

MISSING



EBONEE SPEARS

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

Coming UP



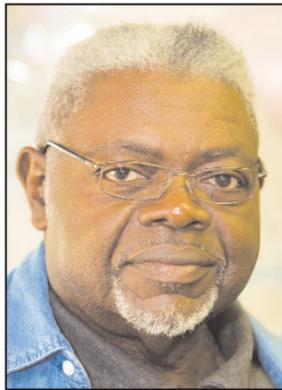
DR. GEOFF WARD

Howe family descendent to speak at UNCW

UNCW will be hosting Geoff Ward, professor of criminology, law and society, from the University of California Irvine. Dr. Ward's presentation, "Keeping the Red Record: Archiving Racial Violence" will be held on Wednesday, March 29 at 7:00 p.m. in King Hall Auditorium and outlines more than a century of effort to docu-

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BRUNSWICK COUNTY UPDATE



BERNEST HEWETT

Rev. Jeremy Simmons speaks out

BY **BERNEST HEWETT**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Reverend Jeremy Simmons, of Northwest, wants to share with the readers the following account of an incident which he and his family allegedly experienced at his residence on Tuesday, March 7, 2017. He believes this to be a "wake up call" to some who think the day of unnecessarily forceful aggression toward Blacks by law enforcement has passed.

"On March 7, 2017, at 8:43 p. m., the Chief of Police of Northwest, N. C., Chief Taylor came to my house at 933 Church Street, in

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THE WILMINGTON
JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

VOLUME 90/No. 11

MARCH 16, 2017 - MARCH 22, 2017

FIFTY CENTS

DEMOCRATS PROPOSE "LIVING WAGE BY 2022" BILL

BY **CASH MICHAELS**
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

North Carolina House Democrats have proposed that, if HB289 is passed, it would "...increase the State's minimum wage in phases" over a five-year period, "when the wage shall be adjusted automatically each year by increases in the cost of living."

"More than anything, this legislation is the right thing to do for struggling families, workers and their employers in this State," says Representative Evelyn Terry (D-Forsyth-72).

Known as HB289 (and in the Senate as SB210) - "Living Wage by 2022," the measure was referred to the House Committee on Rules, Calendar and Operations on March 9, 2017. Representatives Pricey

Harrison and Cecil Brockman, among other Democrats, are cosponsors.

A "living wage" is "the amount of income needed for an individual to meet basic needs without public or private assistance, says the Durham Living Wage Project, a living wage certification group. Democratic Presidential Candidate Bernie Sanders favored an immediate \$15 per hour minimum living wage last year.

Twenty-nine states and the District of Columbia have raised their minimum wage since 2009, with New York raising it to \$15 per hour, followed by California.

State House Democrats have also introduced another measure, titled

Please see **LIVING WAGE**
Page 3



REPRESENTATIVE ED HANES



REPRESENTATIVE EVELYN TERRY



COMMISSIONERS ON BOARD



PHOTO COURTESY JAMES FULLWOOD

Front row, from left: Commissioners Althea Sumpter, Dionne Hoskins-Brown, Meredith Hardy, Danny Cromer, Griffin Lotson. Back row, from left: Herb Frazier, Emory Campbell, Victoria Smalls, Sherman Pyatt, Willie Heyward, David Frank, James Fullwood. Not pictured is Sean Palmer.

Four states represented

SPECIAL TO
THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

The Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission welcomes seven new Commissioners from each of the four states that make up the region.

Executive Director J. Herman Blake said the new members were nominated by the State Historic Preservation Officers in the states of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida and appointed by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior. They serve three-year terms.

The new North Carolina Commissioners are:

James Fullwood of Raleigh. A native of Pender County, he is a retired state official and is working to restore a one-room schoolhouse that was originally built by his great-grandfather, a blacksmith who was once enslaved.

Sean Palmer of Wilmington, director of the Upperman African American Cultural Center at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington.

The new South Carolina Commissioners are:

Herb Frazier of Charleston. An author and journalist, he is marketing and public relations manager at Magnolia Plantation and Gardens near Charleston. He is a co-author of "We Are Charleston: Tragedy and Triumph at Mother Emanuel."

Sherman Pyatt is a native Charlestonian who has been a research librarian and archivist at a number of institutions of higher learning and research centers in Virginia and South Carolina. His latest publication is "The Other Side of the Skillet: Healthy and Alternative Eating in the Lowcountry."

Victoria Smalls of St. Helena Island, director

of history, art and culture at Penn Center; also serves on the S.C. African American Heritage Commission and is an advisory board member of the Gullah Geechee Consortium of Beaufort County. She is a former educator and a self-taught artist.

The new Georgia Commissioners are:

Dionne Hoskins-Brown is fishery biologist with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service and is director of NOAA programs at Savannah State University. She also is a member of the Savannah Chatham County School Board.

The new Florida Commissioners are:

Meredith Hardy is an archeologist and coordinator for interpretation, education and outreach for the Southeast Archeological Center in Tallahassee, and the cultural resources program manager for the Christiansted National Historic Site on St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands. She also has worked with the Cumberland Island National Seashore off Georgia to discover, interpret and protect the African American archeological heritage within the park.

The newly seated Commissioners join continuing members Emory Campbell, Danny Cromer, and Willie Heyward, all of South Carolina; David Frank, of North Carolina, and Griffin Lotson and Althea Sumpter, both of Georgia.

At its recent meeting in St. Augustine, FL, the Commission also elected new officers and welcomed returning officeholders: Mr. Campbell of Hilton Head Island, SC, was elected chair for a one-year term; Dr. Hoskins-Brown, vice chair; Dr. Hardy, member-at-large for two years. Dr. Frank was reelected for another two-year term as Secretary, and Mr. Lotson continues his term as treasurer for another year.

"Trumpcare" not good for NC, says observers

BY **CASH MICHAELS**
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

As with the rest of the nation, North Carolina policy analysts and elected officials are up in arms over the recent Republican House proposal to repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA), on which over 500,000 North Carolinians currently depend, and replace it with what many are calling "Trumpcare."

There is no question, they say, that the poor, elderly and people of color will be negatively impacted, forcing many to choose between medical attention, shelter and food.

"The ACA has played a significant role in reducing worry among Americans who previously struggled to pay unaffordable medical bills when they got sick," Congressman G. K. Butterfield (D-NC-1), told the House Committee on Energy and Commerce last week. "We cannot afford to go back to the days when Americans were forced to pay more money for less coverage and when insurance companies rationed the care people received."

Under the current Affordable Care Act, enrollees get generous government subsidies or tax credits to help cover the cost of health insurance premiums, thus keeping the cost of health care affordable.

"Trumpcare," if adopted, cuts those subsidies, putting enrolled North Carolinians at risk.

"My constituents do not want to go back to the days where health care emergencies could bankrupt families," Butterfield added. "This harmful bill rolls back the clock and will rip health care away from my constituents."

Officially known as "the American Health Care Act (AHCA)" the proposal, backed by House Speaker Paul Ryan, would reduce the federal deficit by \$800 billion over ten years if enacted, by eliminating a number of broad based taxes currently in the ACA, thus benefitting many of the rich.

That's widely considered the "good" news.

But Democrats, and even some Republicans, have been quick to echo the findings of the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO), which scored the bill this week and determined that it would also leave over 24 million people uninsured over the next ten years than under the current ACA, 14 million alone by 2018.

That dire forecast, despite President Trump's defense, is sending conservative and moderate Republicans in Congress running for the exits, forcing legislative leaders to consider changes to the proposal to ensure passage in the House and the GOP-led Senate.

The CBO analysis also projected that the cost of health care will jump dramatically for the working poor and the elderly, with premiums up to five times higher for older enrollees than younger ones (currently, the ACA caps premium increase at three times higher for older enrollees).

"Trumpcare would dramatically reduce the amount of financial help North Carolinians receive to help purchase private health insurance on the individual market. Brendan Riley, policy analyst with the nonpartisan nonprofit NC Justice Center in Raleigh says. "As a result, we'll see the average subsidy go down dramatically, and more North Carolinians would find their [health] coverage unaffordable."

Riley added that North Carolina, according to a

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BRUNSWICK Continued from Page 1

Navassa, N. C. He was banging on my door, saying, "Open the door!" My wife asked, "Why is the police outside banging on the door?" At this point, Chief Taylor was banging the door harder and saying, "Open the door! It's the police!" I walked toward the door and said, "Sir, I didn't call the police, and I am not going to open the door. Your tone sounds angry and I don't feel safe." I called 911 and told them that the police was outside banging on my door and that I didn't call them to come to my house. The dispatcher told me to open the door, so I went and opened the door. Chief Taylor rushed into my house and asked, "Why didn't you open the door?" I told him that I didn't feel safe. He was yelling and banging on the door. He said, "You know who I am! You've seen me before!" I said, "No, I don't know who you are, and I've never seen you before." He said that there was an open 911 call from this house and he needed to search my house. I told him that nobody called 911 from this house before you started banging on my door. I also told him that he was not going to search my house. He said that I didn't have a choice and that he was required to search my house. He then looked at my wife who was holding our daughter and asked her was she okay. She responded to him, saying, "Yes, I am ok, but why are you in our house, and why were you banging on the door like that?"

At this point, two other officers came and asked me to step outside. One was a White bald headed man. The other was a Black man that looked as if he were in his late 20's. I called 911

WARD Continued from Page 1

ment racial violence to demonstrate its importance to critical analysis, social movements and other remedial effort. Inspired by Ida B. Wells' 1895 pamphlet, "A Red Record," which inspired the crusade against lynching, this research has clarified and countered threats to African Americans and others life chances. and translating. The presentation explores some of these challenges and strategies for overcoming them in the con-

'TRUMPCARE' Continued from Page 1

study by the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities, would be the "second biggest" losing state in terms of subsidy amount under "Trumpcare"...falling more than \$5,000 a year.

And even more troubling for the poor and elderly, many of whom live in the inner cities and rural communities, observers say, is that Medicaid spending under the proposed law will be cut dramatically. It eliminates Medicaid expansion for those states that did (North Carolina did not expand its program), which means far fewer poor people - three out of five N. C. senior citizens, and two out of five with disabilities - will get government sponsored health insurance, and what funding that will be available will be capped and rationed on a per capita basis.

North Carolina would have to make up for any cost overruns out of its own budget.

"The CBO report confirmed our worst fears. Millions of Americans will lose their health coverage if the Republican bill to repeal the ACA is passed," said Congresswoman Alma Adams (D-NC-12). "This bill fails working families by giving a tax break to the wealthy, increasing premiums, and ending Medicaid as we know it."

"By next year, an estimated 14 million people would be without health insurance and premiums would be an addi-

text of Ward's ongoing work to build a racial violence archive, and in relation to Ward's (Howe) family history and its ties to the 1898 Wilmington (NC) racial massacre and coup.

This presentation is co-sponsored by UNCW's Department of Sociology and Criminology, the Office of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion, and the Upperman African American Cultural Center. Accommodations for disabilities may be requested by calling 910.962.3420 at least 7 days prior to the event.

UNCW is an EEO/AA institution.

tional 15 - 20 % higher. This is unacceptable," Representative Adams maintained. "Instead of playing politics with our healthcare, the GOP should be working to build on the progress of the ACA and not moving backward."

According to Professor Mark Hall, Director of Health Law and Policy at Wake Forest University School of Law, "hundreds of thousands of North Carolinians would lose their [health] insurance..." under the AHCA, as proposed, "simply because they could no longer afford it," Professor Hall said.

Dr. Peggy Valentine, a local health care educator, echoes the concern about how the AHCA would negatively impact the elderly and communities of color, where resources are low, and health disparities and the need for aggressive health care is optimum.

"There are a lot of limitations when we look at all of the gains that were made from the Affordable Care Act," Dr. Valentine continued, referring to the ability of most people to enroll and qualify. "It seems like all of those gains have been reversed."

"My concern is what will [the AHCA] do to the communities that are already disenfranchised?"

"Some people will be better off, and more people will be worse off," Professor Hall, of Wake Forest School of Law, said. "Younger, healthier people will be better off, and the opposite of all of that will be worse off."

again because, at this point, I was really afraid. I didn't know what these officers were about to do to me or my family in my house. The dispatcher told me to give the phone to one of the officers, and I did. The dispatcher told the officer to hang up my phone. The officer started to tell me that I could be detained because I called 911 while the police were standing at my house. While he was saying this, the Black officer pulled out his handcuffs and asked me why was I afraid of the police. I told them that I was afraid because the police have been killing Black men. He said that he was the police and that he was here to protect me. "Protect me from what," I asked. By this time, Chief Taylor came outside and said that I was ignorant. He asked why was I afraid of the police. I responded that the police have been killing Black men and that I didn't know what they were doing. He asked, "Have the police killed anybody in North Carolina?" "Yes," I answered. "They have killed two people in Charlotte recently." He then asked, "Have the police killed you?" I said, "No, you haven't, but that does not mean that you would not kill me." Chief Taylor then said, "Well, if someone were in here harming your wife, what would the police do?" I said, "I don't know what y'all would do. Y'all might be the ones harming her." He walked away saying, "You are ignorant." I responded, "Yeah, I'm ignorant, with a master's degree from Duke Divinity School." Then he walked over to the other officers and said, "That's an ignorant ass!" He also lied and said that he heard some tumbling in the house. He said that he should've locked my ass up as he was walking towards his car. They laughed, got into their cars, and left.

