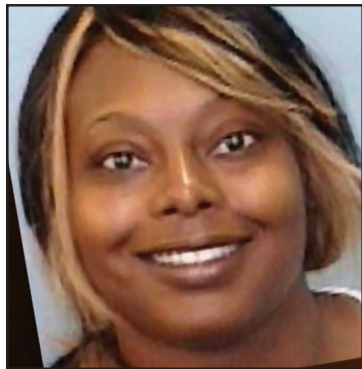


MISSING



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.

ON THE WEB

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EXCLUSIVE:
Rev. Barber asked to stay with NC NAACP until October election



Study finds racial bias is endemic in military justice system
Black servicemen significantly more likely to be prosecuted and disciplined in all branches

BRUNSWICK COUNTY UPDATE



BERNEST HEWETT

Rethinking the future

BY **BERNEST HEWETT**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Brunswick County, we have an explosion of people who now see the flight of those who fight for equality and fairness for all. It has become a clear fact that most of our elected officials have misled, or lied to, the public in the last four years. It has worked its way through the system, and we find that freedom for all and respect for each person's civil

Please see **BRUNSWICK/**Page 2

THE WILMINGTON
JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

VOLUME 90/No. 25

JUNE 22, 2017 - JUNE 28, 2017

FIFTY CENTS

COMMUNITY HAILS TWO HEROIC CAPITOL POLICE OFFICERS

BY **CASH MICHAELS**
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

As of June 14, beyond the US military, the nation has celebrated two new American heroes who not only reminded us of what true bravery is in the face of certain danger, but also of the constant threats our elected officials face in what many agree is a very divisive, corrosive atmosphere.

On the morning of June 14, US Capitol Police Special Agents David Bailey and Crystal Griner, rushed into the line of fire when an angry gunman, armed with an automatic weapon and reportedly searching for Republicans to kill, began firing his weapon at a public park in Alexandria, Va. where several GOP members of Congress were having baseball practice for a charity game later in the week.

When it was all over, the gunman was killed, but not before he had shot and wounded at least three others, included US House Majority Whip Steve Scalise (R-La).

Rep. Scalise is still in a Washington,

DC hospital, recovering from a bullet wound to the hip that once had him in critical condition.

In a speech on the US House floor later that morning, Speaker Paul Ryan, calling Bailey and Griner "heroes" said, "We are, as ever, awed by the tremendous bravery of the Capitol Police. I expressed our profound gratitude to them. It is clear to me, based on various eyewitness accounts that, without these two heroes, Agent Bailey and Agent Griner, many lives would have been lost," Ryan added.

Special Agent Crystal Griner, 32, who was shot in the ankle, is known as a "high achiever" scholastically and former basketball standout for Hood College in Frederick, Md. Her former chief at the US Capitol Police said she exuded "confidence and dedication."

US Capitol Special Agent David Bailey, 32, is a 2007 alumnus of North Carolina Central University in Durham, from where he earned a BS

Please see **HEROES/**Page 2



PHOTO COURTESY OF CONGRESSMAN BUTTERFIELD'S OFFICE
US Capitol police special agent David Bailey (L) posing with NC Congressman G. K. Butterfield at the Congressional Charity Baseball Game last week. Bailey threw out the first pitch. He was credited with confronting a gunman during the GOP baseball practice June 14th.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS
Army Major General Clark W. LeMasters, commanding general of the TACOM Life Cycle Management Command and Ward's former commanding officer, presided over Lt. Col. Ward's promotion ceremony.



More than 50 of Ward's family members attended the Jan. 6th ceremony held at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, joining his friends and former co-workers who came from around the U.S. to join Ward's DLA Energy teammates for the occasion. In total, more than 100 people participated in the event. Those who could not attend joined in via video teleconference.

Castle Hayne native promoted to Army Lieutenant Colonel

BY **DLA ENERGY PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

North Carolina Agriculture and Technical State University Alumnus Kevin Ward continues to rise to higher levels of leadership and responsibility while serving the nation with his promotion to lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army.

A native of Castle Hayne, North Carolina, Ward graduated from North Carolina Agriculture and Technical State University in 2000 with a Bachelor of Science in Industrial and Systems Engineering and was commissioned as an Ordnance Officer in May 2000. He earned a Master's in Business Administration from Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas.

Ward served five years in the Army as an enlisted Soldier before attending A&T.

"I wanted to go to college and the Army offered me an avenue to get my college degree," Ward said. "Every semester as a Soldier, I took classes and when I entered

A&T in the fall of 1996, I earned 20 credit hours."

Deployed to war seven times, Ward is a veteran of Operation Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Inherent Resolve. Ward serves as the Director of the Commander's Action Group at Defense Logistics Agency Energy.

With a history that spans more than 70 years, dating back to World War II, Defense Logistics Agency Energy provides the Department of Defense and other government agencies with comprehensive energy solutions in the most effective and efficient manner possible.

Ward is a recipient of the Ordnance Corp's Samuel Sharpe award and the Army's Demonstrated Master Logistician designation. The Order of Samuel Sharpe was first introduced in May 1994 by the United States

Please see **WARD/**Page 2

The real reason why the GOP defends racial gerrymandering

BY **CASH MICHAELS**
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

There is a reason Republicans in the NC General Assembly vigorously defend "stacking-and-packing" Black voters into a handful of so-called "majority-minority" voting districts when drawing congressional and legislative maps for North Carolina, even though the US Supreme Court has repeatedly ruled the practice as unconstitutional racial gerrymandering.

It is a reason that law professor and constitutional scholar, Michael Curtis, of Wake Forest University School of Law, doesn't buy.

Republicans maintain that they are complying with the mandate of the 1965 Voting Rights Act to create districts where Black voters have the ability to elect congressional and legislative representation of their choosing.

So several wildly constructed districts were created by the Republican majority where Black registered voters comprised at least fifty percent or more of the voting population.

"It all sounds like [Republicans] are wonderful and concerned with the rights of Blacks, doesn't it," Prof. Curtis asked rhetorically. "But the NCNAACP, Black legislators, and a bunch of others sued about it and say that's not the real story."

In virtually every one of the districts the NC NAACP and others have challenged, the candidate of choice of Black voters was winning without a majority Black district," Curtis continued. In those districts, Blacks were less than 50 percent but joined in coalition with White voters to elect candidates of their choice.

State Republicans, however, illegally and unconstitutionally twisted this reality.

"Instead of creating minority opportunity where it did not exist (as the 1965 VRA required), the (Republican) map-makers drew districts where opportunity had been flourishing, where Black voters, though the minority, had been consistently electing their candidates of choice..." reported Sharon McCloskey in May 2013 for NC Policy Watch. "[Republicans]... simply added more,

Please see **GOP/**Page 2



SALUTING GRADUATES



MS. AYANA DAVIS

Ayana Davis, daughter of Bruce and Shinette Everett and the late Buck Blackwell. Granddaughter of Faye Davis and Rosie Blackwell of Asheboro.

Ayana will be graduating from Asheboro High School on Friday, June 9, 2017. Ayana has received many awards and to list a few: Governor's Page Program, Raleigh, NC; Youth Trailblazer of Randolph County; NAACP Youth Community Volunteer Award; Youth Representative for All American City, Denver, Colorado, All American City Appreciation Award received from Mayor David Smith; FFA (Future Farmers of America) Greenhand Degree.

Ayana is very quiet but look out world, a future Leader is awakening. She will be attending UNC-Greensboro where she will major in Biology. Wishing her the very best.



MR. TYRIQ R. DRYE

Tyriq R. Drye, son of Charles & LaChrisa Everett Leftwich, and Tyriq Drye of New York. Grandson of Rhonda Drye of New York and Arena Everett of Leland.

Tyriq will be graduating from Clayton High School on Friday evening, June 9, 2017. Tyriq played football for the Clayton High School Comets. He will be attending Wake Tech Community College. We wish him the best.



MS. DARIAN HANDLEY

The parents of Darian Handley, Don Handley and Cynthia and Germain Robinson, proudly announce their daughter's graduation from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where she received a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology with a minor in African American Diaspora Studies. After three years in college, Darian is now headed to Asheville, NC for a yearlong internship at Eliada Homes where she will work and interact with children and adolescents who have been diagnosed with a variety of mental illnesses. Afterward, she hopes to attend graduate school and obtain a Master's degree in Social Work and become a licensed clinical social worker.

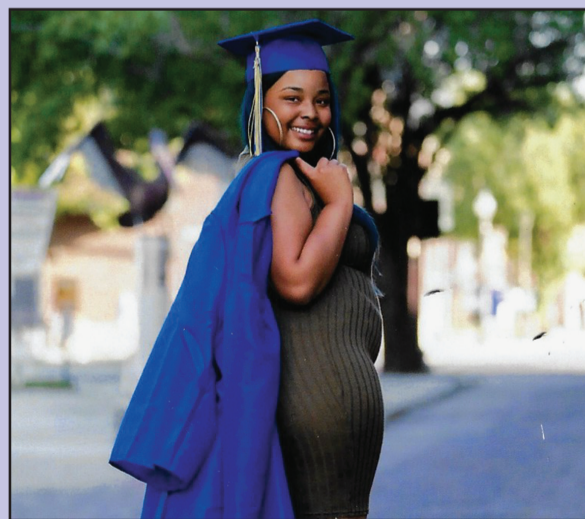


MS. VERONIQUE JAMILA HOOPER

Ms. Veronique Jamila Hooper, of Greensboro North Carolina, recently graduated with honors from Walter Hines Page High School Class of 2017. Her honors include being a member of the National Art Honor Society and the National Technical Honor Society. She also graduated Cum Laude. Veronique has been accepted at UNC Charlotte, where she will begin classes in the fall of this year as an Art major. Her goal is to earn a BSA Degree in Graphic Design, with a double concentration in Digital Media. "Mila's" family and friends are so proud of her accomplishments and unite to celebrate and recognize her accomplishment of this educational milestone.

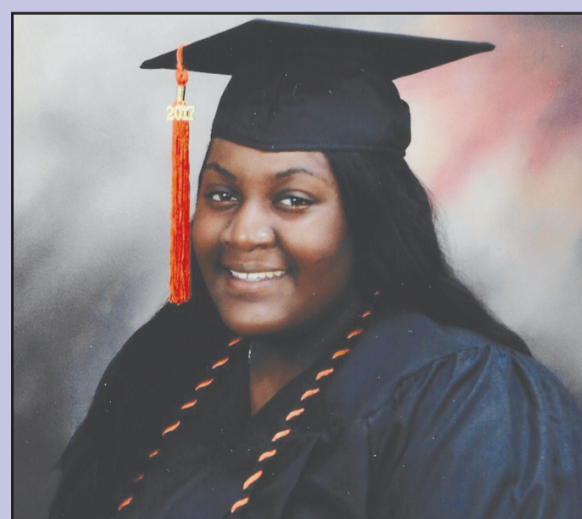
She is the daughter of Mr. Steven and Mrs. Veronica Hooper, and the granddaughter of Pastor Johnson A. & Mrs. Sylvia B. Hooper. She is also the granddaughter of Mrs. Carrie Simpson and Mr. Clinton Simpson.

Congratulations "Princess", We love you!!!



