaves to cherish fond memories; his loving daughters, Loretta Boynton Jones (Tommy), Yolanda Boynton Devane (Jerry), Shamekia Boynton Mohammed (Salisu), and Nicole Small; one son, Marcus Brown; grandchildren, Rosha, Darius, Jada, Caleb, Aaliyah, Imani, Shantaysa and Kalayah; great-grandchildren, Nadiya, Quinton, Nayalah and Prince; brothers, Johnny Small, Jimmie Small (Glenda), and Gilbert Waddell; sisters, Riat Waddell, Lillie Waddell, Debra Waddell, and Angela Barnhill; mother-in-law, Vernell Boynton; sisters-in-law, Sandra Boynton, Pamela Lamb (Steven), Leslie Seymore (Donnell); brothers-in-law, George, Willis, James Boynton (Lula) and Reginald Boynton (Renee); one uncle, Leroy Waddell; a special aunt, Juanita Boynton; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Ledella Moore McKoy

Ledella Moore McKoy was born March 27, 1939, the youngest of six children of Deacon Frank and Deaconess Adell Moore. Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ called his daughter home Monday, January 9, 2017. Funeral service was held Saturday, January 14, 2017 at Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church. Burial followed in Greenlawn Memorial Park.

Ledella was a graduate of Williston Senior High School. She continued her education and graduated from Fayetteville State University. She taught school in North Carolina, Germany, Oklahoma, Okinawa, and Texas. She retired from Corning after 14 years of service. She was preceded in death by her parents, Deacon Frank and Deaconess Adella Moore; and her brother, Walter Moore.

She is survived by her husband of 53 years, Harvey McKoy; three children, Byron McKoy (Kim), Joyce McKoy, and Delores Bryant (Greg); one

sister, Joyce Williams (Harry); three brothers, Frank Moore (Esther), William Moore, and Thaddeus Moore (Edwina); two sisters-in-law, Delores Freeman and Mary McKoy; one brother-in-law, Earl McKoy (Cora); ten grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; and a host of other relatives and friends. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Mamie Johnson James

Mamie Johnson James, affectionately known as "Mimi", was born July 23, 1935 to the late Harlee and Alice Johnson. She departed this life Saturday, January 7, 2017. Her funeral service was held

Please see OBITUARIES/ Page 8

A Tribute to Athel Jane Robinson-Wall



Athel Jane Robinson-Wall departed this life on

January 10, 2017 in the Bronx, New York. She was born November 29, 1942 to the late Sarah Robinson and the late Willie Robinson in Wilmington, North Carolina. Athel was a 1961 graduate of Williston High School in Wilmington, North Carolina. She immediately moved to New York and resided there for fifty years until her untimely death. She is survived by four daughters, grandchildren, great grandchildren and her siblings- Melvin Robinson of New Jersey, Rachel Robinson-Tingling of New York, Hertha Robinson-Corbett of Wilmington, North Carolina, Eugene Robinson of New York, and Minister Calvin Robinson, D.Th. of Wilmington, North Carolina.

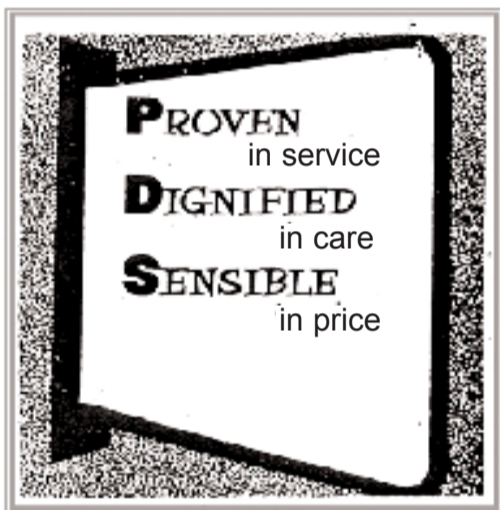
The Word of GOD says in Ecclesiastes 12:7 "Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was and the spirit shall return to GOD who gave it." So beloved Athel's spirit is with GOD! Glory to GOD and Hallelujah!

Athel will be funeralized on January 20, 2017 at Thomas C. Montera Funeral Home, 1848 Westchester Avenue, Bronx, New York 10472

From her
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In Memoriam



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Jennifer A. Terrell and Javoke S. Terrell

New Hanover County

5th Avenue Baptist Church "Becoming A 5 Star Church," 817 N. 5th Ave. is back in the community. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. and morning Worship 11:00 a.m.