At no point did the officer ask to see my identification card. He did not ask me if I lived at this residence. He was very rude and unnecessarily aggressive. He threatened to detain me, although I was in my own home, minding my own business. This is one of the main reasons Black people are skeptical when it comes to policing in America. Although the officer was Black, he wanted to invoke his power in a way that was

unnecessary and abusive. I want to formally file a complaint on Chief Taylor, and I think that his actions exhibited that he has not been properly trained on how to be an officer that serves and protects the community. His actions were problematic, and his tone was provocative. Also, I want to know if it is true that a civilian can be detained for calling 911 while the police are at the present location. I was told by one of the other officers that I could be detained for calling 911 while the police were at my house. If so, who polices the police? I am a pastor of a church and a chaplain of a hospital. I am an educated man who knows how to communicate well, and I think that, if this were someone who was not as educated, this situation could have turned deadly. It is not the responsibility of the civilian to maintain calm, especially if the Chief of Police is using vulgar language and being threatening and disrespectful. As a Black man, I feel violated. This officer came into my home and disrespected me in front of my wife and my daughter and while my two sons were in their room listening, afraid of what the police were doing. How do we reconcile that? This officer violated my civil rights and participated in criminal activity by trespassing on my property without my consent. He was not given consent to enter into my home, and he did not have a warrant to search my house. It's painful to know that, at any moment, a police officer can take it upon himself or herself to do whatever he or she desires and claim that their actions are justified.

The officer did not check with any other neighbors to see if there were a safety issue. A police officer's duty is to make sure civilians are safe, and these officers did the complete opposite. My entire family (wife and three children) are afraid to live here because of this. It is my hope that Chief Taylor resigns from his position as Chief of Police of Northwest simply because I believe his aggressive behavior exhibited last night is common behavior for him. "

Chaplain Jeremy Simmons Bernest Heweti is President of the Brunswick County Branch of the NAACP.

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NAACP DEMANDS MEETING WITH WAKE COUNTY SCHOOLS OVER RACIAL VIDEOS

[RALEIGH] The Raleigh-Apex Chapter of the NAACP wants to meet with the Wake County School Board to discuss recent incendiary racial incidents caught on video. One involved at least three students at Leesville Road Middle School on tape using explicit racial

STATE BRIEFS

epithets. Another video involved a black student at Wake Forest High, allegedly frustrated with being the target of racism by several white students, grabbing one and throwing him to the ground twice before a teacher stepped in to stop further violence. And finally, a video from January showing a school resource officer at picking a female student at Rolesville High and bodily slamming her to the ground. That officer has since resigned. Wake School Board Chairwoman Monika Johnson-Hostler says, "We are absolutely committed to address the

racial tensions in our school system, not by ourselves but as a community."

ASHEBORO MAYOR DENOUNCES KKK RALLY PLANS

[ASHEBORO] The mayor of Asheboro is not pleased with announced plans by the Loyal White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan to hold a rally there in May, saying that, "The people of Asheboro have worked too hard to unify our community to let an outside group come in and spread racist views without raising our voices loudly in protest." Mayor David H. Smith

added that the city denounced "in the strongest terms" the KKK "message of hate and division. The KKK rally is scheduled for May 6th at 1 p.m. No location for the rally has been given.

JOHNSTON COUNTY TO END YEAR-ROUND SCHOOLS

[SMITHFIELD] The Johnston County Board of Education voted to end the year-round scheduled at two elementary schools, saying that based on the academic results and the associated costs, they really aren't any

more effective than traditional schools. The 2017-18 school year will be the last for year-round curriculum at South Smithfield and West Smithfield elementary schools. The system academic officer told the board that the schools were just too expensive.

COOPER DELIVERS HOPEFUL STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS

[RALEIGH] Once again, Democrat Gov. Roy Cooper urged the Republican-led General Assembly to repeal the infamous HB2 "bathroom law" in an effort to stop the econom-

ic bleeding across the state, during his State of the State address Monday evening. Cooper also called for greater investments in public education, rebuilding the state's film industry, and doing more to spur economic development, especially in rural areas. In his GOP response, Senate President Pro tem Sen. Phil Berger heralded the achievements of the Republican-led legislature, but also belittled Gov. Cooper because of his narrow victory over former Gov. Pat McCrory last November.

COMPILED BY CASH MICHAELS

FBI asked to investigate hanging death of a Muslim

BY FREDERICK H. LOWE OF NORTHSTAR NEWSTODAY.COM

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - The Council of American-Islamic Relations in Seattle has asked the FBI to investigate the death of an 18-year-old black Muslim man who was found hanging in a wooded area near his home in Lake Stevens, Wash.

Ben M. Keita, a senior at Lake Stevens High School, was reported missing on Nov. 27, 2016.

Lake Stevens police conducted helicopter and ground searches on November 30, December 1 and December 7 but were unsuccessful in finding him.

But on January 9th young people walking in the wood-

ed area found Keita's lifeless body hanging from a tree. His feet were eight feet off the ground, Arsalan Bukhari, executive director of the Council of American-Islamic Relations, tells NorthStarNewsToday.com/B lackMansStreet.Today.

The Snohomish County Medical Examiner initially ruled Keita's death a suicide. It is not known if a suicide note was found.

The cause of death, however, was subsequently deemed undetermined for at least two reasons. One was that Keita's family indicated that he was a happy young man who was doing well in school and that he had no history of either anxiety or depression. The other reason given is that the rope used in Keita's hanging



BEN M. KEITA

was tied 50 feet up in the tree. The possibility that Keita had been lynched crossed the minds of many in the black community.

On Tuesday, CAIR asked the FBI to open an investigation

into the death and called for the public to come forward with any information.

Ibrahim Keita, the teenager's father, said his son was about to graduate from high school and that he planned to attend college and then medical school to become a doctor.

Bukhari said Keita worked at McDonald's but police did not question any of his co-workers, Bukhari said.

The FBI said it is reviewing the case, but has not opened a full investigation.

Lake Stevens is near Everett, Wash. and north of Seattle. The small city's population is just under 30,000. Eighty-five percent of its population is white, and approximately 1.7% of its residents are African or African American.

LIVING WAGE

Continued from Page 1

"The Economic Security Act of 2017," which also raises the minimum wage over a five year period but includes provisions addressing equal pay for women, a repeal on the state ban against collective bargaining, paid leave, a return of the earned income tax credit, and a ban on government agencies requiring job applicants to detail their criminal histories until they receive a "conditional offer of employment."

HB2, the controversial Republican-sponsored "bathroom law," also does not allow municipalities in North Carolina to raise their local minimum wage rates. Indeed, the GOP majority in the State House is expected to reject any consideration of raising the minimum wage. Dallas Woodhouse, Executive Director of the NC Republican Party, recently said in reaction to the new proposals, "This is why our side is in charge - to stop this stuff the voters long ago rejected."

And yet, according to Politifact, anywhere from 65 to 76 percent of North Carolinians favor raising the minimum wage to a living wage. The NC NAACP says that number is closer to 80 percent.

According to language in the HB289, North Carolina employers would pay their employees a minimum of \$8.80 per hour (the current federal minimum rate is \$7.25 per hour), "or the minimum wage set forth" in the federal Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U. S. C. 206(a)(1), whichever is higher as of January 1, 2018.

"...[I]t is based on a graduated scale that begins January 2018 at a minimum wage hourly rate of \$8.80 and moves over a period of years to January 1, 2022, to \$15.00 per hour based on sound economic indexed projections adjusted by the CPI," Representative Terry said. "Reasonable assumptions are also factored into this law based on conditions often needing consideration by the disadvantaged - layoffs, temporary loss of wages requiring the need to file for unemployment; work first adjustments; workers whose wages depend on tips, etc."

"The bill provides hope for struggling workers," says Representatives Ed Hanes (D-Forsyth-72).

"The larger problem that people won't acknowledge is that we have workers forced into jobs that should, in fact, be jobs that teach young people how to work," Hanes said. "Instead, they are being filled by adults who are being taken advantage of in middle-skilled jobs, where wages have stagnated while profits for owners and executives have risen."

But Republicans disagree. "We need look no further than Seattle to see the harmful effects of raising the minimum wage," Senator Joyce Krawiec (R-Forsyth) maintained, referring to at least one study that suggested that Seattle employers either laid off workers or cut their hours when the council raised the minimum wage there to \$11 an hour in June 2014. However, the Seattle council still voted to raise the rate to \$15 per hour by 2022.

"Many people who had jobs are now unemployed or have had significant cuts to their

hours, according to a study done by the city," Senator Krawiec said. "When the price of the service costs more than the service is worth, those services don't survive."

"Low wage jobs are a starting point," Krawiec continued. "A place to be trained for the future. In fact, 42% are high school age and another 27% are college age. These "training ground" jobs will be lost when government requires businesses to pay more for labor than the market demands. Businesses find ways to lower labor costs when necessary. We now see fast food restaurants transitioning to automated systems, eliminating the cashiers and burger flippers. Fast food restaurants have been a catalyst for many successful business people today. It would be a shame to have that training field eliminated.

"While we would all like to see everyone make top wages, eliminating jobs is not the way to achieve these results. Any wage is better than no wage at all. We can all agree on that," Senator Krawiec concluded.

Representative Hanes, however, maintains that workers deserve fair wages.

"The senator's approach is far too simplistic and a standard Republican talking point. Unfortunately for her, CONSERVATIVE adult workers disagree with her: Kids need to learn how to work. Adults need to make a FAIR living wage that tracks inflation. Perhaps we should create a tiered wage system for those 21 and under versus working adults over 21. There is a ton of approaches...it's time we stop fighting about it and start working for adults who need relief."

"Some wage is better then no wage is not agreeable..." continued Hanes, "...It's a Republican cop out to avoid having to face the truth of some of their policies and the wrath of their own constituents."

Indeed, there are economists who suggest that increasing the minimum wage helps employers more than it hurts because when workers decide they can no longer afford to toil for miniscule wages, they leave, creating a high turnover for that business, studies show. That high turnover forces businesses to constantly train new workers, which ultimately costs more money than paying experienced employees more to stay on the job.

There are also proponents who point to major corporations like Target and Walmart who began paying their employees more than the minimum wage at least two years ago, and, in 2015, eleven businesses and two nonprofits joined the Durham Living Wage Project, a certification program which promoted paying workers at least \$12.33 an hour. Both Asheville and Orange County have similar groups.

While the raise hiked labor costs at those businesses, employees were pleased that they were able to feed their families, and were not likely to leave.

"I strongly suggest that people determine for themselves what's fair," Representative Terry says, "and moreover show by the way they vote in all local elections how they truly value legislation that strives to lift, not trap, people into a spiral of economic depravity while others thrive."

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

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Visual Voice



Our Voice New Black media activism?

In the recent March 12th edition of *Newsweek* magazine, Bill Celis, the Associate Dean for Diversity, Inclusion and Strategic Initiatives at the University of California, Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism, and former foreign correspondent for the *New York Times*, wrote an informative op-ed titled, "The Time's Right for a New Wave of Black Media Activism," in which he talked about the need for black newspapers to return to their social activist, community-oriented tradition, especially in light of the current political climate in the nation.



Cash Michaels

Here's just some of what Prof. Celis, a "grandson of Mexican immigrants," offered as nuggets of wisdom:

Dailies and weeklies like the (Chicago) *Defender*, the *St. Louis American* and the *Los Angeles Sentinel* portrayed African-American life in its fullness-civic events, celebrations, religious life, marriages, births and deaths-and they countered the stereotypical ways mainstream media covered blacks (if they were covered at all).

Then-and now-they've been a critical voice in reporting the lives of black America.

"At a time when the credibility of media is under attack, it is important to note that for people of color, the mainstream media has always lacked credibility," said Martin Reynolds, a journalist and co-director of the Maynard Institute for Journalism Education, a nonprofit that promotes diversity in the newsroom. "The black press and the ethnic press as a whole have consistently maintained far more credibility in their communities than their mainstream counterparts."

Is the time right for a new wave of black media activism? And can the black press retain its effectiveness in a new media landscape?"

Prof. Celis went on to talk about the critical reporting of Mattie Smith Colin of the *Chicago Defender*, whose stories about the return of the beaten and battered body of Emmitt Till, a 14-year-old black teen from Chicago who was racially lynched in Mississippi in 1955 by two white men who would later be acquitted of the crime. Her reports, and the gripping photograph of Till's remains, along with the sorrowful promise by his courageous mother, Mamie Bradley, helped to galvanize a nation, and ignite the civil rights movement.

"Today, many of the issues facing the black community would sound familiar to veterans of the civil rights movement: police shootings of unarmed black men; disproportional incarceration rates; discriminatory sentencing; voter suppression; and rising rates of violence against minorities," Prof. Celis continued.

"Some observers say this has created an environment ripe for black media. The black press should use this opportunity more than ever to enforce integrity and consistency in telling the truth about community and federal policies," said Amen Oyibo, a freelance journalist in Los Angeles and a former reporter for the *Los Angeles Sentinel*. "The black press has to realize, if it doesn't already, that this is the time to be the backbone that it has always been."