ZACKIYAH TYOSHA JOHNSON

Zackiyah Tyosha Johnson, daughter of Violet Shirelle Point, granddaughter of Joseph Point and the late Gale Everett graduated from E.A. Laney High School on June 10, 2017. Zackiyah loves Interior Decorating and hopes to be a model. She will be attending Cape Fear Community College in the fall. We wish her the best.



JAZMINE DEANN WALLACE

Jazmine,
This is the beginning of anything you want
Always remember your are braver than you believe.

Stronger than you seem, smarter than you think and loved more than you know!

Congratulations!
Daddy & Jessica
Nanny & Uncle Terry
Graduate of NHHS
Jazmine will be attending
Winston Salem State University,

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BRUNSWICK
Continued from Page 1

rights have not been found here in Brunswick County. In some cases, minorities and the poor have been left out all together.
 It is time we began to think about a County Board of County Commissioners comprised of seven and a Board of Education comprised of seven. We need to start thinking about how we can improve education, health care, and childcare for Brunswick County, with people seeing these issues. We need to pull together and start the movement of freedom again.
 Bernest L. Hewett is President of the Brunswick County Branch of NAACP.

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8th Annual Ocean City Jazz Festival runs July 1 and 2

All shows start at 5 p.m. (See ad page 3A)

The Ocean City Jazz Festival, returns for its eighth year. The festival takes place July 1st and 2nd, 2017, with performances in the historic Ocean City Community. As it has in previous years, the festival boasts an incredible lineup of talent that caters to both jazz purist and lovers of contemporary jazz. This year's artists include the Lynn

Grissett Quartet, John Dillard, Wycliffe Gordon performing with the John Brown Quintet, the Lao Tizer Trio with special guest Karen Briggs, Jackiem Joyner with Gerald Veasley and also among the noteworthy acts who will be on hand to entertain the festival crowd, five time Grammy winner Randy Brecker performing with the John Brown Quintet.

The 8th annual Ocean City Jazz Festival (OCJF) is presented by the Ocean City Community at North Topsail Beach. The community developed in 1949, is one of North Carolina's first African American coastal communities. The festival is the community's signature event and proceeds are used to promote awareness of the community and renovate his-

torical buildings, to include the Wade Chestnut Memorial Chapel.
 Our event has become an annual celebration for jazz-minded adults where the components of great beaches, great food from our food truck vendors, a historic community and the gold standard in jazz performers integrate seamlessly into what is called the "Ocean City

Experience." The Ocean City Jazz Festival will again utilize a 90 x 100 ft. pavilion tent and provide comfortable seating for our attendees, Barton Hatcher our amazing poster artist will be on site and there will also be an assortment of beverages and a silent auction. For tickets, lineup and additional information visit www.oceancityjazzfest.com.

WARD

Continued from Page 1
 Army Ordnance Corps Association. The Samuel Sharpe award recognizes ordnance personnel who have demonstrated the highest standards of integrity and moral character.
 More than 50 of Ward's family members attended the Jan. 6th ceremony, joining his friends and former co-workers who came from

around the U.S. to join Ward's DLA Energy teammates for the occasion. In total, more than 100 people participated in the event. Those who could not attend joined in via video teleconference.
 Army Major General Clark W. LeMasters, commanding general of the TACOM Life Cycle Management Command and Ward's former commanding officer, presided over the ceremony.
 "The promotion day was a grand event for me," Ward

said. "Having mostly all of my family, close friends, and co-workers in attendance as well as watching by VTC was like being given flowers for a special occasion. The joy I have is not for me or the rank that was pinned but to see the excitement and share the moment with my family, friends and co-workers."
 Ward credits his mother and his wife, the former Katrina Duncan, as the foundation for his successful career.
 "My mother sacrificed to

make sure I had what I needed growing up," Ward said. "In third grade she borrowed \$2 from a friend so I could go on a school field trip. I don't ever want to be a failure or embarrassment to her. This carries over today. I don't want to fail my wife and son and always be able to provide for my family."
 The importance of family is integral in Ward's life and career.
 I like the Army," Ward said. "Camaraderie is integral and

everywhere I have been stationed, the people you work with and deploy with become your family. "In tough times, family and the Army always comes through."
 Ward's awards and badges include: the Bronze Star Medal (two oak leaf clusters), Meritorious Service Medal (two oak leaf clusters), Army Commendation Medal (two oak leaf clusters), Joint Service Achievement Medal and an Army Achievement Medal (two oak leaf clusters).

GOP

Continued from Page 1
 pulling Black voters across precinct, district, and county lines to reach that 50 percent mark and beyond, up as high as 57 percent, and leaving Whiter districts in their wake."
 As a result, the 1965 Voting

Rights Act was actually used as a "gerrymandering device," Prof. Curtis said, an excuse to move African-American voters out of key voting districts where they normally would influence legislative and congressional races.
 Curtis says North Carolina Republicans violated the NC Constitution when composing the 2011 legislative maps,

ultimately making the legislative districts just about the worst in the nation. He maintains that the adoption of an independent, nonpartisan redistricting commission is the best answer for the future.
 What will happen now isn't clear. A three-judge federal panel has ordered all sides in the legal dispute over the leg-

islative maps to submit arguments as quickly as possible so that a hearing can be held and a determination as to when new maps are redrawn, and possible special elections are held.
 A federal trial scheduled for next week in Greensboro challenging the 2016 congressional maps has now been postponed to an undeter-

mined date.
 On Monday, the US Supreme Court agreed to hear a case challenging Republican partisan gerrymandering in Wisconsin next fall as going too far, a case that many legal experts believe could have major ramifications for the nation, and especially North Carolina.

HEROES

Continued from Page 1
 degree in physical education, and was also a member of NCCU Student Government. He reportedly attended high school in Maryland.
 Bailey has reportedly been a US Capitol police officer since 2008 and was an administrator at US Fish and Wildlife before that.
 Bailey reportedly twisted his ankle during the shooting, and he was released from the hospital that Wednesday afternoon.
 In a statement issued June 14 by Interim NCCU Chancellor, Dr. Johnson Akinleye, David Bailey is said to have "...bravely put his life on the line to protect and serve the community. This example of "Truth and Service" comes as no surprise to his professors who knew him to be an engaged and empathetic student who was committed to excellence."
 Those who knew Bailey as a student at NCCU recall a young man who cared about people, always kept himself physically fit, and always had a close eye

for detail, an important attribute that serves him well as a law enforcement officer.
 NCCU Professor David Nass remembers teaching Bailey in "Motor Skills in Games" in 2004 and that he had the "highest grade in the class."
 "What stood out about David Bailey was his attention to detail and his preparation," Professor Nass recalls. "He was the kind of personality you or I would want to teach our child."
 Another professor at NCCU, Virginia Politano, said that David Bailey was a "good student" with a 3.5 GPA in her course. She remembers Bailey as being "outgoing and personable", and liked by everyone. Bailey was involved in campus organizations.
 "He was a good guy; always wanting to help other people," Prof. Politano said.
 Congressman G. K. Butterfield (D-NC-1), is an alumnus of NCCU and says he's known David Bailey.
 "He's a heroic brother. I'm very proud of David" Rep. Butterfield said Tuesday by

phone from Washington, DC. "I've known David for the past eight or nine years since he came on the [US Capitol Police] force. I know him in a very special way because both he and I are graduates of North Carolina Central University."
 Rep. Butterfield added that there aren't that many Black officers on special leadership detail on the US Capitol Police force, so African-American members of Congress instinctively bond with the few who are checking with them routinely to make sure they're all right.
 "We're proud of 'em," the former chair of the Congressional Black Caucus insisted. "We have fought to get them these opportunities in the leadership detail.
 Butterfield said he's always been impressed with how professional and dedicated Bailey is, and while he didn't know Crystal Griner as well, has always been very impressed with how professionally she carried herself while on the job.
 Referring to the June 14 shootings, Congresswoman Alma Adams (D-NC-12) said all

members of Congress are "really shaken" by the assassination attempt. She believes the time has come for more "good guys" like David Bailey and Crystal Griner to provide better security for her and her congressional colleagues.
 "It could have been any one of us," she said Monday by phone from Charlotte.
 Long before the events of June 14, Rep. Adams told her staff to consider any nasty phone calls or letters received in their offices as "threats" and report them accordingly. That afternoon, Adams released a statement:
 "Today's shooting is a tragic reminder of the rising animosity and tensions in our country.
 "One of the things I think Congress has the responsibility for is setting the right tone, because if we don't, then the community outrage is going to get out of control," Adams says, acknowledging that other Black congress people have also gotten threatening calls and letters as well.
 Rep. Al Green (D-TX) is most prominent on the list, ever

since he announced that he was sponsoring a bill to present articles of impeachment against President Trump.
 "We just have to be a little more diligent about safety and security," she continued, noting that the days of not making mandatory security arrangements at public events is over. "I am very concerned, not just for myself, but my staff."
 Rep. Adams also cautioned that Congress has to do a better job protecting itself, but all Americans, especially when it comes to limiting the sale of guns.
 One of the last shooting incidents involving a US Capitol police officer from North Carolina took place in July 1998 when Officer Jacob Chestnut was killed at the US Capitol building. At that time, a gunman entered the security screening area and opened fire, killing Chestnut instantly and also a detective. Officer Chestnut was the first African-American to be laid in honor in the US Capitol Building. Then President Bill Clinton delivered his eulogy.

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SALUTING GRADUATES



THE REVEREND DR. ELLEN CANTY MCEACHERN

On May 20, 2017 Wilmingtonian, The Reverend Ellen Canty McEachern earned the Doctorate of Ministry Degree in Pastoral Care and Counseling from New Brunswick Theological Seminary, New Brunswick, New Jersey. She is the daughter of the late Mrs. Shirley A. Grainger Canty.

The Reverend Dr. Ellen Canty McEachern is the Assistant Pastor of Macedonia African Methodist Episcopal Church in Flushing, New York. She is married to The Reverend Richard O. McEachern, Pastor of Macedonia AME Church and is the proud mother of two adult children, Nia I. McEachern and Richard O. McEachern II. She resides in North Baldwin, New York.



PAULA CLINITA MOORE

Paula Clinita Moore graduated from South University Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor's Degree In Information Technology on June 17, 2017

Paula is the daughter of Timothy, Sr. and Paula Moore and the granddaughter of Nolan B. Pittman. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. She resides in Richmond, VA.



MINISTER RAMONA TINDALL RAGIN

Minister Ramona Tindall Ragin, president and founder of HASO (Help A Sister Out Ministries) graduated on May 27, 2017. She received her Master 1 Certification in Christian Ministry. She also received the highest GPS award, a Perfect Attendance and Spirit of Excellence Awards.

Minister Ramona Ragin is a faithful member for over 20 year at Union Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of Pastor James H. Nixon. She is married to Brother Timothy Ragin of the city.

Minister Ragin plans to continue to educate in pursuing her Doctoral Degree in Theology.

To God Be the Glory!