50th Birthday Celebration for Barry Smith will be held on Sunday, January 22nd at 4:00 p.m. at Union Missionary Baptist Church, 2711 Princess Place Dr. For more information please call 910-550-7475 or 910-795-8543. The attire theme is "50 Shades of Gray" Free admission.

Religious Briefs

Church Women United will hold its Human Rights Celebration on Friday, February 3, 2017 at Saint Paul United Methodist Church 300 N 3rd Street, Carolina Beach. The speaker and honoree will be Elizabeth Redenbaugh. 9:30 COFFEE and sign in 10:00 program. For further information contact Angel Priscill Laster-Dualeh 910-833-0167.

International Embassy of Holiness, Inc. will hold their 8th anniversary celebration "Launching out in a New Season" at 76 Darlington Ave. on Friday, January 20th at 7:00 pm and Sunday, January 22nd at 11:00 am with special guests, Pastor Sabrina McDaniel of The Lord's Church, Raleigh, NC and Prophet Anthony Moore of Stanford, CT.

Life Changing Ministries Family Worship Center, 4875 New Centre Dr., will celebrate Kwanzaa on Thursday, January 19th at 7:00 p.m., Friday, January 20th at 7:00 p.m. and January 21st at 10:00 a.m. There will be several speakers from various churches.

Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, 3701 Princess Place Drive will hold Winter Revival. The theme for 2017 is "DEFINING AND EMBRACING YOUR KINGDOM ASSIGNMENT!" Revival Kickoff: will be held on Sunday, January 22nd at 4:00 p.m., Reverend Marie Howard Griffin, Pastor New Vision Baptist Church, Wilmington, NC. Monday-Thursday January 23rd-26th - Praise and worship service will be held 7-7:30 p.m. each night, with various choirs from through-out the city. The revival program will begin at 7:30 p.m. Our guest revivalist is Bishop Loran Mann of Pentecostal Temple C.O.G.I.C., Pittsburgh, PA.

Brunswick County

Brunswick County is currently accepting applications for LIEAP at the Building B Annex (back of the Social Service building), Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Applications will be taken until Mar. 31, or until all funds are exhausted. For additional information, please call 910-253-2422.

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

SENIOR CITIZENS' FELLOWSHIP

What does it really mean to be blessed?

BY FANNIE ALLEN AND SHEILA ROSS
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Thought for today: "I thank God for protecting me from what I thought I wanted and blessing me with what I didn't know I needed." (Pinterest.com)

"This is the day that the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it. Good morning to all on this beautiful morning." Such were the words with which the meeting of the Senior Citizens' Fellowship was opened. Our

choir director, George Hill and our wonderful choir uplifted their voices with praises through song as they sang "I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me." The opening prayer was given by Marie Stitt.

The speaker for today was Yvonne Clemmons. Her topic was "What Does It Mean To Be Blessed?" She shared with us that, as Christians, we use that term too, of course. We pray that God will bless our families. We attribute our undeserved gifts to God's blessings. We talk about ministries being blessed, but

what does it really mean? Blessed are the poor in spirit. Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trials.

What is a blessing then? Scripture shows that a blessing is anything God gives that makes us fully satisfied in Him. God's greatest blessings always rest in God Himself. Blessings are anything that draw us closer to God. Thank God for such a beautiful message!

Remarks and comments were given. Minutes were read by our secretary,

Mildred Ellerby. Treasurer's report was given. It was then time for the "Callers" report. Mary Martin had twelve members present. We were glad to have Mrs. Sheila Ross back with us after having been ill. Announcements were given. "Smiles" were given by our very own Mary Martin.

Our circle was formed, and prayer was offered by Minister Doris McQuillian, and our meeting was adjourned.

There were fifty members present today.

TELL SOMEBODY

"Handle with Prayer"

"And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint. Luke 18:1

Faint - Having little strength; vigor
Handle - To touch, lift, or hold with hands, To deal with or have responsibility for

What do you do when you've done all you can, and it seems things are getting worse instead of better? There are at least two options you can consider.