I applaud Prof. Celis for his analysis, and challenge the rest of our Black newspaper industry to redouble our efforts to continue to serve our respective communities to the highest standard possible.

And I challenge our communities to continue to support the Black Press more than ever before, not only with your readership, which is so greatly valued and appreciated, but also with your business through advertising and subscriptions.

The Black Press, and its rich history and reporting truth to power; is here to stay, but only if you do your part.

Cash Michaels is a member of *The Wilmington Journal's* editorial board.

The ammunition we need now more than ever - Black newspapers

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

A special commentary in celebration of the 190th anniversary of the founding of *Freedom's Journal*, the first Black newspaper published on March 16, 1827.

In 1960, Blacks in Virginia watched as the state changed the laws against trespass to make it a more serious crime, and the penalty was raised from a \$100.00 fine to \$1,000.00. This action was taken by the then all-White legislature in an attempt to combat the Civil Rights Movement and more severely punish the activists that were engaging in the sit-ins that were taking place in Richmond - the former capital of the Confederacy - and across the nation.



Oscar H. Blayton

During that time, we read the unhinged rantings of segregationists, such as James J. Kilpatrick, who wrote lies, to stoke fear and hatred in the hearts of whites against their Black neighbors by exaggerating the civil disruption caused by demonstrators.

During the Civil Rights Movement, Virginia was not the only state where fierce battles for equal justice were fought - battles where so many people suffered, and many lost their lives. But much of the truth of this struggle was hidden by the dominant news sources of the day; and battles had to be fought to even bring the truth to light.

That was a time when the only reliable news about the Civil Rights Movement could be found in Black newspapers. Even

BLAYTON

Continued on this page

BLAYTON Continued from this page

the storied *New York Times* and the *Washington Post* wrote about the Civil Rights Movement from the perspective of spectators, a safe distance from the fray. Having nothing to lose, the journalists at these newspapers, in an attempt at "objectivity," often gave too much credence to the misrepresentations of their Southern counterparts.

Today, reading the current reporting and editorials of the large, White-dominated, corporate newspapers, I have a sense of déjà vu. But now it is not just the newspapers of the Southern segregationists that are spewing lies. The "alt right" haters have gained a prominent voice in the national discourse, and they are on their way toward gaining even greater influence,

with Steve Bannon entrenched in the White House.

So now, as much as ever, the voices of the Black newspapers are needed to combat the evil we face.

We are witnessing the normalizing of the Donald Trump presidency, as the language of appeasement creeps, ever so slightly onto the front pages of the dominant newspapers. Sports writers are chiding Black athletes for refusing to go to the White House and provide Trump with a photo-op, so that he can pretend not to be a bigot. Journalists writing for many major outlets are reporting the terrorizing of undocumented aliens as "routine" law enforcement activity. And stories about the law suits against Trump and the allegations of sexual assault, including rape, are evaporating from the pages of the cor-

porate press like small puddles in a drought.

Too few Americans are alarmed by these recent developments because they are not in the crosshairs of the bigotry that drives the current administration. There will be precious few allies to combat this plague of bigotry alongside people of color, progressive women, immigrants, the LGBTQ community and undocumented aliens.

But the one resource we have is the battle tested Black Press, founded March 16, 1827. Black newspapers have always been the sword and shield against injustices aimed at people of color. This tradition goes back to Fredrick Douglas and beyond, including the first Black newspaper, *Freedom's Journal*, founded 190 years ago by John B. Russwurm and Rev. Samuel Cornish.

The ammunition that we will need most in the struggles to come will be the accurate reporting of the truth; and it is beginning to look like the major corporate news media is prepared to compromise on that. So, we must continue to battle to bring accurate facts to light. And we will be opposed by those powerful people who want to hide the truth in the shadows by controlling the outlets that feed lies to the public in order to keep us passive, and apathetic.

Maintaining Black newspapers as a loud and honest voice that will fight for the rights of people of color is our best and brightest hope in these terrible times to come.

Oscar H. Blayton is a former Marine Corps combat pilot and human rights activist who practices law in Virginia.

Matters of Opinion

TO BE EQUAL

Viola Davis: A historic talent earns a historic distinction

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

"In my mind I see a line, and over that line, I see green fields and lovely flowers and beautiful white women with their arms stretched out to me over that line, but I can't seem to get there no how. I can't seem to get over that line." - Harriet Tubman, quoted by Viola Davis in her 2015 Emmy acceptance speech.

It seems fitting that Davis' history-making honor occurred directly at the crossroads of Black History Month and Women's History Month, for she made history as a Black woman in more than one way: she also is the most nominated Black actress in Oscar history, with three nominations. In addition to her role in *Fences*, for which she won, she earned nominations for *The Help* in 2012 and *Doubt* in 2009.



Marc Morial

When she was honored with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame earlier this year, Davis marveled, "I can't believe my life." Indeed, her own story is worthy of the Hollywood treatment. She was raised in pover-

ty by a mother who was maid and factory worker. She told the *New York Times* she stole food from the grocery store and garbage cans and wore the plastic clips from bread bags in her braids.

Davis credits a federal anti-poverty program, *Upward Bound*, with saving her life. She told *Essence* magazine, "They kind of picked up where public school left off because I had such enormous needs as a child of abject poverty. Coming from a background where I was first generation going to school,

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MORIAL

Continued on page 5

An attack on education

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

The effort to repeal and replace health care is generating headlines, and the attempt to investigate our 45th President's Russia connections is of high importance. The specious claim that President Barack Obama wiretapped



Dr. Julianne Malveaux

Trump Tower, too, has generated interest, largely because it is unprecedented for one President to accuse another of a felony, and because 45 has absolutely no proof that President Obama has done any such thing. While President Obama, with a multimillion dollar book deal tucked into his pocket, is living his life like its golden, 45 has indulged in several public tantrums, with episodic moments of calm. Too many of us have been riveted to the drama, while there is a more quiet revolution happening in Congress, with the approval of the White House.

There has been an attack on education, with legislation being introduced as early as January 23, 2017. That legislation, HR 610, is titled the *Choices in Education Act*. It would repeal the *Elementary*

and *Secondary Education Act* of 1965, and limits the authority of the Department of Education so that it should only award block grants to states. It also sets up a voucher system. If states do not comply with the rules of this legislation, they would be ineligible for block grants.

The legislation would also repeal nutritional standards for the national school breakfast and lunch programs, which were set by the *No Hungry Kids Act* of 2012. Schools would no longer be required, as First Lady Michelle Obama advocated, to increase the availability of fruits, vegetables, and other healthy foods at lunch. Are we going back to the days when Ronald Reagan declared that ketchup should be considered a vegetable? Seems like it!

The 1965 legislation was passed as civil rights legislation, providing more opportunities to a broader range of children, including disabled children (with requirements to make provisions for disabled children). It requires reporting around issues like the achievement gap, bullying, and underperforming schools. All of these provisions would be eliminated if HR 610 were passed. Actually, the entire public education sector could be eliminated if HR 610 is passed.

Not to be bested by legislation that would limit the reach

of the Department of Education, Rep. Thomas Massie (R-KY) has introduced a sentence-long piece of legislation. HR 899 reads, in total, "The Department of Education shall terminate on December 31, 2018." Of course, Massie hasn't put the thought into considering how things like Pell grants would be administered, or would he eliminate those, too? HBCUs are part of the education budget. What would that mean for us? The bill has been cosponsored by several of Massie's colleagues. It speaks to a national antipathy to education, so that even as we hunger for jobs, and elected 45 so that he could "create" them, we are prepared to limit pathways to job preparation. Efforts to eliminate the Department of Education are, at best, shortsighted.

Even though he nominated the extremely limited Betsy DeVos as Secretary of Education, 45's pre-campaign policy book advocated the elimination of the Department of Education. Is the hidden agenda to run the department into the ground to the point that elimination is the only option? One-note Betsy, with her focus on school choice, must be gratified, especially by HR 610.

The Department of Education is one of the lowest-spending government agencies. Eliminating it could save taxpayers more than \$68 billion enough, perhaps, to "build

a wall". Of course 45 is finding lots of other fund sources for the wall, with proposed cuts from the Coast Guard and The State Department.

The good news about this odious proposed legislation is that it has not passed. It has been referred to the House Education and the Workforce Committee, and after vetted by the committee, must also be approved by the Senate. But these bills need not even come out of committee if opponents are vocal. Check out www.edworkforce.house.gov to find out who is on this committee. Call and write them and tell them that you support the 1965 legislation, as most recently amended, and that the Department of Education should not be eliminated. This is an opportunity to unleash our voices and resist Trumpism.

The big headlines are riveting, but we need to look at the fine print. If you spent an hour reading the Congressional Record and looking at the devilment these Republicans are up to daily, you would be repulsed. Let's turn repulsion into resistance.

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.

MORIAL

Continued page 4

I had enormous challenges that needed to be met that were much deeper than academia."

Upward Bound, a summer program where high school students take college prep classes and earn work experience at a college campus for six weeks, opened doors that eventually led to the Juilliard School, one of the nation's leading performing arts programs.

Her success has not shielded her from challenges that she has said result from being "a woman of color, of a certain age, and a certain hue." Her 2015 Emmy win established her as a role model when she used her acceptance speech to make a welcome statement about diversity in the entertainment industry: "The only thing that separates women of color from anyone else is opportunity," she said. "You cannot win an Emmy for roles that are simply not there." She was the first Black

woman to win the award for Best Lead Actress in a Drama. Only one other black actress has won an acting Emmy: Isabel Sanford, who won for Best Lead Actress in a Comedy in 1981. Davis' exemplarity extends beyond her stellar talent and bold outspokenness. She's a benefactor for the Rhode Island city where she was raised, Central Falls. Her philanthropic projects include the city's Adams Memorial Library, the Central Falls High School chess team and drama

club, and the Segue Institute for Learning, a charter school. She's also the spokeswoman for the Hunger Is campaign, to eradicate childhood hunger. We at the National Urban League consider Viola Davis a true woman of power; we congratulate her on her historic achievements and her epic journey and are grateful for her generous spirit and sense of community.

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

CHILDWATCH

Congress: Don't hurt children

"I believe that the odds were stacked against me from the day I was born. She was never really a mother to me. She was never around," says Bethany, a Washington, D.C. student born to a mother struggling with addiction. Bethany became involved in the child welfare system at age four: "I remember they took me away, and then I got to shower for the first time in months, because at the time we were living in an abandoned apartment. It felt wonderful! I was finally able to get clean." After that Bethany went through a series of placements in foster homes, hospitals, and residential treatment centers which relied on Medicaid to provide the critical health and mental health services she needed. With the right supports, including treatment for depression, she started to thrive in school. Today Bethany is a high school senior on track to become valedictorian and looking forward to being the first in her family to go to college. But without the health and mental health care she needed how would Bethany's story have ended?



Marian W. Edelman

The Children's Defense Fund has made giving every child a healthy start a core part of our mission for all of our 44 years. We are extremely concerned that the American Health Care Act under consideration by Congress right now would undo more than 50 years of progress made expanding comprehensive child-appropriate health coverage to tens of millions of children. Today, thanks to the Affordable Care Act (ACA), Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), 95 percent of children in America have health coverage - an historic high. But now the American Health Care Act is snatching away what is a basic human right and threatens all this at a time when our children need us to continue to move forward, not backwards. As the bill moves closer to a vote by the full House of Representatives, we are urging Congress to "vote NO."

The American Health Care Act:

- Changes Medicaid's financing structure to pay for massive tax cuts for wealthy individuals and corporations. This would end Medicaid's guarantee of affordable, comprehensive health coverage for poor and low-income children and children with disabilities and other special health care needs. The new Medicaid per capita cap would limit access to health coverage for children but not reduce their health needs or costs of care. Over time, it would shift costs from the federal government to states, counties, local communities, providers and beneficiaries. State and local governments would have to cut eligibility, services or both to continue to provide comparable care to the 37 million children currently enrolled in Medicaid. Children are nearly half of Medicaid recipients and any changes to Medicaid would have a disproportionate impact on the quality comprehensive child specific health and mental health services and treatment children currently receive and need.

- Repeals the foundation of the Affordable Care Act, resulting in the loss of health coverage for millions of children, low-income parents and other adults. The Republican American Health Care Act will end the ACA's Medicaid expansion over time, despite the fact that 31 states and the District of Columbia have extended Medicaid coverage to 26 million low-income parents and other adults. The ACA's targeted subsidies would be replaced with less affordable tax credits and parents will end up having to pay more for less comprehensive coverage - or go uninsured altogether. Research clearly shows children are better off when their parents have health insurance coverage. When parents get treatment for their own health and mental health problems, it strengthens children's developmental outcomes.

- Jeopardizes the ability of other child serving systems such as Education and Child Welfare that depend on Medicaid to offer critical help and support to children in care. Children with disabilities who have Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) that call for special services to be delivered in the schools or children with abuse histories or disabilities that require treatment in foster homes or residential treatment will be at special risk.

- Severely limits access to mental health and substance abuse treatment needed to stem the tide of opioid and other addictions for children, youths and adults, destroying families and likely sending more children into foster care and homelessness. Changes proposed to both the ACA and Medicaid would limit coverage of these treatments.