Chestnut Street Presbyterian Church (USA) recognizes high school, college, and advanced degree graduates



PHOTO COURTESY OF DR. BETTIE J. GLENN

CSPC (USA) Honorees (left to right) Mr. Andrian D. Jackson (2017 John T. Hoggard High School Graduate); Mr. Vincent S. Black (2017 New Hanover High School Graduate); and Dr. Janie Canty-Mitchell (Retiree)

BY RITA TODD, CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On Sunday, June 11, 2017, two high school graduates and one retiree were recognized at Chestnut Street Presbyterian Church (USA) during the 11:00 Worship Service. Mr. Vincent S. Black Dr. Janie Canty-Mitchell, and Mr. Andrian D. Jackson were honored for their most recent accomplishments.

Vincent Samuel Black is the son of Ms. Sabrina Hill Black and Mr. Vincent Black. Vince graduated from New Hanover High School on Saturday, June 10, 2017. While at New Hanover, Vince served on the track team where he competed in the 110 & 300 meter hurdles. He was also a member of "Region O Council for the Advancement of Minorities in Engineering" (ROCAMÉ). Vincent participated as the Intrapersonal Executive co-chair of the VOYAGE Youth Leadership Council via the Blue Ribbon Commission on the Prevention of Youth Violence. During each of his high school years, he was a member of "Striving to Achieve Excellence" Academic (STAE) Program.

Vincent's honors and awards include Career Technical Engineering Award - two years consecutively; ROCAME Jamboree medalist for two consecutive years; Track and Field Varsity Athletics' letter with pins for the 100 & 300 meter hurdles; and STAE Student of the Month.

During his "spare" time, Vince was a member of the Port City Track Team for one year; volunteered at Williston Middle School, DC Virgo Preparatory Academy; volunteered with "Meals on Wheels" with the Cape Fear Area Chapter of North Carolina Central University Alumni Chapter; volunteered with the "Beach2Battleship Triathlon; served as an "Iron Man" Triathlon volunteer and participated with the VOYAGE Youth Leadership Organization.

Vincent is also a part-time employee at Publix Grocery Store. In the fall of 2017, Vince plans to attend North Carolina Central University in Durham, NC. His goal is to pursue a career as a clinical psychologist.

Dr. Janie Lee Canty Mitchell officially retired from the University of Texas/Health Science Center San Antonio/School of Nursing on September 1, 2016. Over 45 years in the nursing profession, she served in various positions in



PHOTO COURTESY OF DR. BETTIE J. GLENN

CSPC (USA) High School Graduates, Mr. Vincent S. Black and Mr. Andrian D. Jackson are presented engraved Bibles from Mr. Theodore Johnson, Sr., Superintendent of Sunday School.

her field in North Carolina, Florida, Indiana, and Texas. Janie has occupied the positions of Public Health Nurse, Supervisor, Assistant County Nursing Director, Professor of Nursing, Associate Dean for Research and Community Partnerships, Grants Manager and School of Nursing Department Chair. Her career has taken her from serving as a registered nurse in hospitals, public health agencies, universities, community health centers and public schools.

Janie's retirement plans are just as ambitious as her career. They include traveling and vacation three to four times per year; volunteering in church and public schools; participating in community service activities with the Wilmington (NC) Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; developing and implementing leadership programs for LeadersCare, LLC; publishing e-books, online webinars, and blogs on leadership; continuing to strengthen her faith, mind, body, and spirit; and enjoy her husband. Best wishes, Janie, as you continue your retirement journey.

Andrian D'Quon Jackson is the son of Angela Jackson. He graduated from John T. Hoggard High School on Saturday, June 10, 2017. While at Hoggard, Andrian was a member of the marching band and the concert 1 symphonic band. Prior to joining the band, he played on the junior varsity football team. Andrian's future plans include attending Cape Fear Community College and securing a degree in sports marketing.

The ceremony began with a "Welcome" provided by Ms. Rita D. Todd. Mrs. Paula P. Moore delivered an inspiring prayer and Ms. Alexandria Jackson shared two very appropriate poems entitled, "Graduation Wish" by Joanna Fuchs and "New Beginnings" by Gertrude B. McClain. Mr. Theodore Johnson, Sr. Superintendent of Sunday School, presented the high school graduates with engraved Bibles; in addition to providing words of continued support. Ms. Sheila E. MacRae introduced the high school graduates and Mrs. Paula P. Moore presented the retiree. The guest speaker, Rev. Jhaniqua Palmer, delivered a message entitled, "But JOY" which addressed the topic of moving forward with God.

Honorees were provided an opportunity to express themselves. Photos were taken. Light refreshments were served following the worship service.

REPUBLICAN LEGISLATIVE LEADERS AGREE TO A \$23 BILLION BUDGET PLAN



[RALEIGH] Teachers would get a 3.3 percent raise, while state employees would see a flat \$1,000 more in their paychecks. Tax cuts for individuals and corporations will wait until

2019, and another \$100 million will go to Hurricane Matthew relief. This are just some of the headlines from the proposed 2017-2018 budget spending plan state House and Senate conferees unveiled late Monday. Both houses are now expected to pass the proposal, and send it to Gov. Cooper, who wasn't pleased with the final product. No word yet on whether he will veto it. Cooper wanted more money for education.

UNC-CHAPEL GET \$1 MILLION TO HELP LOW-INCOME STUDENTS ATTEND SCHOOL

[CHAPEL HILL] UNC-Chapel Hill says the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation has donated \$1 million to help low-income students to attend the public university, and the institution is planning to raise another million dollars from private donors in order to combine the funds, and expand the number of students helped. The

foundation is named after the former owner of the NFL's Washington Redskins.

PITT COUNTY D.A. TO MEET WITH GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ABOUT DONTAE SHARPE CASE

[GREENVILLE] Pitt County District Attorney Kimberly Robb says she has scheduled a meeting with representatives of the Governor's Office to discuss the findings of her recent review of the Dontae Sharpe

case. Supporters of Sharpe say he was falsely convicted of murder and imprisoned for 20 years. "At the request of Dontae Sharpe's lawyers, my office has conducted an in-depth review of the murder case against him. After examining the relevant police reports and witness statements, reading over court records from all prior hearings, and interviewing relevant parties to the case, we have scheduled a meeting with representatives from the Governor's office on

Thursday to discuss our findings. Out of respect for his office, we will not make a public statement on the results of our investigation prior to that meeting," a statement from Robb's office said. On Monday evening, the Rev. Al Sharpton joined NCNAACP Pres. Rev. William Barber and the Sharpe family in Greenville demanding that Dontae Sharpe be released.

COMPILED BY CASH MICHAELS



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® Alpha Psi Omega Chapter celebrated its 85th Chapter Anniversary with a memorial service at Pine Forest Cemetery honoring the five charter members.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Alpha Psi Omega celebrates Its 85th anniversary

CONTRIBUTED STORY

On June 3, 2017, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® Alpha Psi Omega Chapter celebrated its 85th Chapter Anniversary with a memorial service honor-

ing the five visionary charter members. Members gathered at Pine Forest Cemetery, where three of the five charter members are interred; Mrs. Alice Wood Lofton, Miss Fannie Penelope White and Ms. Betty Estelle. The three women's rela-

tionship can be traced to their collegiate years at Wilberforce University.

During the service, chapter members read biographies for each charter member: Mr. Wesley Nixon, the brother of former president, Mrs. Addie

Nixon Dunlap, was recognized for assisting the chapter with locating the gravesite of Ms. Betty Estelle Graves. The two members not interred at Pine Forest were honored by scattering of pink rose petals. The program concluded with placing pink rose bouquets at each grave site.

A Brief History.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® Alpha Psi Omega Chapter was chartered on June 2, 1932 however; its history goes back further: It goes back to two young women who grew up in the same church, attended the same college and were initiated into Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® at Wilberforce University located in Wilberforce, Ohio.

Miss Fannie Penelope White and Miss Alice Wood attended St. Stephen A. M. E. Church in Wilmington, North

Carolina at the turn of the last century. Both young ladies would eventually attend Wilberforce University in Ohio and both young ladies would join the premier sorority for African American women-Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®. It was at Wilberforce University they meet fellow sorority member, Betty E. Graves. Following graduation, Ms. Graves moved to New Orleans, Louisiana, where she, with other sorority members, chartered Alpha Beta Chapter. Shortly afterwards, she moved to Wilmington, North Carolina and reconnected with her two college friends.

Mrs. Catherine Howze Robinson Copeland and Mrs. Dora Tynes Jones joined with Mrs. Alice Wood Lofton, Miss Fannie P. White, and Ms. Betty E. Graves to charter the sixth chapter in North Carolina. With a vision to help their community, the Visionary Five

established a legacy of service to all mankind in New Hanover, Brunswick and Pender counties.

Eighty-five years later, we, the members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® Alpha Psi Omega Chapter, continue to stand tall in the community by providing scholarships, refurbishing playgrounds, promoting health initiatives and raising global awareness. We have evolved from consisting predominantly of teachers/educators to representing fields such as human resources, engineering, law, medicine, health care, social work and technology.

We stand on our charter members' shoulders; continuing the fight for social justice, economic equality and equitable education. "So together anew, we'll pledge our faith and united we will forge a way."

To the VISIONARY FIVE...WE SALUTE YOU!



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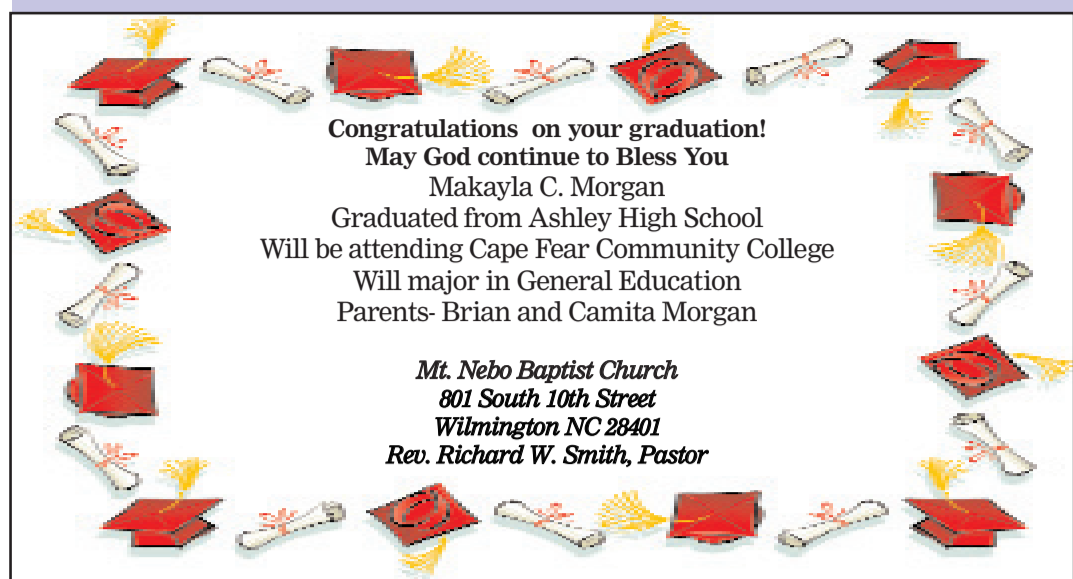
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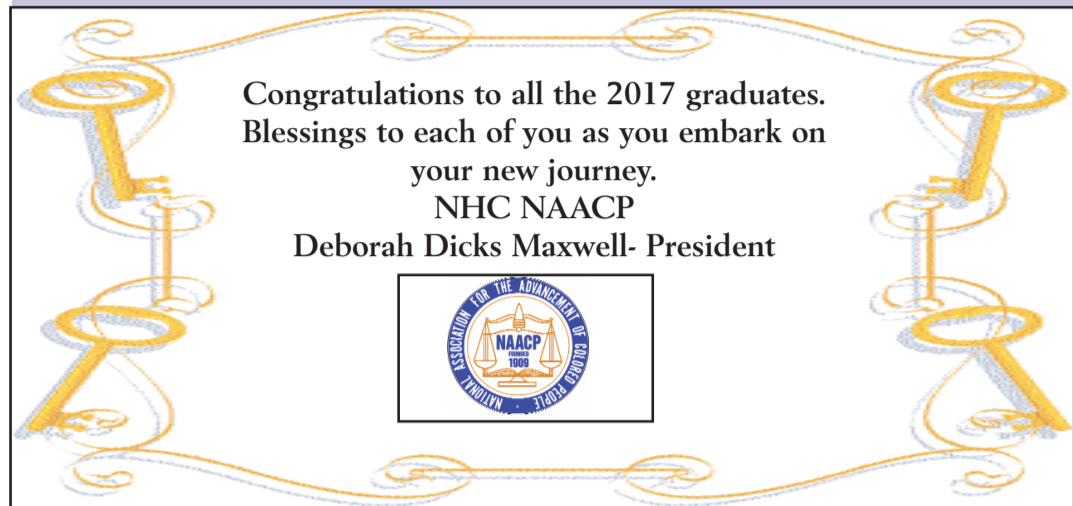
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 Will be attending Cape Fear Community College
 Will major in General Education
 Parents- Brian and Camita Morgan