Sylvia Hooper

Option #1 You can take matters into your own hands, and do what you think is best. Option #2 Handle With Prayer, which means don't do or say anything until you have prayed, and gotten an answer from the Lord. Proverbs 3:5,6 says, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Many people are struggling with the issues of life

that have left them spiritually traumatized, and emotionally spent. They are struggling because of the fact that life doesn't seem to be fair to them. For their good, they have been rewarded evil; for their loyalty, they have received distrust; for their love, they have received hate; for their hard work and dedication, they have received a pink slip. When dealing with these people, one must be wise enough to know when to "touch", and when not to "touch". When someone is emotionally fragile, a simple touch given at the wrong time can be painful for them, and they should be handled with prayer!

Sometimes, the best thing to do is to do nothing, but pray! Prayer changes things, and prayer changes people. Prayer changes situations and prayer brings results. Prayer changes actions as well as attitudes. When weariness is a factor, prayer gives one the strength to go a little further. Galatians 6:9 says, "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." When we pray, God reminds us through the Holy

Spirit that we should continue to do good and not quit well doing. He has promised a due season, if we faint not! When we serve to the glory of God, the people we serve may never repay, but God is true to his Word, and he has promised a due season to those who continue to walk by faith and maintain good works. Discouragement comes to the best of us who are committed to the work of the Lord, so we all need a little encouragement from time to time. When we see others who are in a season of discouragement, we should take the time to offer a word of encouragement, because that's all it takes for some of us to keep going. When we have a praying spirit, it will put people in need of prayer on our hearts, just when they need it the most. There are times, when words just don't work, but wisdom tells us that we can pray, even when we cannot speak!

Good intentions are not enough, if we say the wrong thing to the wrong person at the wrong time. Once a word is gone out of the mouth, we cannot take it back. So, to handle with prayer is to han-

dle with care and the love of God. We cannot pray too much in these last and evil days in which we are living. Much prayer, much power. Little prayer, little power...no prayer no power! Life is short, and so handle with prayer!

"Father, teach us how to pray." 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, NC. 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!

OBITUARIES

Continued from page 7

Saturday, January 14, 2017 at Mt. Holly Missionary Baptist Church. Burial followed in Moore's Cemetery. She was preceded in death by four brothers, George James, Merl Johnson, Pearl Johnson and Avance Johnson; one sister, Delores James; one grandson, Ronnie Alex James; and two granddaughters, Stacizona Davis and Latifah Davis.

Mimi was born and reared in Wilmington, NC. She was educated in the New Hanover County Schools. As a young woman, Mimi met and married the late Alexander James. She was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother who worked hard to provide for her eight children. Mimi knew that God was able to see her through. She had an inner strength that helped her conquer every challenge in life. Mimi was a member of Mt. Holly Missionary Baptist Church, where she attended church regularly, until her health failed. She enjoyed family; sitting on her back porch, cooking and watching TV (especially westerns).

She leaves to cherish her memory; eight children, Alexander James, Curtis James, Elder Janet James, Shirley James, Jerome James, Ann James, Ronnie (Carey) James and George (Juanita) Kelly; three sisters, Dorothy Mae Johnson, Bessie (Charles "Pete") Lettley and Della Atkins; two brothers, Dave (Mae) Johnson and Willie Johnson; a very special friend, A. Logan; and a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Leroy McDuffie

Leroy McDuffie, affectionately known as "Billy",

heard and answered the call from the Lord; "Your mansion is ready, come home my child" on Monday, January 9, 2017. Leroy, son of the late Jimmie and Delia McDuffie was born March 9, 1932 in Pender County, North Carolina. His funeral service was held Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at Warner Temple AME Zion Church. Burial followed in Greenlawn Memorial Park.

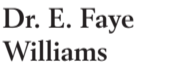
His biological mother, Delia died when he was very young and Leroy was reared by his adoptive mother, Lula Jones. Leroy joined Warner Temple AME Zion Church at an early age. He attended Williston High School, where he met his wife, Hazel Wright, who preceded him in death. They were married for 65 years. From this union, one son, Thurman McDuffie, was born. Leroy served his country in the 505 Airborne Infantry Regiment, 3rd Battalion, 82nd Division of the US Army receiving an Honorable Discharge. Leroy was employed with the International Longshoremen Association, Local 1426, from which he retired due to failing health. In addition to his parents and his wife, Leroy was preceded in death by five brothers and sisters.