CDF calls on Congress to protect children's current health coverage as it considers the American Health Care Act and vote NO unless significant changes are made to ensure the "do no harm" standard, a core tenet of medical treatment, is followed. The American Health Care Act would reverse progress and make many millions of children worse off by depriving them of the comprehensive and affordable child-appropriate coverage they are guaranteed today, jeopardizing their futures and also the nation's future economic and national security. Children who cannot see or hear the teacher, have undiagnosed attention deficit disorders, or are suffering from depression and other mental health disorders are less likely to learn in school. Congress and the Administration should continue to make it easier - not harder - for children like Bethany to get the critical supports they need to survive, thrive and contribute to our nation. So help us speak up.

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.

RAINBOW COALITION

Trump administration's health care lies are starting to hurt

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

For many of his supporters, Donald Trump's casual relationship with the truth was at first amusing, part of his brash, anti-establishment appeal. He says what he thinks, went the argument, and if it isn't true, so be it. His voters, we were told, have learned to take him seriously but not literally.

Now, however, the lies are beginning to hurt. The president's use of what White House adviser Kellyanne Conway calls "alternative facts" - aka falsehoods - has been mimicked across his administration and by Republicans in Congress. Now House Speaker Paul Ryan, Office of Management and Budget Director Mick Mulvaney and Health and Human Services Secretary Tom Price have joined the president and others in a fusillade of lies to sell the Republican replacement for the Affordable

Care Act.

The president promised that the Republican plan would cover "everybody," that it would offer better and cheaper care than that available under the ACA. Price pledged that "nobody will be worse off financially" under the Republican act. Mulvaney promised that "Medicaid is still there," and the bill "actually helps a great many people." Vice President Mike Pence told a crowd in Louisville that the ACA was a "nightmare" that had "failed the people of Kentucky," a state in which the percentage of people without insurance was cut in more than half by the law. House Speaker Paul Ryan's lies are too numerous to detail.

The facts are inescapable. The Republican bill offers people less help to purchase health insurance, particularly older workers. Millions will lose coverage or pay more for less. The expansion of Medicaid to lower-wage workers covered 10 million people under the ACA. The Republican bill savages Medicaid - after two years so voters might not notice in 2018 - and millions of the working poor will lose coverage. It does

this not to reduce complexity, or regulation, or administrative nightmares, but to pay for a repeal of the taxes on the rich built into the ACA. Congressional analyses show, as The New York Times' Jesse Drucker reports, Trumpcare's two biggest tax cuts will lard \$144 billion into the pockets of those with incomes over \$1 million or more over the next decade. To pay for that, the working poor and older workers take the hit.

And that isn't all. Rural areas will be hit hard from the cuts in Medicaid and decline of subsidies for poorer workers. Older blue-collar workers who don't get insurance from their employers will be hurt the most. States will suffer a devastating budget cut that will force cuts in education, in roads, bridges and other services. Jobs cuts will follow in large numbers.

These are not facts that the administration likes, so it lies and then attacks the messengers. This weekend, administration spokespeople fanned out to discredit the Congressional Budget Office's official assessment before it was released. House Speaker

Ryan forced passage of the act through two committees before CBO could complete its assessment so the anticipated bad news would not influence legislators. OMB Director Mulvaney - who knows better - dismissed the CBO estimate as not "the best use of their time." If CBO isn't going to deliver good news, it shouldn't say anything at all.

The president's bizarre denial of reality - about the election results, about the size of his inaugural crowd, about getting wiretapped - initially were treated as the amusing signature of an entertainer. But now the lies hurt. If the Republican health care bill becomes law, millions will end up worse off. Will a handful of Republican senators have more respect for the truth than the White House? That may be the only thing that will keep Republicans from depriving millions of health insurance and costing jobs, while larding tax breaks to the very wealthy.

Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. is founder and president of the Chicago-based Rainbow PUSH Coalition.



Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.

BLACKONOMICS

Let's hear It for the ladies!

Do you ask what we can do? Unite and build a store of your own. Do you ask where is the money? We have spent more than enough for nonsense." - Maria Stewart

"When it comes to success the choice is simple. You can either stand up and be counted or lie down and be counted out!" - Maggie Lena Walker

"Let the Afro-American depend on no party, but on himself, for his salvation. Let him continue toward education, and above all, put money in his purse." - Ida B. Wells



MARIA STEWART



MAGGIE L. WALKER



IDA B. WELLS

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

Over the years many Black women have stood, spoken out, and fought against mistreatment; they have also advocated for Black people to use our economic resources to empower ourselves and propel us on to self-sufficiency. Last week I selected three strong Black men; this week it's three strong Black women.

Maria Stewart was an educator, abolitionist, and author; but she was also an advocate for Black self-sufficiency. A contemporary and personal friend of David Walker, (Author of David Walker's Appeal), Maria spoke passionately to our people in attempts to guide us from dependency to independence. "Her dedication to fighting Black oppression through teaching, writing, and speaking was relentless." (PBS.org) It took strength to shoulder and promote the issues Maria fielded in mid 1860. She is one of many in the pantheon of Black women who were not timid when it came to espousing her beliefs in support of Black people.

Maggie Lena Walker was the first female to charter and successfully preside

over a bank, the St. Luke Penny Savings Bank, in Richmond, Virginia. Walker founded the St. Luke Herald newsletter, and she opened a department store for Black women in 1905. She ran for Superintendent of Public Instruction on the Republican ballot but was defeated, and was instrumental in keeping her bank open through the great depression by merging it with two other banks in 1929. Cooperative economics? Strategic alliance? Working collectively for the good of the whole? Sound familiar? Walker's spirited and determined leadership takes a backseat to no one and should be held up as an example of what we must do, even today, to help ourselves.

Ida B. Wells, after enduring a horrendous childhood, losing both her parents - within 24 hours - and her youngest brother to yellow fever, went on to be one of the most feared journalists and bravest women in the history of this country. This gun-toting original "sister souljah" wielded a pen with the aplomb of any expert in the field of journalism. Long before Sister Rosa Parks did her thing, in 1884 this diminutive but strong Black woman refused to move from her seat in the "ladies" section of a train to one that was reserved for Negroes. Wells, who was referred to in the Memphis newspaper as the

"Darkey Damsel," sued the train company and won, only to have her victory overturned by the state supreme court.

These are the kinds of examples we must share with our young people and hold in high esteem, especially when it comes to being conscientiously conscious about what it means to be Black in America. Too often, as Carter G. Woodson warned, we choose "mis-leaders" instead of authentic leaders. We must do better because we have men and women of old that showed us the way.

Our women worked as housekeepers, journalists, teachers, bankers, and other occupations, but they understood, advocated, and practiced basic economic empowerment principles. They knew that unless Black folks established a solid economic foundation, we would never have the power we need to become self-reliant.

What's it going to take to get us organized and moving in the right direction? Will we continue to languish in meaningless rhetorical gymnastics espoused by talking heads, politicians, organizational leaders, and amongst ourselves? Or, will we cast off the mundane, the nonsensical, and the time consuming back-and-forth that continue to keep us at status quo?

Maria, Maggie Lena, and

Ida B. did not settle, sell out, or give in to the social pressures they faced in the 19th century. This is the 21st century; we have tremendously more resources than they did, yet we are still allowing ourselves to go through much the same as they did. They already paid the bill for what we should be enjoying today. All we have to do is take our appropriate place in this society, despite any and all resistance, carve out a niche and control it, and not get caught in the snares of jealousy and selfishness.

After forty-five years of watching the selfishness of his brothers and sisters, W.E.B. DuBois said, "I assumed that with knowledge, sacrifice would automatically follow. There were especially sharp young persons [at Fisk University] with the distinct and single-minded idea of seeing what they could get...for themselves, and nobody else."

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

The
BLACK PRESS
USE IT
or
LOSE IT!

Hate groups increase for second consecutive year as Trump electrifies radical right

Muslims hit hardest with hate attacks as fear heightened among African-Americans, others

SPECIAL TO THE TRICE EDNEY NEWS WIRE FROM THE SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER

The number of hate groups in the United States rose for a second year in a row in 2016 as the radical right was energized by the candidacy of Donald Trump, according to the Southern Poverty Law Center's (SPLC) annual census of hate groups and other extremist organizations.

The most dramatic growth was the near-tripling of anti-Muslim hate groups - from 34 in 2015 to 101 last year. However fear has grown among many racial and ethnic minority groups. In a post-election SPLC survey of 10,000 educators, 90 percent said the climate at their schools had been negatively affected by the campaign. Eighty percent described heightened anxiety and fear among students, particularly immigrants, Muslims and African-Americans. Numerous teachers reported

the use of slurs, derogatory language and extremist symbols in their classrooms.

The growth has been accompanied by a rash of crimes targeting Muslims, including an arson that destroyed a mosque in Victoria, Texas, just hours after the Trump administration announced an executive order suspending travel from some predominantly Muslim countries. The latest FBI statistics show that hate crimes against Muslims grew by 67 percent in 2015, the year in which Trump launched his campaign.

The report, contained in the Spring 2017 issue of the SPLC's Intelligence Report, includes the Hate Map showing the names, types and locations of hate groups across the country.

The SPLC found that the number of hate groups operating in 2016 rose to 917 - up from 892 in 2015. The number is 101 shy of the all-time record set in 2011, but high by historic standards.

"2016 was an unprecedented

ed year for hate," said Mark Potok, senior fellow and editor of the Intelligence Report. "The country saw a resurgence of white nationalism that imperils the racial progress we've made, along with the rise of a president whose policies reflect the values of white nationalists. In Steve Bannon, these extremists think they finally have an ally who has the president's ear."

The increase in anti-Muslim hate was fueled by Trump's incendiary rhetoric, including his campaign pledge to bar Muslims from entering the United States, as well as anger over terrorist attacks such as the June massacre of 49 people at a gay nightclub in Orlando.

The overall number of hate groups likely understates the real level of organized hatred in America as a growing number of extremists operate mainly online and are not formally affiliated with hate groups.

Aside from its annual census of extremist groups, the

SPLC found that Trump's rhetoric reverberated across the nation in other ways. In the first 10 days after his election, the SPLC documented 867 bias-related incidents, including more than 300 that targeted immigrants or Muslims.

In contrast to the growth of hate groups, antigovernment "Patriot" groups saw a 38 percent decline - plummeting from 998 groups in 2015 to 623 last year. Composed of armed militiamen and others who see the federal government as their enemy, the "Patriot" movement over the past few decades has flourished under Democratic administrations but declined dramatically when President George W. Bush occupied the White House.

The SPLC also released an in-depth profile of the Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF), an anti-LGBT hate group. Leaders of the legal advocacy organization and its affiliated lawyers have regularly demonized LGBT people, falsely linking them



COVER OF INTELLIGENCE REPORT

to pedophilia, calling them "evil" and a threat to children and society, and blaming them for the "persecution of devout Christians." The group also has supported the criminalization of homosexuality in several countries.

NEWS ANALYSIS

We played Donald Trump cheap; now the joke's on us

BY DR. WILMER J. LEON, III
SPECIAL TO TRICE EDNEY NEWSWIRE

"In several Southern states men long regarded as political clowns had become governors or only narrowly missed election, their magic achieved with a 'witches' brew of bigotry, prejudice, half-truths and whole lies." - Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. 1967

On Friday, January 20, America inaugurated a narcissistic misogynist millionaire who marketed to what Dr. King called the "White backlash" by playing to racist sentiments, bigotry and hatred. Just as he stole the line "Make America Great Again" from Reagan's campaign, Trump also stole the racist page from Reagan's play book.

As Reagan, then Governor of California, sought to reassure social conservatives (aka racists) by launching his presidential bid in Philadelphia, Mississippi, Trump has fanned the flames of xenophobia and ill-founded fears of terrorism.

His tweets and illogical rants were and continue to be a "witches" brew of bigotry, ignorance, prejudice, half-truths and whole lies. We played him cheap and now the jokes on us.

Early on in the 2016 presidential campaign businessman Donald Trump was the media darling. CBS Chairman Les Moonves said at a Morgan Stanley conference, "It may not be good for America, but it's damn good for CBS...It's a terrible thing

to say. But, bring it on, Donald. Keep going."

America could not get enough of Trump's bombast, buffoonery and total disregard for truth and fact. Mainstream media was so entertained by the novelty of Trump that it ignored his inability to articulate substantive policy and lack of experience. According to a report from Harvard's Kennedy School's Shorenstein Center on Media Politics and Public Policy, "Only 11 percent of coverage focused on candidates' policy positions, leadership abilities or personal and professional histories."

It's imperative that we clearly understand that this White backlash as Dr. King called it, or politics of resentment as Dr. Ronald Walters called it, is not new. What is the backlash in response to? What is this resentment directed toward?

The answer to the question is the election of Barack Obama as the first African-American President of the United States. As Dr. Walters wrote in White Nationalism Black Interests - Conservative Public Policy and the Black Community, "Within American society, which includes contending social groups, there exists a balance of power that conforms to that society's racial composition". This balance must conform to the normal distribution of power if society is to remain in equilibrium. President Obama, in the minds of a many people became an indicator that the normal distribution of power

was askew and in jeopardy.