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 801 South 10th Street
 Wilmington NC 28401
 Rev. Richard W. Smith, Pastor



Congratulations to all the 2017 graduates.
 Blessings to each of you as you embark on
 your new journey.
 NHC NAACP
 Deborah Dicks Maxwell- President

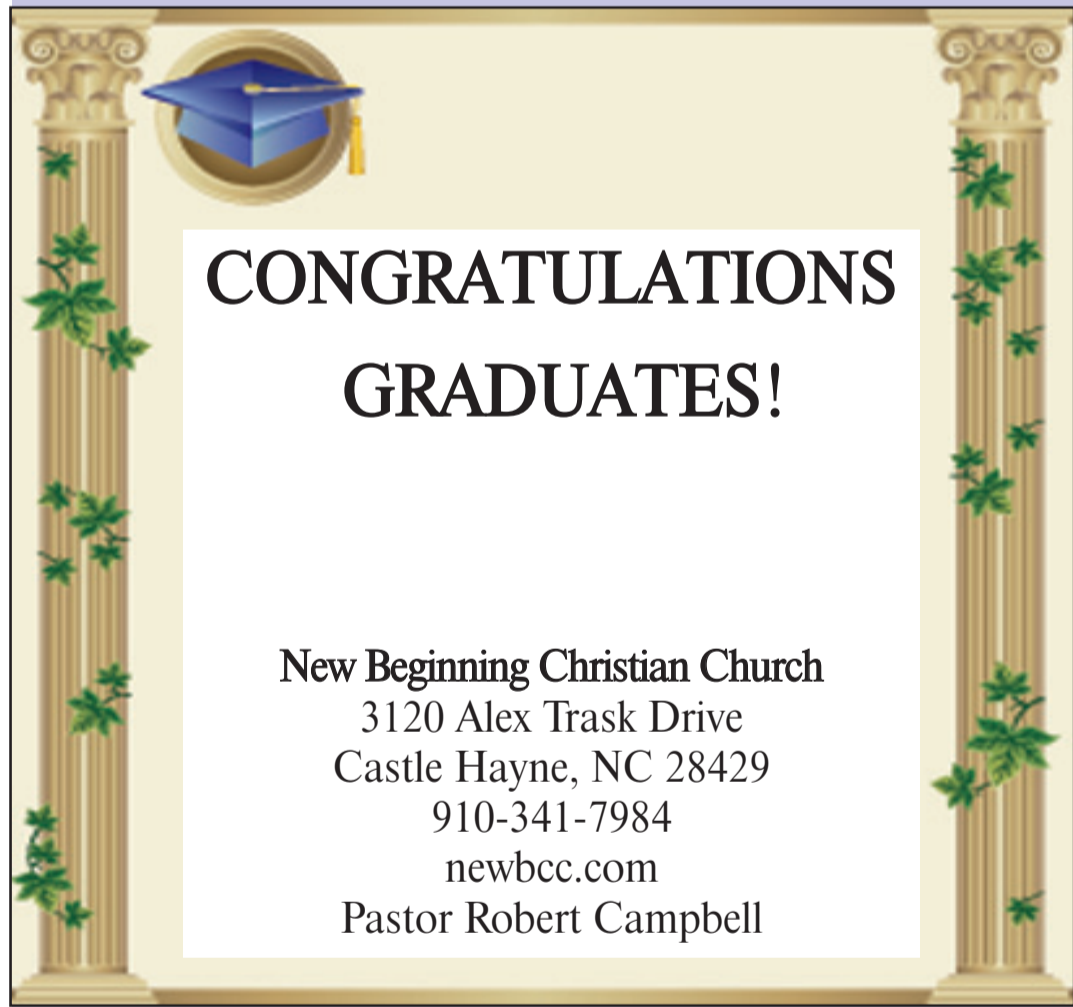


Chestnut Street Presbyterian Church (USA)
Congratulates all
2017 Graduates



"God can bless you with everything you need, and you will always have more than enough to do all kinds of good things for others."

2 Corinthians 9:8



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 Castle Hayne, NC 28429
 910-341-7984
 newbcc.com
 Pastor Robert Campbell

Congratulations

2017 Graduates



Ay'sha La'shea Sellars-Bell
 Graduated Mosley PLC High School
 Parents: Angie Sellars and Arju Bell
 Grandparents: Cephus and Carolyn Gregg
 CFCC Early Childhood Education Program

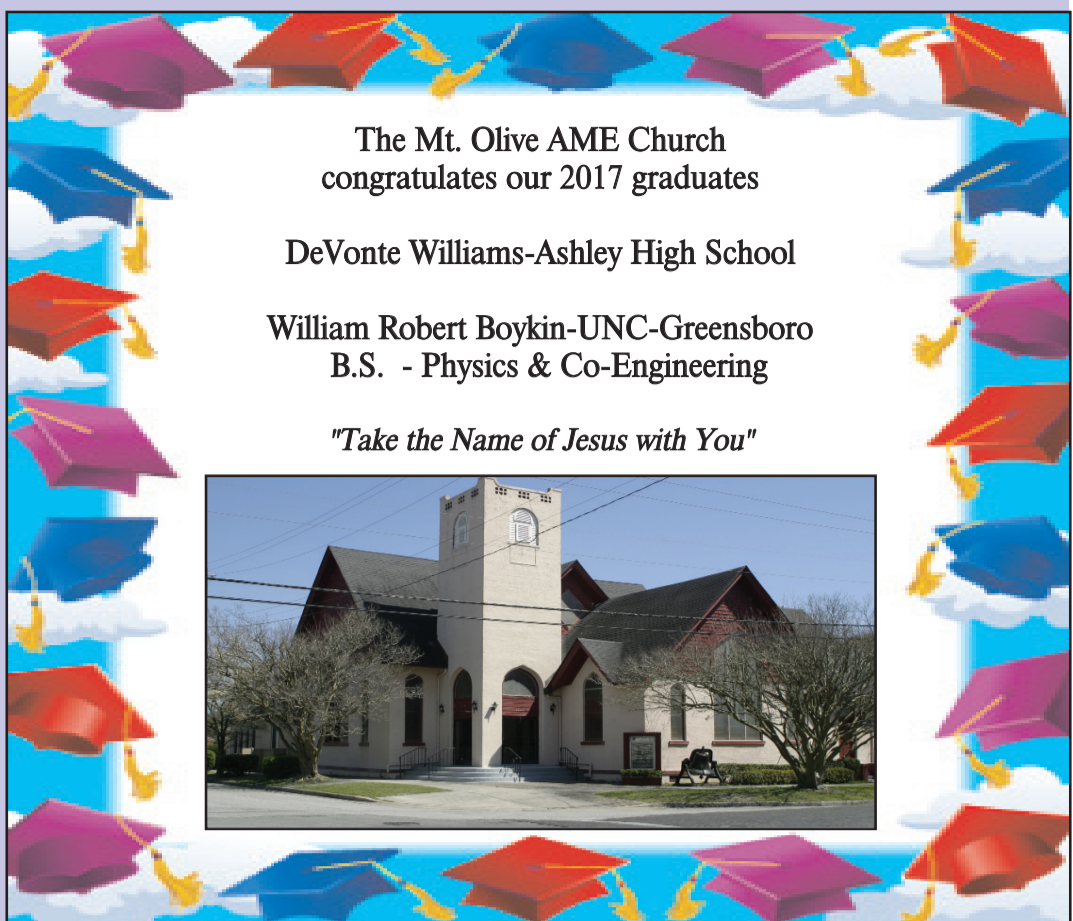
De'Vontae' Stephens
 Graduated New Hanover High School
 Parent: Mrs. Barbara Stephens
 Joining the Military

Destiny Knight
 Rising 9th Grader - New Hanover High School
 Parent: Deborah Frink
 Grandparent: Mrs. Sudie Powell



"I know the plan I have for you, declares the Lord...to give you a future and a hope." Jeremiah 29: 11