He leaves to cherish his memories: one son, Thurman McDuffie of the home; one grandson, Therman Lamont McDuffie (Beverly) of Ft. Lauderdale, FL; two great-grandchildren, Giselle McDuffie and Maximilian McDuffie of Ft. Lauderdale, FL; four sisters; three brothers; six sisters-in-law; three brothers-in-law; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends, including devoted family members and friends; Annie Bradley, Doris Miller, Annie Heyer, Vicky Harvey, Thelma McDuffie, Etta Brown and Robert McDuffie. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

The tears

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

Where has the time gone? Eight years have gone by much too soon. As the days pass, the more I find myself filled with regret that time moved so fast.



Dr. E. Faye Williams

It's easy to remember "The Tears." The first time they visited me was 11:00 pm on 11/04/08. It's easy to remember the exact time because that was the time that the polls closed in the West and political announcers felt free to deliver the great historic news. I vividly remember the announcer saying, "We're free now to announce that Barack Obama has won 270 electoral votes and has been declared the 44th President of the United States." I'd never felt that type of emotion before.

I watched many celebratory demonstrations of euphoria broadcast on television from locations in every corner of the nation. The celebration in Chicago's Grant Park dwarfed those in every other city. Chicago's own Barack Obama had just been elected President of the United States

and it was Chicago's turn to "represent."

Full of indescribable joy, I watched as the Obamas appeared on stage. The President-Elect began thanking those who supported him and reassuring those who didn't that they all would be recipients of the Hope and Change on which he'd campaigned.

Then "The Tears" came again. I didn't invite them, but they came anyway. They came because in the state of my raw emotions I juxtaposed the image of the New First Family against the memories of all of the struggles that preceded their election. In my joy of the moment I remembered Dr. King, Medgar Evers, Fannie Lou Hamer, Malcolm X, Ida B. Wells, Denmark Vesey, Crispus Attucks, Sojourner Truth, Harriet Tubman, etc. I thought of the sacrifices of Black vets who fought and died in every war this nation waged from the Revolution to Iraq and Afghanistan.

I remember smiling as, through my tears, I saw Rev. Jesse Jackson with cheeks wet with tears and the hundreds of others who shared our emotions and tears. With immeasurable joy and complete sadness, I reflected on those who went to their graves hoping for a day like that or doubt that one would ever come. For the remain-

der of that night and the next day "The Tears" were my companion, a fitting escort for my emotions and me. Like all uninvited guests, they eventually left.

They came again on 1/20/09 and again on 1/21/13. These visits were more along the order of Tears of Joy. "The Tears" that came in 2013 served to confirm the confidence and trust that My President had earned from his fellow citizens.

On the evening of 1/10/17, I watched as My President gave his Farewell Address. "The Tears" came once more to cloud my vision of the television screen. They didn't prevent me from hearing the message and resolve of My President to continue to influence the forward progress of our nation. As he enumerated the achievements of his administration, I more clearly understood the personal sacrifice and the depth of his efforts to accomplish what he had.

"The Tears" didn't prevent the pride I felt for My President who reset the standard for civil discourse and model behavior in his administration. Neither he nor any member of his family engaged in conduct that would discredit the office or the nation. Beyond stewards of the national interests, Michelle and he were the exemplary couple and parents.

I know that another visit by "The Tears" is imminent. On 1/20/17, as we say farewell to one of the greatest presidents on record, "The Tears" will not blind me from continuing the work of preserving the Obama legacy. As he said in his farewell, our efforts to continue the work he began now rest in our individual effort and commitment. YES, WE CAN!

Dr. E. Faye Williams is President of the National Congress of Black Women, 202/678-6788 www.nationalcongressbw.org.



FREE BAG LUNCH

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
600 GRACE STREET
The following Saturday's

January 21st	12:30 - 1:30
February 11th	12:30 - 1:30
March 11th	12:00 - 1:30
April 8th	12:00 - 1:30
May 13th	12:00 - 1:30
June 17th	12:00 - 1:30
July 15th	12:30 - 1:30
August 19th	12:00 - 1:30
September 16th	12:00 - 1:30
October 14th	12:00 - 1:30
November 18th Thanksgiving Dinner	11:30 - 2:30
November 23rd Dickey Family Thanksgiving Dinner	
Church Friends and Guest	2:00 - 6:00 pm
Contact Margie Armstrong 910-675-9260	
or	
St. Mark's Episcopal Church 910-763-3858	

ATTEND THE
RELIGIOUS
INSTITUTION OF
YOUR CHOICE
THIS WEEK