Now this normal distribution of power has shifted so far to the right that it has placed America in jeopardy. President Trump recently tweeted, "Terrible! Just found out that Obama had my 'wires tapped' in Trump Tower just before the victory. Nothing found. This is McCarthyism!"

To date Trump has provided no evidence to substantiate this outlandish claim. But the man who ran on eliminating "waste, fraud and abuse" is now asking Congress to open an investigation.

The investigation should begin with Congress asking Trump to present to the public the information he used to make his claim. If not, how much tax payer money will be wasted researching another unsubstantiated claim by Trump?

The larger problem is it's not just Trump, it's also those around him. Here's what Trump's HUD Secretary, Dr. Ben Carson, said about enslaved Africans: "That's what America is about, a land of dreams and opportunity...There were other immigrants who came here in the bottom of slave ships, worked even longer, even harder for less." Carson tried to "clarify" his statement by saying that anybody who's come from a foreign place is an immigrant. Ignoring the fact that Webster defines "immigrant" as "a person who comes to a country to take up permanent residence". A person "comes" to a country based upon their free will. Enslaved Africans did not come to America to

take up permanent residence in pursuit of opportunity; they were brought to America against their will and worked to death.

Trump's Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos recently praised HBCUs as "pioneers" of the school choice movement. DeVos ignores the historical reality that in Mississippi, South Carolina, Louisiana and other states it was illegal to teach and/or allow Africans in America - slave or free - to read. In Virginia, any slave or free person of color found at any school for teaching, reading or writing by day or night could be whipped, at the discretion of a judge, "no more than twenty lashes". Mississippi state law required a White person to serve up to a year in prison as "penalty for teaching a slave to read". The creation of HBCUs had nothing to do with choice and everything to do with the response to slave codes, Jim Crow laws and state sanctioned segregation.

During his first address to the joint session of Congress, Trump acknowledged the sacrifice of Navy Special Operator Senior Chief William "Ryan" Owens, but failed to take responsibility for authorizing the raid in Yemen where he died. In fact, he tried to blame the Obama administration for authorizing the raid and leaving it for him to clean up. According to the Washington Post, in an interview with Fox News that aired Tuesday morning, Trump said the mission "was started before I got here." He went on to say, "This was something that was, you know,



DONALD TRUMP

just - they wanted to do... 'And they lost Ryan,' Trump continued."

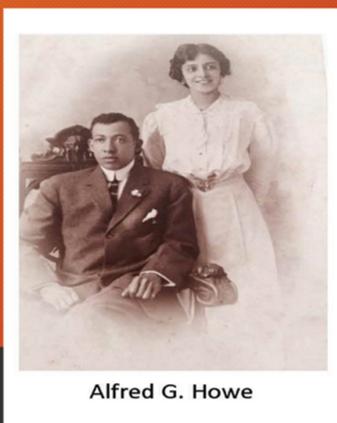
According to PBS, President Obama did not authorize the raid. It was suggested in early January that the decision be "deferred to the Trump administration, so they could run their own careful process. And President Obama agreed on that, that he would make no decision whether to do things like this, and instead that Trump should run his own process."

Donald Trump is a man long regarded as a political clown. We mocked him, scoffed at him and dismissed him as we dismissed Sarah Palin; the lightest of lightweights. He worked his magic

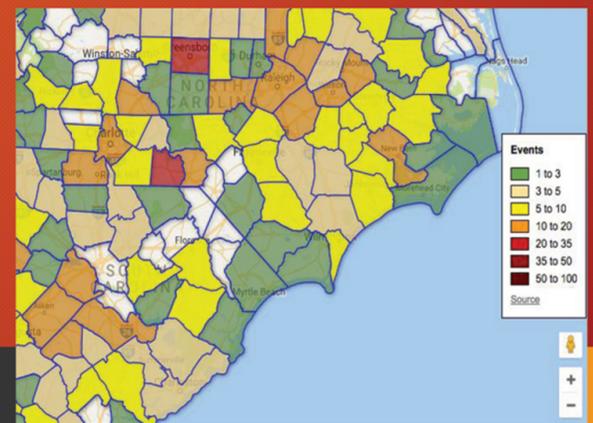
(and Republican thievery) and was elected by employing a "witches" brew of bigotry, prejudice, half-truths and whole lies. A tactic he continues to employ.

You get what you vote for in America (or don't show up to vote for). We played him cheap; now the jokes on us.

Dr. Wilmer J. Leon is Producer/ Host of the nationally broadcast call-in talk radio program "Inside the Issues with Wilmer Leon," on SiriusXM Satellite radio channel 126. Go to www.wilmerleon.com or email: wjl3us@yahoo.com. www.twitter.com/drleon and www.facebook.com/Dr.Leon.Prescription at Facebook.com © 2017 InfoWave Communications, LLC.



Alfred G. Howe



Keeping the Red Record: Archiving Racial Violence

March 29, 2017 at 7 p.m.

UNCW, King Hall Auditorium

Geoff Ward, professor of criminology, law & society, University of California, Irvine

Over a century of effort to document racial violence demonstrates its importance to critical analysis, social movements, and other remedial effort. Represented most notably by Ida B. Wells's 1895 pamphlet "A Red Record," which proved key to the crusade against lynching, these data gathering, analysis, and leveraging efforts have clarified and countered threats to African Americans' and others' life chances. Yet there are great challenges to measuring racialized violence, interpreting impacts, and translating insights into remedial effort. "A Red Record" is a contested empirical account, inevitably incomplete, and fraught with tensions related to criteria, accuracy, and meaning. The talk explores some of these challenges and strategies for overcoming them in the context of Ward's ongoing work to build a racial violence archive and in relation to Ward's (Howe) family history and its ties to the 1898 Wilmington (NC) racial massacre and coup.

Presentation is co-sponsored by UNCW's Department of Sociology and Criminology, Office of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion, and Upperman African American Cultural Center

Accommodations for disabilities may be requested by calling (910-962-3420) at least 7 days prior to the event. UNCW is an EEO/AA institution.



New Hanover County

JTH & NHHS Combined Class of 1974 will meet Saturday, March 18th at 2:00pm at Warner Temple AME Zion Church.

Second Annual Project Moneet's Closet Prom Dress Giveaway will be held Saturday, March 18th from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm at the MLK Center, 401 S. 8th Street. First come, first served. Drawings for a free prom makeover, hairdo, manicure, pedicure, prom accessories and shoes will be held. For more information, contact Audrey Clark at 910-200-8030 or Ms. Tee at 718-913-2433.



Community Briefs

The New Hanover NAACP monthly meeting is Thursday, March 23rd at 7:00 pm at St. Stephen AME Church, 501 Red Cross Street, Wilmington. Information on important upcoming community events and other vital community and state issues will be on the agenda. Members and friends are encouraged to attend. For more information, call 910-765-0102 or email nhnaacp@gmail.com.

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

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

HOMETOWN NEWS FROM BRUNSWICK COUNTY

Not all dreams will come true!

We are aware of the many changes in our government. Some are for better, and some are for worse. It is good for us to keep up to date on the changes that occur and the various ways in which how these changes affect our future. Some affect us positively, and some affect us negatively. As taxpaying citizens, we must make every effort to see that our rights are not taken away from us.



Verniece Stanley

We dream a great deal about good things happening near and far. We dream that bad things will change and become good. Dreams are usually thought of as images, ideas, and emotions that me to us in certain stages of sleep. It is

possible, however, to have dreams while we are awake. Our fantasies, hope, and aspirations are considered our dreams. Some of these dreams come true in life, and some may not.

We often entertain dreams that our justice system will truly hold justice for everyone, but we look at various things about about certain justice surveys and they don't reveal a very pretty picture. One of the things which raises great concern is the growing incidents of excessive use of force by police, especially in minority communities. Largely due to the "war on drugs," America's prisons are filled with many, particularly those from the Black community, with folks convicted of nonviolent offenses. Often they are serving extremely long sentences for such offenses. Such cases cause people to conclude that this criminal justice system has some serious problems

with regard to dispensing equal justice so far as people of color are concerned. Various racial disparities leave lasting impacts on individuals, families and communities.

Some live with the dream that the U. S. government will discontinue the practice of expending great sums of money, billions of dollars, into the coffers of local law enforcement for them to buy tanks and other military style equipment. We dream that we will soon see those in power and in leadership roles in all 50 states of our nation play a leading role in seriously seeking humanistic reforms that will address the deep scars of injustice entrenched in America's criminal justice system.

It is an uphill battle to try make our dreams reality. Such a difficult battle must be fought in order to end practices that destroy people's lives, wasting billions of tax-

payers' dollars. Every American citizen must feel free to exercise the right to speak freely within the laws of man. Without each person's freedom of speech, any dream of real progress in today's society is void and null.

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.

Bound in sisterhood, dedicated to service: Local AKA Chapter approaches its 85th Anniversary



1946 MEMBERS OF ALPHA PSI OMEGA CELEBRATING FOUNDER'S DAY

BY CYNTHIA BROWN OF ALPHA PSI OMEGA CHAPTER OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC.

In observance of Women's History Month, the Cape Fear Museum of Science and History sponsored a presentation about the oldest Greek letter sorority founded by African American women - Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®. Founded on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C. the sorority embodies values of sisterly bonds between college educated women, and excellence in service to all mankind. The sorority's local chapter, Alpha Psi Omega, was chartered in Wilmington, N.C. on June 2, 1932 and will celebrate its 85th anniversary this year.

The event reflected on the presence of the local chapter in Southeastern N.C. and was held on Sunday afternoon, March 5th. Mrs. Lynore Young greeted the audience, and Mrs. Cynthia J. Brown presented an overview of the chapter's histo-

ry from inception through the end of the twentieth century. A panel of five members including president Ms. Kimberly Bankston, Mrs. Bertha B. Todd, Ms. Rita Todd, Dr. Bettie J. Glenn and Ms. Alexandria Pitts discussed their inspiration for becoming Alpha Kappa Alpha women. Filled to capacity with sorority members and guests, the museum's Williston Auditorium was adorned with photos, books, awards and memorabilia illustrating the collective sum of the chapter's and its members' service to mankind.

Early in the twentieth century, two Wilmington natives, Fannie P. White and Alice Wood (Lofton) chose the Zeta Chapter of the sorority at Wilberforce University to pledge their support to lifelong sisterhood and service. By the 1920s both women returned home after college graduation, continuing their membership and service in St. Stephen A.M.E. Church, but yearning to expand the bonds of sisterhood and service they experienced

in college. Destiny brought them together with three other women, Bettye E. Graves (a Wilberforce friend), Dora Tynes (Jones) and Catherine Howze Robinson. These five charter members are now referred to as "The Visionary Five". With support from Dr. and Mrs. Frank Avant, the Alpha Psi Omega Chapter was chartered at Dr. Avant's home and the legacies of service and unbreakable sisterly bonds were formed at the local level. Alpha Psi Omega became the sixth AKA chapter chartered in the state of N.C. and the second east of the I-95 corridor.

An integral part of the chapter's programming over the decades has been support of and involvement in youth development. The Debutante Program and Presentation, now in its 53rd season has provided social, educational and cultural development for young ladies preparing to enter adulthood. Hundreds of young ladies have benefited from the scholarships associated with this program. Other educa-



MEMBERS OF ALPHA PSI OMEGA: LYNORE YOUNG, PRESIDENT KIMBERLY BANKSTON AND HISTORIAN CYNTHIA BROWN

tional programs including YES (designed to enhance youth self-esteem), Summer Tutorials, EYL and most recently ASCEND have all served to enhance and encourage positive development for minority youth. Before STEM became a common acronym for encouraging students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, Alpha Psi Omega members launched the PIMS program encouraging local students to pursue science careers through "Projects in Math and Science".

Today, the organization's service programs and projects are focused in five general areas as set forth by the sorority's international mandates. They include educational enrichment, health promotion, family strengthening, environmental ownership and global impact. To facilitate youth preparation for the rapidly evolving global environment, the chapter recently received a United Nations Association grant to train educators in the New Hanover County School system to more effectively inform students of global impact issues. Regardless of the focus area, the women of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® are dedicated to continuing the organization's legacy of service. And aligned with the organization's ivy leaf symbol, the sisterly bonds between members illustrate their strength and dedication to climb, rise and maintain their sisterly bonds of service, even



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in the most challenging situations and circumstances.

Today, the sorority consists of 290,000 members in more than 1,000 chapters internationally. Just a few of the sorority's most prominent members include renowned poet Dr. Maya Angelou, former NASA astronaut Dr. Mae Jemison, Mrs. Coretta Scott King, prominent entertainers including Ella Fitzgerald, Marian Anderson, Phylicia

Rashad, Nichelle Nicols, Jada Pinkett-Smith and Alicia Keys and of course the women featured in the book and award-winning film Hidden Figures - Dorothy Vaughan, Katherine Goble Johnson and Mary Jackson.

For more information about Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, Alpha Psi Omega Chapter please visit our website at <http://akaaalphasiomega.com>.



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James L. "Ducey" Murphy

James L. "Ducey" Murphy, age 81, of Wilmington, passed away Friday, March 3, 2017. Funeral services were held Saturday, March 11, 2017 at Davis Funeral Home.