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 Every Member is a Minister


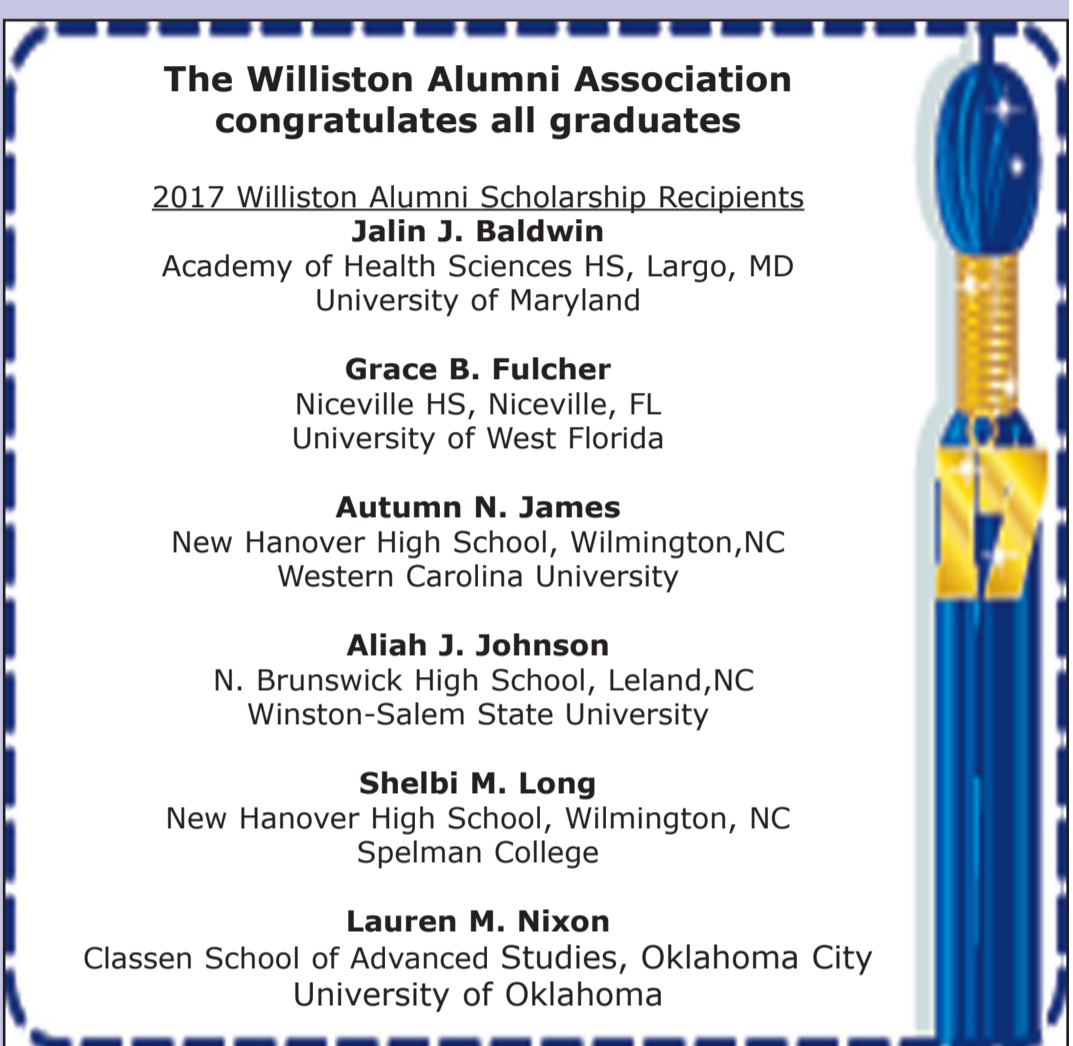


The Mt. Olive AME Church
 congratulates our 2017 graduates

DeVonte Williams-Ashley High School

William Robert Boykin-UNC-Greensboro
 B.S. - Physics & Co-Engineering

"Take the Name of Jesus with You"

The Williston Alumni Association
 congratulates all graduates

2017 Williston Alumni Scholarship Recipients

Jalin J. Baldwin
 Academy of Health Sciences HS, Largo, MD
 University of Maryland

Grace B. Fulcher
 Niceville HS, Niceville, FL
 University of West Florida

Autumn N. James
 New Hanover High School, Wilmington, NC
 Western Carolina University

Aliah J. Johnson
 N. Brunswick High School, Leland, NC
 Winston-Salem State University

Shelbi M. Long
 New Hanover High School, Wilmington, NC
 Spelman College

Lauren M. Nixon
 Classen School of Advanced Studies, Oklahoma City
 University of Oklahoma



Congratulations, graduates!
As you move onward and upward,
remember we will always be here to
support you in everything you do.
May your future be as bright and
wonderful as you are.

International
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Association
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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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OUR VOICE GUEST EDITORIAL

Prison profit pipeline

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

There is the adage that Nero fiddled while Rome burned, and I fear it is the adage that may define the ways too many observers have filtered the 45 administration through a skewed lens. There has been much commentary about 45's twisted tweets, his threats to fire special counsel and former FBI chief Robert Mueller, and his general shenanigans. There has been much less focus on the way his appointees have quietly changed the rules of engagement for too many citizens.

Just last week, according to the Washington Post, the US Court of Appeals in the District of Columbia said that the Federal Communications Commission exceeded its authority when it capped the cost of phone calls made by prison inmates. FCC Commissioner Mignon Clyburn, who championed this cause, described the court decision "as the greatest form of regulatory injustice I have seen in my 18 years as a regulator in the communications space". Clyburn is the only Democratic commissioner on the FCC, which has two vacant seats that 45 can appoint. She says the cost of prison phone calls is a civil rights issue. More than 2.7 million children have an incarcerated parent, and the high cost of prison phone calls prevents them from having regular contact with them.

The FCC was prepared to defend its caps on prison phone calls, which can cost as much as \$10 a minute, until our nation's political leadership changed. Ajit Pai, a Republican member of the FCC (appointed by President Obama, who was required to appoint members of both parties), was elevated to chair the FCC. The free-market Pai said FCC lawyers, who were prepared to defend rate caps in courts, no longer had authorization to do so. Pai did not have to make that call, but he did, apparently at the behest of 45. Now, private companies, many with monopoly arrangements with prisons, can set rates as high as they like.

By the way, the caps, which were as high as 25 cents a minute, much higher than the market costs of phone calls, allowed lots of room for profit, since the real cost of a phone call is less than two cents a minute. But too many of the phone companies with monopoly arrangements with prisons were funding prison operations with contracts that looked very much like kickbacks. In other words, prison administrations were profiting from inmate misery.

Most research says that regular family contact is one of the ways that recidivism is prevented. Those incarcerated who have family ties return to the general population eager to continue to develop those connections, while those who have been isolated from their families may feel they have less to lose and are more easily arrested. It is in the public interest that those incarcerated maintain and nourish family contacts, but too many prison administrators have another idea. They want to make money from the desperate situation of the incarcerated.

The current administration's attempt to roll back Obama-era prison reforms is not restricted to the matter of prison phone calls. While President Obama said he would cease to use private prisons to house federal inmates, Attorney General Jeff Sessions says that the Justice Department will use private prisons for federal inmates. This makes incarceration a profit center for companies that run faulty facilities that are likely to be unsafe and ineffective. Some of the companies that run these private prisons are publicly traded, cementing the notion that incarceration for some Americans is a profit center for others. Nearly 22,000 federal inmates are held in privately run prisons, managed by private-prison operators: Management and Training Corporation, the GEO Group and CoreCivic, which used to be known as Corrections Corporation of America.

Incarceration is an enterprise and an economic development engine in some communities. Prisons are not only centers of incarceration, but also centers of employment. Those who invest in CoreCivic stock, for example, are investing in the possibility of increasing the rate of incarceration in the future. The Obama Administration, belatedly, put these companies on warning that prison reform would slow the flow of new inmates. Now, 45 and Sessions are signaling that there are more profits to be gained through mass incarceration.

Phone calls are simply the tip of the iceberg. Who manages prison commissaries, and how much more do their products cost than those that are commercially available? How do people send money to their loved ones for commissary items, and how much must they pay to transmit monies? How many states require inmates to pay for health services? How many pay prisoners 18 or 25 cents an hour for prison labor, but charge them exorbitant amounts for services? Who regulates this and how likely are incarcerated people to be worse off thanks to 45 and his free-market minions?

FCC Commissioner Mignon Clyburn deserves our thanks for her commitment to the rights of those incarcerated. The rest of us should be repelled by the prison profit pipeline.

Julianne Malveaux is an economist, author, and Founder of Economic Education. Her podcast, "It's Personal with Dr. J" is available on iTunes. Her latest book "Are We Better Off: Race, Obama and public policy" is available via amazon.com.



Dr. Julianne Malveaux



Matters of Opinion

CASH IN THE APPLE

What a strange world we live in. On Wednesday of last week, a crazed gunman (don't know what else to call him) went to a public park in Alexandria, Va. with a loaded automatic weapon with the intent of killing every Republican he could find.

Apparently he knew that several Republican United States congressmen and their aides were practicing for a charity baseball games scheduled for later on in the week.

This madman was plotting a massacre, and it is only by the grace of GOD he wasn't able to succeed.

That "grace" came in the form of two members of Congressman Steve Scalise's security detail - US Capitol special agents Crystal Griner and David Bailey.

Both Griner and Bailey are 32 years of age, and African-Americans. And both are credited with, according to the Speaker of the House Paul Ryan, Donald Trump, president of the United States, and not to mention

various witnesses on the scene, with risking their own lives to save the lives of several congressmen and their aides when they drew their weapons and began firing at the gunman in an effort to draw his attention away from the helpless politicians dressed in baseball gear, with only baseball bats as their protection against a crazed gunman with an automatic weapon.

How ironic, indeed, that two people Republican congresspeople normally pay little attention to, and in fact, do little by way of helping their communities, are the ones who risked themselves as professionals, and human beings, to save their lives.

Agent Griner was shot in the ankle as she engaged the gunman. David Bailey, an alum of NCCU, twisted his ankle in the melee, yet still kept his weapon trained on the clear threat that hunted the congressman.

Both Griner and Bailey are young people in their early thirties. She wears her hair in cornrows and is said to be married to another woman. Bailey got a degree in physical education during his time at NCCU and is said to be a man of good character who loves ketchup.

Both come from a commu-

nity that Republicans, as a party, led by President Trump, has tried to hurt by disenfranchising the African-American vote, ending ObamaCare, and cutting public education funding.

So it is truly a blessing that Special Agents Bailey and Griner survived all of that in their younger years, and applied themselves enough to rise to the level of competent law enforcement professionals whose skills and devotion to service ultimately saved the lives of some of the people who regularly pass laws to cripple their community.

It is also ironic that Republicans rarely have anything good to say about African-Americans unless it involves sports, the military, or coming to the defense of a brainwashed black Republican.

In this instance, the GOP members were unabashed in their praise of Bailey and Griner as "heroes." That's because the Republicans could not deny the ugly truth - without those two black US Capitol police officers, their bacon would have been fried for sure.

No, I'm NOT making light of what was clearly a very, very dangerous situation where upwards of 25 or more lives could have been lost.

Those two officers are indeed heroes, not only top those Republicans, but the American people, and certainly to the black community, because they positively represented all of us when it counted the most. Both Bailey and Griner are college educated, and obviously committed to ideals greater than themselves. They are excellent examples for other young people to follow.

But most importantly, Bailey and Griner are heroes because others saw the value of investing in their education and upbringing.

That's what pains me about this story. We could have many. Many more young people of the high caliber of David Bailey and Crystal Griner if only the powers that be realize that investing in our communities, through education and economic development is the way to do it.

This the Republicans understand that now, or will it take another near death experience for them to finally realize it?

Cash Michaels is a journalist and reporter for The Wilmington Journal, Winston-Salem Chronicle, and Greensboro Peacemaker. He is also a member of The Wilmington Journal's editorial board.

Civil rights coalition demands to lawmakers: Affordable housing goals and fair access to mortgage credit

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

As the Senate Banking Committee turns its attention to reform the nation's secondary mortgage market, civil rights leaders recently spoke in a strong and united voice.

For these national organizations, the housing finance system must embrace -- not abandon -- its obligation to provide broad access and affordability in mortgage lending.

In a June 6 letter to Committee Chairman and Ranking Member, Senators Mike Crapo (ID) and Sherrod Brown (OH), were advised that any emerging legislation for the secondary housing finance market must set in place guidelines to protect against unlawful discrimination. A second and equally important requirement is for all credit-worthy borrowers have access to the mortgage credit they deserve.