James was born October 26, 1935 in Wilmington, North Carolina. He was the youngest child of the late William Essex Murphy, II and Dorothy Inez Miller.

James was educated in the New Hanover County public school system. He graduated from Williston Senior High School in 1956. Upon graduation he worked for the City of Wilmington. During this time period he began coaching little league baseball at the Eighth Street Community Center. It was around this time that the world began to see how much he loved children and how much children loved him (must be a Murphy trait). He was the proprietor of Southside Laundry on Dawson Street. James retired in 2009 after working 20 years at Wal-Mart.

He was preceded in death by his brother, William E. Murphy, III and his wife, Harrietta H. Murphy.

James leaves to cherish his memory a daughter, Renee Murphy; granddaughter, Bianca Logan; sister, Doris L. Nash; a host of nieces and nephews (four generations, all special and all thankful that they had Uncle Ducey); special friends, Barbara Grady, Duane Thomas and Tyrone Waston. *Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhomenc.com.*

Alfonzo P. Wright

Alfonzo P. Wright, age 64, of Wilmington, passed away Monday, March 6, 2017. Funeral services were held Friday, March 10, 2017 at Davis Funeral Home.

Alfonzo Pondexter Wright, AKA "Sparky" was born January 25, 1953 in Brooklyn, New York to the late Neil Sparks and Louise Walker. He entered into eternal rest on Monday, March 6, 2017 at New Hanover Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were held Friday, March 10, 2017 at Davis Funeral Home.

Alfonzo attended public schools in Brooklyn, New York as a lumberjack. He loved the outdoors and was a chef extraordinaire. His favorite dishes to prepare were chicken parmesan and lima beans. Alfonzo also enjoyed watching old movies and listening to music.

Alfonzo relocated to Wilmington, North Carolina in 2001. He accepted Christ as his personal savior and unit-

ed with New Covenant Holiness Church. He enjoyed playing the drums and singing gospel songs.

Those left to cherish his memories are: his loving wife, Retha Wright; son, Leon (Roszelyn) Wright; daughters, Felisha (Charles) Nelson, LaWanda Murphy, and Linda (David) Pearson; brother, Louis Wright; sister, Jessica Tedder; granddaughters, Melissa, Autumn, Akera, Aaliyah, Anishiea, Iesha, Ijwa, Charla, Tanisha and Tajuana; grandsons, Aquarius, Anthony, Aviyon, Isaiah and Jordan, and a host of other family and friends. *Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhomenc.com.*

Infant Bethany I. Callaway

Infant Bethany I. Callaway, passed away Friday, March 10, 2017. A graveside service will be held 10:00 AM, Friday, March 17, 2017 at Greenlawn Memorial Park. *Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhomenc.com.*

In Loving Memory Of



Mr. Charlie Mellison
Sept. 6, 1909 - March 17, 1999

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State AGs ask Education Secretary DeVos to protect federal student financial aid

BY CHARLENE CROWELL OF CENTER FOR RESPONSIBLE LENDING

An old adage teaches, 'if at first you don't succeed, try, try again.' In recent months, the troubled Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS) tried and lost two legal attempts to recover eligibility for federal education funds.

But don't be surprised if a third ACICS effort soon makes its way to the desk of U.S. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos. Secretary DeVos brings to her position a long record of support for private education. The vast majority of schools formerly accredited by ACICS were private, for-profit colleges.

If ACICS sounds familiar to readers, there's a reason. In December 2016, then-Education Secretary John B. King ruled that the educational accreditor would no longer be recognized by the department. That action also meant that none of ACICS' 240 institutions would have access to federal funds - including the 17 institutions that have been sued by either state or federal officials for defrauding students and other deceptive practices.

Last year, shortly before Christmas and on December 21, ACICS' request for a temporary restraining order was denied. Then in late February, DC's U.S. District Judge Reggie B. Walton refused to rescind the Education Department's ruling.

So what would make ACICS and its institutions so determined to have federal funding restored?

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The answer is money. Each year, \$129 billion is spent on federal student aid. In just one year - 2015 - ACICS schools received nearly \$5 billion in taxpayer dollars. It is also legal for up to 90 percent of for-profit college revenues to come from Title IV federal aid. If veterans' financial aid is added to that of Title IV, taxpayer dollars can subsidize even more than 90 percent of for-profit revenues.

These and other concerns have now led to attorneys general from 17 states and the District of Columbia sharing their collective concerns directly with Secretary DeVos. Among those signing the communique were Attorneys General (AGs) representing largely populated states such as Illinois, Maryland, New York, North Carolina and Pennsylvania.

Noting their support to protect students and taxpayers, the AGs letter alerted the new Secretary to three specific and major concerns:

How for-profit schools have harmed student borrowers;

Why vigorous oversight of accreditors is in the best interests of taxpayers and students; and

The importance of preserving two departmental rules - the Gainful Employment Rule and the Borrower Defense to Repayment rule set to go into effect at mid-year.

"We are deeply concerned that rollbacks of these protections would again signal

'open season' on students for the worst actors among for-profit post-secondary schools," wrote the AGs. "Over the past 15 years, millions of students have been defrauded by unscrupulous for-profit post-secondary schools. With accreditors asleep at the wheel, State Attorneys General Offices have stepped in to stop some of the worst abuses."

"Many schools inflated job placement numbers and/or promised career services resources that did not exist," continued the AGs. "Many students were placed in loans that the schools knew from experience their graduates could not pay...In short, the entire for-profit education system was failing students and taxpayers."

The Gainful Employment Rule is designed to ensure that programs equip graduates with skills and employment opportunities that enable them to successfully repay their student loans. Should annual loan payments be more than 30 percent of discretionary income or 12 percent of earnings in two out of three consecutive years, the educational program loses access to Title IV federal student loans and grants.

Similarly, the Borrower Defense to Repayment Rule, set to take effect on July 1, provides legal recourse for students who were harmed by for-profit colleges.

Many of the issues raised

in the 7-page letter to Secretary DeVos were noted in an earlier report prepared and released last fall by the Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren.

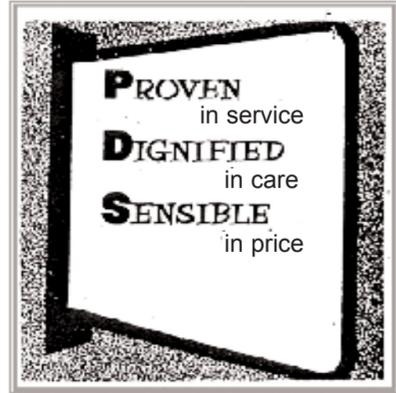
"[T]his taxpayer investment is wasted when student aid funds are funneled to sham colleges - many of which operate as for-profit entities that use federal student aid dollars to enrich top executives. Meanwhile, students are left with a shoddy education and a staggering debt load, unable to rely on their education to secure a job that will help them responsibly repay their loans," states the report.

"The title of a recent Century Foundation report characterizes the situation we find ourselves in perfectly: The For-Profit College Story: Scandal, Regulate, Forget, Repeat," said Robin Howarth, a senior researcher with the Center for Responsible Lending specializing in student loans and related debt. "We now have the opportunity to break this vicious cycle that is so costly to students and taxpayers. It's imperative that we keep the pressure on for-profit colleges through prudent regulation and oversight thus avoiding a repeat of past abuses."

Charlene Crowell is the communications deputy director with the Center for Responsible Lending. She can be reached at Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org.

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New Hanover County

The Better St. Phillip AMEZ Church, 2913 Acorn Branch Rd., will hold their annual Tom Thumb Friendship Wedding on Saturday, March 25th at 3:00 p.m. The bride will be Shakema Kelly and the groom will be Semaj Johnson. Colors are lavender and white. Rhearshal dinner will be held on Friday, March 24th at 6:00 p.m. at the church. For more information contact Pastor Nixon at 910-540-4406 or 910-2519892.

Religious Briefs

Brunswick County

Holy Covenant United Holy Church, 237 Snowfield Rd. SE will present "The Trinity", Saturday, March 18th at 6:00 p.m. Guest speakers will be Bishop Tommy Nesbitt, pastor of Christian Hope Christian Church, Leland, NC, Elder Fred Green of Holy Trinity United Holy Church, Wilmington, NC and Elder John C. Williams, pastor of Holy Light United Holy Church, Tabor City, NC. For more information contact Dr. Evelyn Jenkins at 910-253-7631.

Policies for briefs, news, & photos on page 2

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

BLADEN COUNTY

Rotary honoring World War II veterans

Bladen County's local Rotary Clubs are planning a lunch to honor military veterans who served during World War II. If you are a World War II Veteran, or if you are the spouse, family member or friend of a World War II veteran, the Elizabethtown and Bladenboro Rotary Clubs want to hear from you. The two Rotary Clubs are working together to honor the service and heroism of Bladen County's World War II veterans at a special ceremony on May 31, 2017, at 1 p.m. at the Cape Fear Vineyard and Winery. These World War II veterans have been referred to by some as the "Greatest Generation." They left their homeland to serve around the world including such places as Europe, Africa, and the South Pacific in order to defeat Fascism and tyranny. The Elizabethtown and Bladenboro Rotary Clubs need your help in locating surviving World War II veterans. Families, friends and government officials are asked to notify the Elizabethtown Rotary Club with veteran locator information. Those with information are asked to contact Rotarian Darrell Page at 910-862-4195 or Elizabethtown Rotary Club President Charlotte Smith at 910-876-5393 or mail veteran information (name, address, telephone number) to: Honor a WWII Veteran, Elizabethtown Rotary Club, Attn: Dr. Darrell Page, P. O. Box 2103, Elizabethtown, NC 28337.

The Temple of Truth, Light and Life located at 2166 Fowler Street, Wilmington, NC is seeking musicians and choir director. If you have any skills in playing sacred and gospel music, be it piano, drums or guitar or if you have experience in directing music please contact: Reverend Kojo Nantambu at 704-641-7951 as soon as possible. This is of the utmost importance.

Due to construction first service has been changed to Sunday, March 19, 2017 at 10:30 am

The Ambassadors of God's Grace Church (A new branch of William Blanding Ministries Inc.)



Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
South Kerr Village
1047-C South Kerr Avenue
Wilmington, NC 28403
910-602-7036
AmbassadorsGGC2017@gmail.com

For it is by grace you have been saved through faith-and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God. Ephesians 2:8 NIV

PATRONIZE

OUR

ADVERTISERS!

SENIOR CITIZENS' FELLOWSHIP

"Birthday Celebration"

BY FANNIE ALLEN AND SHEILA ROSS
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

It is always great to be able to celebrate, even when the weather is cool and rainy.

Today is birthday celebration time. We always look forward to it. We had lunch at Hibachi Grill. We opened with "So Glad I'm Here." The opening prayer/blessing of the food was given by Minister Doris

McQuillan. We all enjoyed our fellowship over a good meal. We received great gifts. Thank you to our shoppers, Mrs. Mildred Ellerby, Mrs. Mary Green, and Mrs. Wilimina Love.

We had over 40 members and two visitors, Mr. Alexander Sloan and Mr. Jaziel Brown, in attendance today. We had announcements and remarks and was dismissed. Everything was great.

SENIOR MOMENTS

Help navigate the swirling tides

My Fellow Seniors:

When I went to pay my homeowner's insurance last July, the clerk told me it had already been paid. I was shocked, and she was embarrassed to know that I was not aware of the procedure. She told me I didn't have to write checks anymore. The payment would be written automatically.

Did my husband set this up? I don't think so. Just recently, both the gas company and the electric company informed me that they would be monitoring

my service for a small fee, which would be added to my monthly bills. What I wondered was why monitor a problem and then call someone else to fix it? I'm sure I would know if there were a problem, and I could choose my own machine.



Ruth Johnson

However, we can't fight City Hall.

I'm sure you know automatic withdrawals have increased over the years, but, since my husband is no longer with me, the income in this home has dropped drastically. The bank account is overdrawn, and these companies are still getting paid. That is because we have overdraft protection, which I knew nothing about. So who is going to repay the bank?

I do have a savings account, which will be used for my final expenses. I call it my "untouchables," but I'm wondering if the bank is able to dip into it without my per-

mission.

Maybe I should pull it out and put it under my mattress, so that my children will have it when the time comes. On the other hand, maybe I should go ahead and pay the funeral home in advance, instead of worrying about how the bank is going to get theirs. If you have any suggestions, send them to *The Wilmington Journal*. You will be helping many seniors to navigate the swirling tides.

Ruth Johnson is a First Baptist Church Ministry Worker.

TELL SOMEBODY

The power of a praying church

Power: Capacity and ability to perform effectively
Church: Body of Baptized Believers

We all need to remember that the church of Jesus Christ was birthed out of prayer! When the disciples gathered together in the upper room, as Jesus had commanded, they waited for the Promise of the Father. Jesus told the church they would receive power after that the Holy Ghost had come upon them. This power would give them the capacity to be effective witnesses for the Lord. They continued there with one accord in prayer and supplication.



Sylvia Hooper

A praying church has Unity! They bonded together; they banded together, and they had favor, joy, and power! "And when the Day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place." Acts 2:1 "Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." Ephesians 4:3 "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" Psalm 133:1 The church today needs unity like never before! When we tear down the walls that separate us and seek for the common good that is found in The Name of Jesus, we will have unity and more power to effect lasting and eternal impact upon our community, nation, and world!

It is interesting to note that before making important and lasting decisions, or before they made critical appointments of officers in the early

church, they prayed. They depended on the Lord to lead and guide them, so they prayed in advance and acknowledged the Lord before they made important decisions. They wanted to do what was right in the sight of the Lord. So, they prayed. The church of today, must continue to embrace and uphold this Godly reverence and respect for prayer, if we are to continue to operate in power. This kingdom principle will keep us in the spiritual place where the Lord has called us in these last and evil days. Lack of prayer will precipitate calamity, and in the end, everyone will know if we made a good decision or a God decision.

In the early church, prayer kept the church on her feet. When the wrong spirit came into the congregation, it was exposed and cast out through prayer. Signs and wonders took place in the church, and the fear of the Lord came upon every soul. When the wrong spirit comes into a praying church, they have the power to discern, expose, and cast it out before it destroys the congregation and aborts the mission of the ministry. The devil is still trying to infiltrate the Church and take us while we are unaware of him, but we are not ignorant of the devil's devices. Prayer opens the eyes of the Believers to receive revelations from the Lord to show us what is going on, and what is coming before it gets here. A praying church understand the importance of watching and praying!

A praying church has saving power! In the early church, the Word of God was preached with so much power that 3,000 souls were added to the kingdom! Still today, the church of Jesus Christ preaches with power, because a praying church has the abil-

ity to effectively bring about change in the lives of the hearers and doers of the Word. Effective preaching comes from a consecrated prayer life, and enables the hearers to be convicted of their sins and desire to be saved. "For the preaching of the cross is to them who perish foolishness; but unto us who are Saved, it is the power of God. I Cor. 1:18

A praying church has healing power! When Peter and John went to the temple at the hour of prayer, a lame man met them there, who begged for money. "Then Peter said, silver and gold have I none, but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength." Acts 3:6-7 Jesus said that healing is the children's bread, and a praying church has many testimonies of healing within the congregation.

A praying church has deliverance power! "Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him." Acts 12:5 "And when Peter was come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that the Lord has sent his Angel, and has delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and from expectation of the people of the Jews." Acts 12:11 A praying church recognizes the need to pray for its leadership and to intercede on his behalf. The enemy knows if you smite the shepherd, the sheep will scatter. So a praying church constantly prays for the leaders and for them in authority. God gives the church Pastors, Jeremiah 3:15, "And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding." That is why so many of them

are under attack. The enemy attacks the pastors in the area of family, finances, marriages, physically, mentally, spiritually, in efforts to wear him down and cause him to forsake the flock. Thank God for praying pastors, and for praying churches. Thank God for Jesus! The devil knows who has the authority and goes after that one with a vengeance. But God has given us a weapon that can withstand the onslaught of the enemy. The power of a praying church is so awesome, that the gates of hell shall not prevail against it! Are you a member of a praying church? If not, you should seek God, and ask him to lead you until you find one. Glory to God!

Prayer: Father, I want to be a member of a praying church. I want to be a member of The Body of Christ that believes to the saving of souls, divine healing, and signs and wonders. Make me a blessing in my church by giving me a praying spirit. In Jesus's Name. Amen.

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

MOUNT OLIVE

CLAM FRITTERS

COMING

SATURDAY,

APRIL 1ST

Mount Zion A.M.E. Church
1111 No. 5th Avenue Wilmington, NC
910-763-2660



CHURCH BENEFIT SPAGHETTI DINNER SALE

When: Friday, MARCH 31, 2017
Time: 11:00 AM - Until

**MENU: SPAGHETTI WITH MEAT SAUCE
GARLIC BREAD, SALAD AND DRINK
COST \$8.00**

WE WILL DELIVER ORDERS OF 5 OR MORE TO PLACE ORDERS OR MORE INFORMATION CALL 910-763-2660

We thank you in advance for your support!!!

For further information, call:
Mildred Ellerby 910-200-8551
Edna Miller 910-763-1784

CLASSIFIED

PLACE YOUR AD

...By Phone
910-762-5502
Monday-Friday
9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
...By Fax
910-343-1334
24 Hours/7 Days
...By Email
wilmjournads@aol.com
24 Hours/7 Days

Rates: \$20.00 Per Column Inch.
All Ads Are Payable In Advance Unless You Are An Established Advertiser.

FAX & EMAIL ORDERS:
Include the following information:

- Full Name, billing address, and phone number
- Date(s) you want the ad to appear
- Name and daytime phone number of contact for any questions or clarifications

We accept



LEGAL NOTICES

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

Having qualified as the Executor of the Estate of **Linda S. Strawcutter** (New Hanover County File No. 17 E 200) late of 3822 Echo Farms Blvd, Wilmington, New Hanover County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to serve them on the undersigned at 509 Princess Street, Wilmington, NC 28401, on or before the **24th day of May, 2017**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 16th day of February, 2017.

CLARK, NEWTON & EVANS, PA
Attorneys for John W. Strawcutter
509 Princess Street
Wilmington, NC 28401

February 23, March, 2, 9, 16, 2017

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER
In the Matter of the Estate of
Lawrence C. Brown, Deceased**

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **Lawrence C. Brown**, deceased, late of New Hanover County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before **June 13, 2017**, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. All persons indebted to the said decedent or estate shall please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 9th day of March, 2017.

Michael Brown
Executor of the Estate
of Lawrence C. Brown
c/o Grieg R. Alley
Alley, Register & McEachern
701 North 4th Street
Wilmington, NC 28401

March 9, 16, 23, 30, 2017

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the estate of **Etta Hamilton**, deceased, of the New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **16th day of June, 2017**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 16th day of March, 2017

Tiffany N. Hamilton, Administrator
414 North 13th Street
Wilmington, NC 28401

March 16, 23, 30, April 6, 2017

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the estate of **Argienell Giles**, deceased, of the New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **16th day of June, 2017**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 16th day of March, 2017

Inga Diana Giles-Alston, Executor
1106 N. Middleton Dr. NW
Calabash, NC 28467

March 16, 23, 30, April 6, 2017

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER
In the Matter of the Estate of
Karen Su Tyson, Deceased**

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

This the 16th day of March, 2017.

Charles Barry Tyson
Executor of the Estate
of Karen Su Tyson
c/o Anthony L. Register
Alley, Register & McEachern
701 North 4th Street
Wilmington, NC 28401

March 16, 23, 30, April 6, 2017

LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF PENDER
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE'S
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In Re The Estate of HAZEL
SWART WHITE, Deceased**

Having qualified as Personal Representative of the Estate of **HAZEL SWART WHITE**, Deceased, late of Pender County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, corporations and/or other legal entities having claims against the estate to present them to the undersigned at the address given below on or before **05/26/2017** - or same will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate please make immediate payment.

On this day, February 23, 2017.

Savannah Lindsey Holmun,
Personal Representative
c/o The Rodgers Law Firm, PLLC
by Richard T. "Chip" Rodgers, Jr.,
Attorney for the Personal
Representative
8120 River Road
Wilmington, NC 28412

February 23, March 2, 9, 16, 2017

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the estate of **Maureen E. Hutnik**, deceased, of the New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **2nd day of June, 2017**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 2nd day of March, 2017

George M. Hutnik, Administrator
909 Windgate Dr.
Wilmington, NC 28412

March 2, 9, 16, 23, 2017

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

THE UNDERSIGNED, Spencer B. Wilson, having qualified on the 24th day of February, 2017, as Personal Representative of the Estate of **Dianne S. Avery (17-E-235)**, deceased, this is to notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against said Estate that they must present them to the undersigned at GRAVES MAY PLLC, c/o Attorney David Anderson, 5700 Oleander Dr. Wilmington, North Carolina, 28403, on or before the **5th day of June, 2017**, or the claims will be forever barred thereafter, and this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. All persons, firms, and corporations indebted to said Estate will please make prompt payment to the undersigned at the above address.

This 27th day of February, 2017.

Spencer B. Wilson, Personal Representative
ESTATE OF Dianne S. Avery
David Anderson
GRAVES MAY, PLLC
5700 Oleander Dr.
Wilmington NC 28403

March 2, 9, 16, 23, 2017

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Co-Administrator of the estate of **Roy Buchanan**, deceased, of the New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **2nd day of June, 2017**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 2nd day of March, 2017

Adrienne L. Wright, Co-Administrator
4481 Smith Lane
Leland, NC 28451

Roy Buchanan, Jr., Co-Administrator
114 Emerson Dr.
Elizabeth, KY 42701

March 2, 9, 16, 23, 2017

LEGAL NOTICES

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the estate of **Julia Hickman Cordes**, deceased, of the New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **9th day of June, 2017**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 9th day of March, 2017

Ronald Lane Grossi, Executor
4412 Windtree Rd.
Wilmington, NC 28412

March 9, 16, 23, 30, 2017

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND
CREDITORS
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE GENERAL COURT OF
JUSTICE
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER
BEFORE THE CLERK
17 E 270**

The undersigned having duly qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **JAMES EDWARD BEACH**, late of New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at Post Office Box 4, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28402, on or before the **15th day of June 2017**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said Estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 7th day of March 2017.

Deborah Allison, Executrix
Estate of JAMES EDWARD BEACH

Jeffrey P. Keeter, Esq.
BLOCK, CROUCH, KEETER, BEHM & SAYED, L.L.P.
Post Office Box 4
Wilmington, North Carolina 28402
(910) 763-2727

March 9, 16, 23, 30, 2017

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

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **Andrew Watkins, III (17-E-259)**, late of New Hanover County, Wilmington, North Carolina the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 701 Market Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401 on or before **June 16, 2017** or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 7th day of March, 2017

Kristen Fitzgerald, Administrator of the Estate of Andrew Watkins, III
Craig & Fox, PLLC
701 Market Street
Wilmington, NC 28401
910-815-0085

March 16, 23, 30, April 6, 2017

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

Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **Elaine Babiss (17-E-280)**, late of New Hanover County, Wilmington, North Carolina the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 701 Market Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401 on or before **June 16, 2017** or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 7th day of March, 2017

Lee Babiss, Executor of the Estate of Elaine Babiss
Craig & Fox, PLLC
701 Market Street
Wilmington, NC 28401
910-815-0085

March 16, 23, 30, April 6, 2017

LEGAL NOTICES

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

Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **Marilyn Craver (17-E-272)**, late of New Hanover County, Wilmington, North Carolina the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 701 Market Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401 on or before June 16, 2017 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 7th day of March, 2017

Danny Craver, Executor of the Estate of Marilyn Craver
Craig & Fox, PLLC
701 Market Street
Wilmington, NC 28401
910-815-0085

March 16, 23, 30, April 6, 2017

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the estate of **Eugene Monroe Allen, Jr.**, deceased, of the New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **16th day of June, 2017**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 16th day of March, 2017

Glenn Wayne Allen, Administrator
321 Hixon Place
Wilmington, NC 28411

March 16, 23, 30, April 6, 2017

Intercoastal Marine LLC is accepting subcontractor and supplier bids for the Lake Waccamaw State Park River Access Pedestrian Bridge, Lake Waccamaw NC project #16-15779-01, no later than 12 noon March 27, 2017. Potential subcontract opportunities which may exist on this project include, but may not be limited to Carpentry, Grading, Material and Hardware Supplier and other items not specifically referenced herein. A pre-bid conference will be held in our office on March 20, 2016@ 8:00 AM. Please call 910-672-9791 if you plan to attend the pre-bid conference. Minority/Women Business Enterprises are encouraged to submit a bid. Reply to 910-675-9791(p), 910-675-9796(f), or 6101 Diamond Shamrock Rd. Castle Hayne, NC 28429.

March 16, 2017

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER
IN THE GENERAL COURT OF
JUSTICE
DISTRICT COURT DIVISION
COURT FILE NO: 17 CVD 348**

**Michelle Robinson, Plaintiff
v.
Lakeshia Kosunique
Watson, Defendant**

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

You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than **April 27, 2017** and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This the 9th day of March, 2017

Michelle Robinson
1003 Queen Street Apt B
Wilmington, NC 28403

March 9,16,23, 2017

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that the City Council of the City of Wilmington will hold a public hearing on the 21st day of March, 2017, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers in City Hall at 102 N. Third Street in order to consider the adoption of Ordinances for condemnation of property located at 127 Greenville Avenue, 460 Maides Avenue and 201 Meares Street and directing the owner and the Housing Inspector to vacate and close and repair or demolish the dwelling/structure located thereon.

All supplementary materials related to this agenda item are available for public inspection at the office of the Department of Community Development at 305 Chestnut Street, 2nd floor during normal working hours between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Please call the City of Wilmington Community Services Department at 341-7836 if you have any questions. The City of Wilmington hearing impaired TDD number is 341-7873.

Amy Beatty
Community Services Director

The City of Wilmington does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, national origin, religion or disability in its employment opportunities, programs or activities.

All requests for appropriate auxiliary aids and services, due to a disability or need for a non-English-speaking interpreter, must be submitted at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing or meeting.