Signing the letter was a broad coalition of activists: The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, NAACP, National Urban League, National Council of La Raza, National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development, National Fair Housing Alliance, National Community Reinvestment

Coalition, and the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL).

Together they wrote, "Any reform of the secondary mortgage market must ensure access and affordability to mortgage credit for all creditworthy potential homebuyers in all regions of the nation. . . Diminishing the role and importance that the secondary housing finance systems plays in achieving this goal will continue to deepen the racial wealth gap that already exists in America today."

The current public policy debate on the secondary mortgage market has its roots in the foreclosure crisis that began in 2007. Lax federal regulation and excessive risk-taking by Wall Street firms led to a housing boom where investors chased profits on unsustainable mortgage loans. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, two government-sponsored enterprises also known as GSEs, followed that market trend, hoping to capture profits for their investors. This led to them facing losses that resulted in their being placed into conservatorship by the federal government.

Like many other private firms, the GSEs received a financial bailout from the U.S. Treasury Department to avoid a complete market meltdown. Eventually and as authorized by Congress in the Troubled Asset Relief Program, or TARP, a \$187 billion taxpayer investment saved the GSEs out of the total of \$698 billion in rescue funds. Even today, the GSEs

remain under conservatorship.

But with the housing market stabilized, multiple calls have urged legislative reform of Fannie and Freddie, despite some reforms already enacted.

For communities of color, the next decade is projected to demographically change to majority minority. According to the Joint Center for Housing Studies at Harvard, seven out of every 10 new households formed will be families of color. In addition, the future of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac is tied to several statutory mandates that include requirements for the GSEs to share responsibility in reaching affordable housing goals, as well as access to credit that is free from discrimination.

In a broad sense, today's public policy housing debate is also an opportunity to learn from the mistakes of the past and craft new policies that will avoid their recurrence.

"The nation's housing finance system has never worked for people of color," noted Lisa Rice, Executive Vice President of the National Fair Housing Alliance. "The system was originally and purposefully designed to exclude these consumers. That construct infused barriers to equal access into the system and those barriers have never been unwound."

"As a result people of color face grave difficulties when trying to access credit," added Rice. "This means that

the Affordable Housing Goals must be strengthened and the resources and resolve to achieve them must be set in place."

"Because the mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac have a special relationship with the federal government, they also have special responsibilities to the public as well," said Vanita Gupta, president and CEO of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights.

"Most importantly, part of their business has to be based in low-income communities that have historically been underserved," Gupta continued. "If Congress decides to overhaul the housing finance system, any entities that take the place of Fannie and Freddie and enjoy the same protections must also meet the same responsibilities."

As the housing market continues to grapple with historical discrimination that resulted in persistent and growing racial wealth gaps, it must also adapt to new 21st Century challenges as well. Many millennials are shunning or delaying homeownership due to heavy student debt. Future policies must find a way to serve a diverse marketplace and protect taxpayers from more financial bailouts.

Among remedies offered for thoughtful debate and action include:

- Enforce the GSEs obligations that guarantee sustain-

Please see

CROWELL PAGE 5



SALUTING GRADUATES

You have earned the title of a distinguished graduate. The staff at *The Wilmington Journal* congratulates you on this fine achievement, and wishes you all the best as you embark on new careers and academic pursuits. As you celebrate your graduation, take a moment to reflect back on all the challenges you've overcome through the years. Your hard work and dedication have really paid off, and

Class of 2017
we are very proud of you!

CROWELL

Continued from page 4

able access to credit and affordable housing - especially for low-to-moderate income consumers living in underserved communities. These are the same consumers who have been left out of the nation's financial

recovery.

- Authorize the recapitalization of both Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac with guidelines that allow a reasonable economic return.

- Curb the practice of added costs to mortgage loan originations, fees that add costs to the mortgage origination costs known as loan level price adjustments or LLPAs. These fees lock out 5.2

million potential borrowers due to unnecessarily tight credit restrictions.

- Fully fund HUD's Housing Trust Fund.

"Access and affordability are central tenants of the nation's housing finance system. Two others are safety and soundness," said Nikitra Bailey, CRL Executive Vice President. "Any GSE reform must protect affordable hous-

ing goals and advance the GSEs' duty to serve. All credit-worthy consumers in every region of the nation should have a real opportunity to pursue their homeownership dreams.

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

CHILDWATCH

Saving Medicaid: An urgent SOS

This is an urgent SOS. Right now Republican Senators are working behind closed doors on their own version of the terrible American Health Care Act (AHCA) passed by the House of Representatives in early May that would rip away health coverage from 23 million people. They plan to vote on a Senate bill just before they leave Washington for the July 4th recess. We can't tell you everything that's in it because Senate leadership is keeping its bill secret and doesn't plan to reveal it until just before they vote. But we know it's bad - ending Medicaid as we know it. Your help is needed right now to keep Senators from moving forward with this terrible health plan! More than 50 years of progress made in expanding and improving comprehensive child-appropriate health coverage for children across America hangs in the balance. Everybody who cares about children needs to mobilize as you have never mobilized before and raise a ruckus to save children's health care safety net.

Marian W. Edelman

When Medicaid was first created in 1965 it provided children with a range of services necessary to treat acute and long-term health conditions, but there was no pediatric- and developmental-specific benefit. A 1964 government study found 50 percent of military draftees were rejected as a result of poor physical and mental health that could have been diagnosed and successfully treated in childhood and adolescence. The realization that children's health was a national security issue led to a sea change for children. In 1967 Medicaid added the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit for children up to age 21 to meet their unique and developmental health needs, guaranteeing children a full range of comprehensive primary and preventive care and access to all medically necessary health and mental health services.

Since then we have been striving to live up to the promise of ensuring all young people are able to reach healthy adulthood - laboriously trying to expand coverage to more children thousands by thousands, millions by millions, state by state. Today, thanks to Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program, and the Affordable Care Act (ACA), 95 percent of children in America have health coverage - a historic high. Medicaid has evolved to be an essential part of the coverage system for children, ensuring 37 million children the health coverage they need to survive and thrive, including 40 percent of all children with special health care needs, and covering more than 40 percent of all births. Medicaid plays a critical role for children with special health care needs - for example, providing services throughout childhood to an infant born with a heart condition or a child with autism. For families struggling to find the financial resources needed to care for their children with disabilities, Medicaid is a lifeline and often the only viable source of financing for their children's extensive and expensive health care needs. For some children with complex health conditions, Medicaid supplements private health coverage to ensure them access as they grow to need specialized medical equipment and devices such as hearing aids and wheel chairs. Medicaid is also a

valuable source of preventive services, helping children get the well-child visits and screenings they need to support healthy development and prevent expensive complications later.

By investing in child well-being now, our nation and economy will recoup huge benefits later. Medicaid is far more efficient and cost-effective than private insurance for children and research comparing children eligible for Medicaid during childhood to their non-eligible peers found Medicaid-eligible children were more likely to graduate from high school, attend college, make greater contributions as adult taxpayers, and live longer than those without coverage.

Yet despite more than 50 years of progress, improvements, and success, the Senate is on the verge of recklessly crafting a bill to repeal and replace the ACA and end Medicaid as we know it. Like the terrible AHCA bill in the House, Senate Republicans want to convert Medicaid to a "per capita cap," which means changing Medicaid's financing structure from a federal guarantee of coverage for all medically necessary services to an annual per person federal payment that does not increase regardless of the extent of use or cost. Please don't let this misleading jargon fool you - this is emasculation of health coverage for up to 37 million children and a cut cloaked in confusion so people can't see the magnitude of the damage it will do. For example, it claims to give states "more flexibility" but in reality will force states to increase their own spending dramatically, make deep cuts in benefits, or, more likely, both. Make no mistake: there is no way the Senate can design a Medicaid "per capita cap" or block grant that won't harm low-income children and children with disabilities, seniors, and others vulnerable Americans would be hurt too. Entire families will be affected. Simply put: Medicaid saves lives. And right now Medicaid's life hangs in the balance propelled by greed, callousness and political opportunism. These cuts in Medicaid are being used to pay for tax cuts for the very wealthy. Children's crucial health needs should not be a political plaything for any party at any time.

The time for you to tell your Senators that you will not stand for a bill being drafted in secret to end Medicaid as we know it is right now. The flood of phone calls generated by upset constituents when the House was first considering the AHCA must be repeated and increased dramatically and we urgently need you to flood the stealthy Senate with phone calls right now and flush them out of their hiding place. Tell your Senators not to let children move backwards and undermine the critical health care safety net. Urge your Senators specifically to reject any structural changes or cuts to Medicaid. America's future depends on the health of our young and Medicaid works for children. In fact it works for multiple generations. We must not turn back the clock. Call, tweet, visit and organize right now to urge your Senators to protect Medicaid for America's children and families and #KeepKidsCovered.

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 turns back on a future with Cuba

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

In his campaign, Donald Trump promised "we're going to start winning again." In office, he has defined winning largely in military terms.



Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.

His budget decimates the State Department while adding billions to the Pentagon. He boasts that he's delegated decisions on force levels abroad to the Pentagon. Secretary of Defense Mike Mattis recently announced that 4,000 more troops would be sent to Afghanistan.

Four thousand more troops won't produce a "win" in Afghanistan. The president has it wrong. America's military is already the best in the world. But for America to "start winning," we need more smart diplomacy, not more smart bombs.

Since coming to office Trump has ratcheted up the use of force. He dropped the

"mother of all bombs" on Afghanistan, while adding troops there. He rained cruise missiles on an airbase in Syria, and a U.S. jet recently shot down a Syrian jet in Syrian airspace, a clear act of war. He's added troops to Iraq and to back rebels in Syria. He lavished arms and praise on the Saudis, backing up not only their merciless war on Yemen but also their blockade on tiny Qatar.

Not one of these actions will "start America winning." The war in Afghanistan is in its 16th year. Even Secretary Mattis admits we have no strategy for victory there. Four thousand more troops will add to the violence and the costs. They will help insure we don't lose, but the war will go on.

In Syria, Trump had suggested on the campaign trail that he would focus on defeating the Islamic State, not on regime change in Syria. That opened the possibility of a working coalition with Russia and Syria against the Islamic State. Instead we're now clearly at war with Syria as well as the Islamic State.

In the Persian Gulf, we're backing the Saudi destruc-

tion of Yemen, creating a failed state that will mint more terrorists. And bizarrely, Trump seems to have turned on Qatar, a tiny emirate that is an ally and the site of a vital American air base. The recent announcement that the U.S. will sell \$12 billion in arms to Qatar makes our policy utterly incoherent.

In our own hemisphere, Trump has repeatedly acted to worsen relations rather than ease them. He's insulted the Mexican president and alienated the Canadians, our closest trading partners. When Venezuela descended into desperate hunger, the administration passed up the opportunity to offer humanitarian assistance, and come to the aid of a neighbor in need. With the reversal of Obama's opening to Cuba, Trump is isolating the U.S. from its neighbors.

In the State Department, offices on the top floors remain empty. Trump's budget calls for a 30 percent cut in the department. At a time when the U.S. desperately needs creative diplomacy — a combination of the State Department's professionals

and skilled political appointees — Trump is demoralizing the department, chasing away professionals and scaring away the experts who might lead real change.