March 2, 16, 2017

**Notice of Proposed
Conveyance of City
Property
To Cape Fear Housing Land
Trust, Inc.**

Please take notice that the Wilmington City Council has adopted a Resolution authorizing the conveyance of a tract of land located at 1314 Marsdon Alley to Cape Fear Housing Land Trust, Inc. Said property is more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point in the Southern line of Cape Fear Avenue, an Avenue or Street thirty feet wide running through Block 498 from Thirteenth to Fourteenth Streets, said point also located 225 feet East from the Eastern line of Thirteenth Street and 186 feet North from the Northern line of Nun Street, and from said point running Eastwardly along said Southern line of said Avenue Thirty (30) feet, thence Southwardly and parallel with Thirteenth Street, Ninety-three (93) feet, thence Westwardly and parallel with Nun Street, Thirty (30) feet, and then Northwardly and parallel with Thirteenth Street, Ninety-three (93) feet to the Beginning, and same being a part of Lots 4 & 5 in Block 498, according to the official plan of the City of Wilmington, N.C.

The conveyance is being made pursuant to G.S. 160A-279 for the public purpose of providing affordable housing to persons of low or moderate incomes. The conveyance will be without monetary consideration, but the use of the property will be restricted to the above public purpose. Pursuant to G.S. 160A-267, the conveyance will not be made until ten (10) days after the date of publication of this Notice.

March 16, 2017

LEGAL NOTICES

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals will be received until **3:00 p.m. on March 29, 2017**, in Lake Waccamaw State Park Visitors Center Conference Room, 1866 State Park Drive, Lake Waccamaw, NC 28450, for the construction of LAKE WACCAMAW STATE PARK RIVER ACCESS PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE, Lake Waccamaw State Park, Lake Waccamaw, NC at which time and place bids will be opened and read.

A pre-bid conference will be conducted at **10:00 a.m. on March 15, 2017**, in Lake Waccamaw State Park Visitors Center Conference Room.

Complete plans and specifications for this project can be obtained from:
Andrew Consulting Engineers, P.C.

3811 Peachtree Ave, Suite 300
Wilmington, NC 28403
(910) 202-5555 Phone
(910) 202-5558 Fax
office@andrewengineers.com
during normal office hours after March 2, 2017, and at various plan rooms. Contact Designer for more information.

Plan Deposit **\$100.00**

The state reserves the unqualified right to reject any and all proposals.

Signed:
NC DNCR Division of Parks & Recreation
Archdale Bldg-NC Parks & Recreation
Design & Development Section
512 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27604
(owner)

March 16, 2017

EMPLOYMENT

**Vice President/Chief
Operating Officer**

The Housing Authority of the City of Wilmington is seeking a Vice President/Chief Operating Officer. A copy of the full job description can be accessed from the website at www.wha.net. The Housing Authority provides a generous benefit package. Salary will be commensurate with experience and education. Submit a cover letter, resume, Wilmington Housing Authority employment application and three professional references to: Vice President/Chief Operating Officer Search, Attention: Human Resources Department, PO Box 899, Wilmington, NC 28402 or email to jobs@wha.net. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The Housing Authority City of Wilmington is an Equal Opportunity Affirmative Action Employer.

**It Pays To
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JOURNAL
For
Information,
Call Us At
910-762-5502**



VISIT US AT
www.wilmingtonjournal.com to view our E-Edition

LEGAL NOTICES

INVITATION TO BID

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
Avis Consolidated Rental Car Facility
BID DUE DATE:
April 18, 2017
BID TIME:
2:00 p.m.

Sealed bids will be received at the Airport Administration Building, 1740 Airport Blvd., Suite 12, Wilmington, North Carolina 28405 until 2:00 PM local time, **Tuesday, April 18, 2017**, at which time they shall be opened in the ILM 2nd Floor Executive Conference Room, 1740 Airport Blvd., Suite 12, Wilmington, North Carolina 28405, for:

Avis Consolidated Rental Car Facilities

This project includes: the developing of a remote consolidated rental car facility on airport property located at the intersection of Hall Drive and Blue Clay Road, Wilmington, NC. The site will house one (1) lease area for the Avis/Budget rental car agency operating at the Airport. This site will be developed and leased to Avis/Budget Rent Car Company. The size of the lease area is approximately 4,200 square feet. Included in the lease areas will be proposed parking spaces with future expansion capabilities, administration and office space, maintenance bay, service canopy, and wash bay.

Major project component for this project include:

- 174 parking spaces with future expansion capacity up to 300 vehicles; 1,200 square foot administration/office space; one lighted maintenance bay with two overhead doors; and one automated wash facility.

There will be a Pre-Bid Conference held in the ILM 2nd Floor Executive Conference Room, 1740 Airport Blvd., Suite 12, Wilmington, North Carolina 28405, at 10:30 AM Thursday, March 30, 2017.

Bid security in the amount of five percent (5%) of the base bid will be required to accompany bids. Contract Bonding shall also be required. The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive irregularities in bidding. Participation in the Disadvantage and/or Women Business Enterprises Program (DBE and/or WBE) is required. The goal for this contract is nine percent (9%) to be performed by certified DBE and/or WBE firms.

This project will be bid as a single contract. Bid prices may be held for up to 90 days. All bids must be submitted in accordance with Project Manual which may be examined in the Airport Administration Building, or obtained from:

RS&H Architects-Engineers-Planners, Inc.
1520 South Boulevard, Suite 200
Charlotte, NC 28203
Attn: Michael Blackmore, PE
Telephone (704) 940.4782

Complete sets of drawings and specifications may be purchased from **McGee Cadd Reographics**, for \$135.00 per set, plus the cost of mailing or overnight shipping, after 12:00 p.m., March 20, 2017. Plans are also available at www.carolinas-planroom.com at no access charge. Partial sets of drawings and specifications will not be issued. The purchase price for the contract documents is not refundable.

Consistent with New Hanover County policy and practice, no prospective bidder shall be considered for contract award who has, within ten (10) years prior to its bid, failed to fully perform a contract with New Hanover County or New Hanover County Airport Authority through contract breach in initial construction and/or failure to fully perform required subsequent remedial repair. The ten (10) year disqualification period shall be calculated as commencing with the most recent breach or failure to perform.

March 16, 2017

LEGAL NOTICES

BRUNSWICK COUNTY INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received until 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 18th, 2017 in the office of the Brunswick County Director of Engineering, 75 Courthouse Drive NE, Building I, Bolivia, NC 28422 for the construction of the BSRI Calabash Senior Center and shortly thereafter the bids will be opened publicly and read aloud. The contract shall be Single Prime. A general description of the work includes site work and renovations of an existing +/- 12,120 sf pre-engineered metal building located at 10050 Beach Drive SW, Calabash, NC 28467. Major categories of construction include:
 Site work: Grading, utilities and sidewalks.
 Building construction: Selective demolition includes removal of interior walls, floor finishes and plumbing, HVAC and electrical equipment. New work includes roof and wall panel repair, interior light gauge metal stud walls, building insulation, interior and exterior painting, resilient flooring and acoustical tile ceilings. The work also includes plumbing, HVAC, electrical and fire sprinkler.

Pre-Bid Meeting: An open pre-bid meeting will be held for all interested bidders and vendors at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 28th, 2017 at the project site.

The pre-bid meeting will address project specific questions, issues, and bidding procedures. Additional information and Addenda will be made available to the public by email or on Architect's website. The Contractor is responsible for ensuring that their contact information (phone & email) is correct and on file with the person designated below. All questions or requests for clarifications must be submitted to the Architect no later than ten (10) days prior to the bid date by phone or email. See contact info below.

Site Visitation: The proposed construction site is located on public property and the building exterior may be visited by bidders to review existing conditions. To review existing conditions within the building, please contact the Architect.

Copies of the Contract Documents may be obtained on or after Tuesday, March 21st, 2017 for a refundable plan deposit of \$150.00 at the following location (check/money order payable to County of Brunswick):

Architect Contact:
 Scott Spike
 (910) 762-0892
scott@s2a3.com

Sawyer Sherwood & Associate
 124 Market Street
 Wilmington, NC 28401

No partial sets of the Contract Documents will be issued. Deposits will be refunded only upon return of complete and unmarked drawings and project manuals. The Contract Documents may be examined at the following locations:

- Brunswick County Engineering, at the address listed above (8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. business days)
- Sawyer Sherwood & Associate (8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. business days) or online at www.s2a3.com/contractors.html

Brunswick County reserves the unqualified right to reject any and all proposals. A 5% bid bond or deposit is required. Brunswick County has implemented a Minority Business Enterprise Policy that requires Contractors to exhibit a good-faith effort to contact minority business subcontractors whose work on the project would represent 10% of the total value of the work. Contractors must be properly licensed. Additional instructions to bidders are included in the Contract Documents.

March 16, 2017

ENTERTAINMENT

ASK

ALMA
 with
ALMA
GILMORE



READER RESPONDS TO "NO GOOD DEED" COLUMN

Dear Alma,

Love your column!! However, I was a little concerned about the advice that you gave to "No Good Deed" about the worker who donated her time off to one of her co-workers, who claimed that her sister had died. If there is a possibility that the employer will find out the truth about this incident, then the co-worker should be reported. The co-worker committed fraud and, in a sense, stole from the company and would most likely be terminated, if found out. Also all individuals involved could face discipline (even if they did not know about the situation upfront). I don't think those workers who just wanted to do a "good deed" should jeopardize their employment. Besides, do they really want to continue to work with someone who lies to her company and her co-workers, steals from the company, and takes money out of their own pockets?

Signed,
An Ask Alma Fan

Dear Ask Alma Fan,

Thank you, thank you so much for reading my column. You know I got nothin' but love for you, Sweetie.

Speaking of love and compassion, when it comes to "No Good Deed" I feel you and I understand where you're coming from. If, hold up, let me repeat myself right here, "if" her story ain't true, one would need credible evidence "and" one would need to prove that this co-worker was not at a funeral at said time and so forth. I'm not saying that can't be done, but we just don't know for sure. Her friend of a friend was one to many friends for me to take her word. I'm sure that has to do with me working in a newsroom. I need facts and not what you think she—maybe he—because her cousin said the truth might be. Alternative facts aren't welcome here. #SideEyeKelly Anne. I know, I couldn't help myself, LOL.

Here's what we know for sure: the employee had a death in her family and she didn't have enough time on the books to be paid while taking time off to attend the funeral. Everything after that is pure speculation. That's why I suggested to the person who donated the time (and emailed Ask Alma) to ask her directly, "Did your sister die?" This person should go straight to the source. Questioning said employee to clarify this coffin confusion is the first mode of action, especially if she's confident in her assumption. Once she's compiled relevant information, then she can contact HR, but it's a waste of time for her to approach the supervisor with second-hand gossip. And second-hand gossip is what she presented in her question.

Here's the deal, Darling: when I read "Ask Alma" questions, my answers are based solely on what I've read, not what I think may have happened. I don't add honey, lemon or sugar to the tea. I sip what is precisely delivered in my cup. Thank you, thank you again for emailing me. I love to hear from readers, especially those who disagree or want to add a spoonful of wisdom. I gotta tell you, I'm so tickled, you've put a smile on my face today!

Alma Gill's newsroom experience spans more than 25 years, including various roles at USA Today, Newsday and the Washington Post. Email questions to: alwaysaskalma@gmail.com. Follow her on Facebook at "Ask Alma" and Twitter @almaskalma.

When the going gets tough, the tough don't skimp on advertising

Research shows that companies that consistently advertise even during recessions perform better in the long run. A McGraw-Hill Research study looking at 600 companies from 1980 to 1985 found that those businesses which chose to maintain or raise their level of advertising during the 1981 and 1982 recession had significantly higher sales after the economy recovered. In fact, companies that advertised aggressively during the recession had sales 256% higher than those that did not continue to advertise.



Research done by Gemstone Communication, Inc. and Ethnic Print Media Group showed that:

•66% of readers of the Black Press cite their newspaper as their primary or only source for local news and community event information

•only 12% subscribe to a daily newspaper

•72% purchase products or services as seen in their local African American newspaper

African American newspapers have a pass around rate of 4 to 1 and stay on the coffee table for weeks.

Research done by the Scarborough Group has also shown that African Americans will go out of their way to get their favorite Black newspaper. This relationship with the African American newspaper not found in other media is built on trust, strong loyalties and a bond of believability.

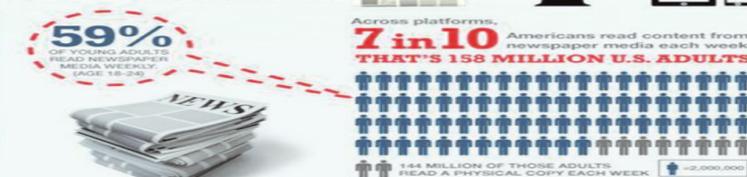


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Adults who name local newspapers as the **most effective** place to learn about Black Friday sale and store information. This is a **37% higher score** than microblogs and a **58% higher score** than local TV.

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Sources: Across Platforms, 7 in 10 Adults Access Content from Newspaper Media Each Week (NAA.org, March 25, 2013)
 The American Newspaper Media Industry Revenue Profile 2012 (NAA.org, April 8, 2013)
 2013 Nielsen National Cross-Media Engagement Study (NAA.org, April 16, 2013)

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