America is a great nation. Our economy is still one of the greatest in the world. Our military is unmatched. Our so-called "soft power" — in culture, language and commerce — is without rival.

Yet we find ourselves unable to "start winning." The military is mired in conflicts in the Middle East with no exit and no victory. Trump is alienating our neighbors, even when we should be strengthening our bonds. Our allies are increasingly perturbed by the president's erratic bluster. Voters may have thought that Trump the businessman would be a strong negotiator, as he promised. Instead, he's turned out to be a showman, infatuated with military gestures, scornful of the quiet arts of diplomacy. He isn't putting America first; he's putting America at risk.

Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr. is founder and president PUSH/Rainbow Coalition.

Night games

I've always heard that, "What goes on in the dark comes out in the light." That statement is indicative of the faith that our forebearers had in the certainty of God's justice.



Dr. E. Faye Williams

Although challenged, often from the darkest of places, truth and justice have a way of overcoming evil. In honest evaluation, we've seen their truth win out at more than a few critical points in our history.

Mitt Romney's 47% statement was not made for public consumption. It was made in the confines of a secure campaign gathering among party loyalists who would surely keep it confidential. Yet, his utterance found its way into the public venue and revealed his true feelings about those less financially fortunate than him. When disclosed, Romney's statement became the tool of his campaign's destruction.

A similar scenario occurred in 2009, only a few hours after President Barack

Obama was sworn into office. Republican Senator Mitch McConnell and his cohorts in conspiracy were discovered secretly and treasonously plotting the failure of the future Obama administration. McConnell is famously known for remarking that his primary objective was to assure that President Obama became a one term President. Sadly, McConnell has shown that in order to achieve that end, he was willing to see the Nation fail along with President Obama.

Now, nearly nine years later, McConnell and his minions are still trying. Their obsession with the ruination of Barack Obama allows us to believe that they have not received the memo that his term of office ended on January 20th, nearly six months ago.

Despite the fervent efforts of his adversaries, President Obama maintains world-wide love and respect. He is admired for forward-thinking leadership that elevates the potential for all Americans as well as other citizens of spaceship Earth.

They continue their futile efforts to erase his highly successful legacy, but, like Muhammad Ali when he was

stripped of his heavyweight title, President Obama remains the People's President. Those impacted by his good works realize how badly their lives would now suffer without them. What remains is a vicious group of sinister old men dedicated to using every underhanded scheme available to destroying the good without a reasonable or beneficial substitute.

From the bowels of the House of Representatives, an alternative Republican plan to President Obama's Affordable Care Act spewed forth on March 24, 2017. Without input from Democratic legislators or public hearings, House Republicans rammed through their plan, which by generous estimates would result in 24 million Americans losing health insurance. Critical analysts understand that the major result of this plan would be a reward of \$880 Billion in tax relief to the wealthiest Americans.

First characterized as "Dead-on-Arrival," the House plan was given little chance of passage in the Senate. Pundits, given their opportunities, guessed that there was little hope of healthcare "replacement and repeal" in

2017. We accepted that reasoning and our attention was diverted and drawn into a myriad of directions by the never-ending, malignant controversies growing from the Trump administration.

For those who are listening, we are being lulled into a false sense of security. Following the path of their legislative partners in the House, Senate Republicans have retreated into the deepest, darkest recesses of legislative secrecy to create a Senate version of Republican healthcare that, for all intent and purpose, will be rammed through the Senate on short notice without public hearing, without public disclosure, and with the absence of input from Democratic legislators.

Apparently, while the Republicans are dealing with "the Russia thing," "the Comey thing" or latest "Trump thing," Mr. McConnell plans for people to accept the "pig-in-the-poke" of a sight unseen, out of the dark health plan. We mustn't play the game of Russian roulette with our health which they present.

Dr. E. Faye Williams is President of the National Congress of Black Women. www.nationalcongressbw.org.

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HOMETOWN NEWS FROM BRUNSWICK COUNTY

Friendly people with smiling faces

The definition for "smile" is a facial expression characterized by an upward curbing of the corners of the mouth and motivated by emotions or attitudes ranging from pleasure to derision. Recently, I came in contact with some friendly people and smiling faces in the local drug store, and often, I see people out and about taking the time to offer a kind gesture. This caused me to think about many upsetting issues that are at the forefront of our country. Many of these issues will not make you have a smiling face for a long time.

Although, we have never lived in a country under a government like we do today under President Donald Trump, stay positive as much as possible and spread cheer. A friendly visit to the sick and shut in can be very helpful at times. Spend time with young people and small children, who will always help bring about a smile. Lend a helping

hand to a young person in need, for the youth are the future. Enjoy the weather that summer brings, and relax while doing outdoor activities.

There are so many positive things one can do to bring about a smile to others, and there are so many blessings to share with people in the community, in our churches, and even as you are out simply carrying out daily tasks. In a troubling world, take the time to be friendly and more than anything...smile.

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.



Verniece Stanley

Port City Alphas to host first scholarship Beautillion

BY SEAN PALMER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Gamma Kappa Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. will host its first Scholarship Beautillion honoring 5 young Black Men at Wrightsville Manor, 1952 Allens Lane, Wilmington, NC 28403

The Scholarship Banquet is the culminating event for local graduating seniors Jarvis Ballard, Jr., Dourian Brown, Larry Merritt, TiAndre Courtar, and Jordan Gagum. Over the course of the first half of the year, the Beaus attended and participated in a battery of seminars and programs that have addressed Fiscal Stability, Health and Wellness, Etiquette, Community Service, Oratory and Cultural Appreciation in preparation for College. The Beaus will be presented to Wilmington society during the Banquet, and will perform a traditional waltz with the help of their escorts and mothers.

The Beaus will also receive scholarships that will support their education as they will be attending NC State (1), Wake Forest (1) and NC A&T



PHOTO BY JAMIE HANSEN
FRONT ROW, L-R, BEAU TIANDRE COURTAR AND BEAU DOURIAN BROWN; BACK ROW, L-R, BEAU JARVIS BALLARD, JR., BEAU LARRY MERRITT AND BEAU JORDAN GAGUM

(3) in the fall. The public is cordially invited to participate in the banquet. Tickets are \$50.00 per and can be purchased by contacting the

chapter through its website or email address.

Rod Bell serves as president of the Gamma Kappa Lambda Chapter.

To learn more about the Gamma Kappa Lambda of Alpha Phi Alpha, the public can visit its web site: www.gammakappalambda.org

ACT-SO winners going to nationals

BY DEBORAH DICKS
MAXWELL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

ACT-SO (Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics) has been sponsored on a yearly basis for forty years by the NAACP. Talented high school youth compete at the local and regional level in various categories for the chance to participate at the National ACT-SO competitions. The winners at the National level will receive scholarships.

The New Hanover County NAACP hosted an ACT-SO competition this spring. Contestants are assigned a professional mentor in their area specialty. The gold medal winners who will travel to Baltimore on July 19th to compete in the Nationals are: Vianca Murray- Flute, Shay Webb- Health and Medicine, Tiffany Swepson- Photography and Cameron Martin, Poetry and Short Story.

Expenses for travel and lodging are provided by the New Hanover County NAACP. The branch has not raised funds to cover the trip



NHC NAACP PHOTO
Left to right: Morgan Winston (bronze medal, contemporary dance), Kennedy Martin (silver medal, clarinet), Vianca Murray (gold medal, flute), Cameron Martin (gold medals, poetry and short story writing), Trinity Swepson (gold medals, drawing and photography, silver medal, health and medicine), Kenneth Njapa (bronze medal, entrepreneurship and business), and Shay Webb (gold medal, health and medicine). The students range in grade from 9-12 and hail from Laney, New Hanover, Cape Fear Academy, and Bear Early College.

in its entirety. If interested in supporting the trip contact nhcnaacp@gmail.com, 910-508-9414 or mail to NHC

NAACP, P.O. Box 2199 Wilmington, NC 28402.

The 2018 ACT-SO local preliminary meeting will be

held on the afternoon of Saturday, September 16, with the local competition on February 24, 2018.

New Hanover County

The New Hanover NAACP monthly meeting is Thursday, June 22, 7:00 p.m. at St. Stephen AME Church, 501 Red Cross Street, Wilmington. Information and updates on community and state issues and events will be on the agenda. Members and friends are encouraged to attend. For more information, call 910-765-0102 or email nhcnaacp@gmail.com.



Community Briefs

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.

Onslow County

Eastern Carolina Human Serviced Agency, Inc. will hold their Involvement Day at Jack Amyette Park, 1825 Sofuth Dr., Jacksonville, NC on Saturday, July 1st from 10:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. There will be food, music, games, splash pad, vendors, community resources and a basketball tournament. For more information call 910-347-2151.

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff



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Tell them you read it in



THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

Wilmington will celebrate World Refugee Day June 24

Soccer tournament and children's multicultural activities planned

CONTRIBUTED ARTICLE

The Interfaith Refugee Ministry, Wilmington (IRM-W) is hosting the annual celebration of World Refugee Day, Saturday, June 24, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at the YMCA of Southeastern North Carolina, 2710 Market St., Wilmington. This free event will bring together Wilmington's refugee population with the community.

A soccer tournament, with local teams competing, will take place along with pick-up soccer for children. Other entertainment will include multicultural performances, children's games, face-painting, and educational demonstrations.

We hope this World Refugee Day celebration will increase our community's understanding of how the global refugee crisis creates a need for refugee resettlement, according to Kathryn Polk, chair of the IRM-W Advisory Council and event organizer. She said since IRM-W opened a local office in Wilmington in 2010, over 550 refugees from nine countries have begun new lives in Wilmington with the aid of IRM-W, its volunteers and other community partners. Polk said these are people who were invited to resettle in the U.S. through the federal Refugee Admissions Program. After an arduous screening process involving the United Nations and the U.S. State Department, a small percentage of refugees



IRM-WRD PLAYERS

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

have been invited to resettle in our country. She said this event, and other fundraising efforts taking place, are to support the refugees already living in Wilmington. Please join us to meet your new neighbors and share in their

cultural heritage, Polk said. Sponsors of the 2017 World Refugee Day in Wilmington are: YMCA of Southeastern North Carolina, UNCW Creative Writing Department, Ellison Building Company, Cape Fear Chapter,

Little, Brown and Co., Church of the Servant, Episcopal, Flora Landscapes, Bill Heinberg Insurance, Shaolin Martial Arts Academy, and HeartSong Yoga and Wellness, and the American Red Cross.

**SSG/RET USAF
Arthur L. Hicks**

SSG/RET USAF Arthur Hicks, son of the late James Rudolph Sr. and Eunice Hudson Hicks was born in Wilmington, NC on March 6, 1940 and departed this life on June 6, 2017.

"Art" or "Buster" as he was affectionately called graduated from Williston Senior High School in 1959. He played basketball and managed the football team. His favorite pastime was sports, cooking and fishing. Upon completion of High school he served his country for 20 years in the United States Air Force while traveling the world with his family. Art was a kindhearted man who would do just about anything for his fellow man. He had his own Home Improvement business, if someone was in need of a home repair and did not have the funds, Art would supply the work free of charge. Two of his many sayings were, "I am who I am" and "Do what you got to do." He was a family man who loved everyone and will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

He leaves to mourn his passing, a wife Ms. Levenia Smalls Hicks, one daughter: Gloria F. Hicks of the city, four sons: Michael A. Hicks of the city, Kenneth L. Hicks (Denise) of Middlesex, NC, Anthony J. Hicks of Leland, NC and Arthur M. Hicks of the city, one sister: Ruth M. Hillian of the city, one brother: James Rudolph Hicks, Jr. of Fayetteville, NC, 12 grandchildren; 14 Great Grand Children and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and a host of other loving relatives and friends including a special friend Ms. Carrie Anderson.

A service was held on Tuesday June 13, 2017 at Mt. Olive A.M.E. Church. Internment at Coastal Carolina Veterans Cemetery, Jacksonville, North Carolina. *Arrangements by Adkins-Drain Funeral Service, 515 South Eighth Street, Wilmington, North Carolina 28401. Condolences may be shared at www.adkinsdrainfuneralservice.com.*

Aubrey A. Redd

Aubrey A. Redd, age 32, of Durham, passed away Wednesday, June 7, 2017. A funeral service was held on Saturday, June 17, 2017 at Davis Funeral Home. Burial followed in Woodside Community Cemetery.

Aubrey was born on 26 December 1984 in Wilmington, NC to Reuben Redd and June Marie Dixon.

As a youth, Aubrey was an active member of Speaks Temple A.M.E. Zion Church. He participated in the Church's youth programs. At the age of eleven, under the spiritual leadership of Rev. Dorothy

Gibbs and musical genius of Anthony Jinwright, Aubrey performed his first solo gospel concert at his home church, Speaks Temple A.M.E. Zion. Subsequently, performing as a soloist throughout the city, his musical repertoire included well over 30 songs. Throughout middle school Aubrey participated in his middle school's music program where he played the violin, while attending High School he was a member of the marching band where he fell in love and played the snare drum. Aubrey was active in the community, and as such, he was identified by school mentors and community leaders to be an ideal advocate for the community outreach program "Wrap It Up" mentoring to his peers on the dangers of and the life changing decisions from engaging in unprotected sex. As Aubrey prepared to join the brotherhood of NCCU percussion section, he brought his musical excellence and charismatic personality. While matriculating through the tryout process he had to humble himself and began developing a relationship with a new family. Throughout this process he demonstrated compassion and loyalty towards other members.

Aubrey is survived by his daughter, Imani (Bella) Redd; parents, Reuben Redd and June Marie Dixon; two brothers, JaVon Gustave Dixon and Quinn Clayton; three sisters, Wanna (Luther) Whitted, Yolanda (Jamel) Rogers and Michelle (Phillip) Redd; two nieces, Kebrina Redd and Jayla Rogers; one nephew, Gabriel Barfield; two very special friends, Yvonne Redd and Timisha Buse Jones; maternal - aunt, Allison P. Boney; two uncles, Kevin L. Dixon and Eric W. (Elaine) Dixon; great-aunt, Essie Clay; paternal - five uncles, Theodore Redd, Frank Redd, Clyde Redd, Milton (Brenda) Redd; great-uncle Andy (Patricia) Redd; four aunts Geraldine Shepard, Esther (Robert) Snipes, Roberta (Larry) Johnson and Shere' (Peter) Zorzi and a legion cousins. *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.*

Zakhi D. McKoy

Infant Zakhi Deion McKoy, son of Bernie L. Brunson and Kanesia McKoy passed away Tuesday, June 13, 2017. Funeral service will be held 12 PM on Thursday, June 22, 2017. A visitation will be held one hour prior to the service. Burial will be 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.

Joan Holden

Joan Holden, of Wilmington, passed away Friday, June 16, 2017. Services are pending and will be announced. *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.*

Rhonda Lynette Corbett

Rhonda Lynette Corbett, born January 19, 1976 to the late Frances Hockaday and Greg Hart departed this life on June 5, 2017.

Rhonda received her education in New Hanover County, Wilmington, NC. She was a member of Special Olympics most of her life. She left the city of Wilmington and moved to Austin, TX to live with her aunt, Ret. Sgt. 1st Class Cinda Corbett who lovingly took care of her for 8 precious years.

Rhonda accepted Christ in her life at the age of 34 and became a member of Restoration Temple in Austin, TX. Her hobbies and talents included art, dancing and sports. She enjoyed sharing her art work with many people, some of whom actually purchased her art. Her artwork is also displayed throughout South Texas Oncology. She loved basketball and would often challenge people to a game. Rhonda touched many lives and inspired so many people. She was a loving and caring person and will be missed by all.

She is survived by her sister Stephanie Cherry of Lexington, KY and two brothers Clarence Hockaday and William Hockaday both of Lexington, KY, grandmother Julia Gittens of Buda, TX, four aunts Ret. Sgt. 1st Class Cinda Corbett of Buda, TX; Barbara Smith and Julia Murphy of Wilmington, NC and Gwendolyn Polk of Maysville, NC and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.

A service was held on Monday, June 19, 2017 at Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church. Internment at Pine Forest Cemetery, Wilmington, NC. *Arrangements by Adkins-Drain Funeral Service, 515 South Eighth Street, Wilmington, North Carolina 28401. Condolences may be shared at www.adkinsdrainfuneralservice.com.*

Austin Clarkson

Austin Clarkson died June 2, 2017. Memorial services were held on Saturday, June 17, 2017 at Willie L. Shaw Jr. Memorial Chapel.

Austin Clarkson, Jr. better known as "Little", and affectionately called Junior by his closest family, was born on

June 19, 1959 to the late Austin Clarkson, Sr. and Ethel (Clarkson) Vann. He was born and raised in Wilmington, NC, earning his high school diploma from John T. Hoggard High School in 1978. After graduating he served in the US Army from September 12, 1978 to December 29, 1987, where he was an expert marksman. After his time in the service he became a valued and hard-working employee at General Electric for ten years. Prior to his death, he worked at various jobs. No matter where he was employed, he was always a hard worker; with an incredible work ethic. "Little" was loving and caring to all he met. He was an awesome father and an amazing grandfather. He loved his family very much and had a close relationship with many of his nieces and nephews and he would do anything for those he loved. "Little" genuinely cared for others and their well-being, often giving his last to make sure others had. He was preceded in death by his father, Austin Clarkson, Sr.; brother, Talmadge Pearce; three sisters, Christine Williams, Ruth Beatty, and Joyce Barnhill.

He leaves to cherish his memories; his mother, Ethel Vann; children, ShaRhonda McMillian, Erica Clarkson, Sakoya Clarkson and Tony McMillian; granddaughters, Shantiqua McMillian and Faith Clarkson; sisters, Ina Foy, Carolyn Thomas (Jesse) and Kathy Clarkson; brothers, Warren Clarkson and Nathan Smith; special friend Marie Clarkson and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Carlton "Big Daddy" Brown

Carlton "Big Daddy" Brown died June 8, 2017. Funeral services were held Tuesday, June 13, 2017 at Old Scotts Hill AME Church. Burial followed in the Pollock Cemetery.

Carlton Brown, also known as "Big Daddy", was born on September 29, 1937 to the late Civie Brown and Ida Brown. Carlton worked at State Port and the City of Wilmington for many years. He attended Old Scotts Hill AME Church, where he was a member. In addition to his parents, Carlton was preceded in death by his sisters, Ethel Brown, Odessa Spicer, Larnese Brown and Emily Greene.

Carlton leaves to cherish his memories: one brother, Oscar Brown of Wilmington, NC; one sister, Doretha McIntyre of Brooklyn, NY; special nieces, Mercedes Spicer, Ida Spicer, Angela Brown, and Elaine McIntyre; special nephews, Marvin Brown and Wynne Greene; special friends, Trina Foy, Lafette McIntyre, Don Nixon and Victor Nixon; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Angela Bordeaux

Angela Bordeaux died Saturday, June 10, 2017. Funeral services were held on Saturday, June 17, 2017 at Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church. Burial followed in Pine Forest Cemetery.

Angie, daughter of the late James Abraham and Mary Ann Roland was born April 15, 1959, in Wilmington, NC. She received her education through the New Hanover County

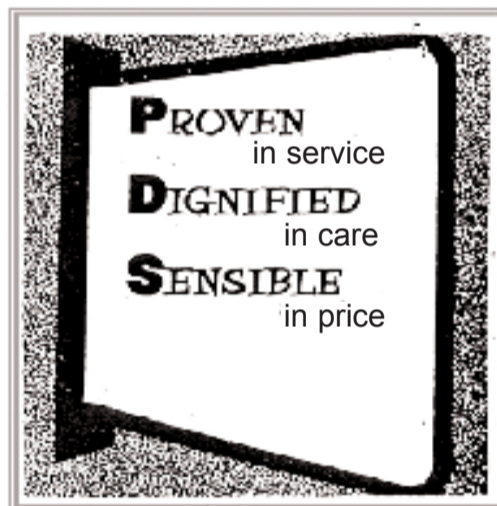
School System. She was employed at Textilease Uniform Company for seventeen years. Angie was a loyal and devoted member of Chapel of Peace Church of God In Christ, Holly Ridge, NC where she served under the leadership of her brother, Dr. Ronald S. Roland, Sr. Unto death did she serve. She loved and served in her church faithfully in such capacities as: President of the Missionaries Circle, Director of Hospitality and Greeters Ministry where she used her God-given talents. One of her talents was her big bright smile that warmed the hearts of those who came into her presence. She also served on the Pastors Aide, Voices of Praise, Praise and Worship Team, Assistant Youth Leader and the Kitchen Committee. Angie had a love for God and aimed to please Him with her life and her service to Him. Hew exemplified the characteristics of a godly woman, wife, mother and servant.

She leaves to cherish her memory: a loving husband, Deacon Tommy Bordeaux; son son, Nakia Roland; five daughters, Tia Roland, Sheneka Carter; Kandace Lotts of Philadelphia, PA, Angelica Bordeaux and Tomia Bodeaux; two grandchildren, Taniyah Roland and Jorden Tucker; five brothers, Supt. Roland Roland (Eva), James Roland, Alvin Roland (Kathy), Wendell Roland, Jermaine Roland, all of Wilmington, NC and Larry Mitchell of St. Petersburg, FL; four sisters, Debbie Hutchins (James), Jackie Roland, Shelia white, Betty Henry (Rev. Ronald) all of Wilmington, NC;

Please see OBITUARIES/Page 8

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Jennifer A. Terrell and Javoke S. Terrell

New Hanover County

Chords Across America, 1020 Rankin St., will hold an evening service on June 25th at 4:00 p.m. Prophetess Kathy Grear will host the service. The service is free and all are welcome. For additional information please call 910-623-4192.



Religious Briefs

Mt. Nebo Missionary Baptist Church, 801 South 10th St., will celebrate their pastor's 31st anniversary, Reverend Wayne Smith on Sunday, June 25th at 10:45 a.m. The guest speaker will be Evangelist Reverend Dorothy Smith Person of Hallsboro, NC. She is the sister of Pastor Smith and a member of Hope of Glory Pentecostal Church of Whiteville, NC.

Mt. Olive AME Church, 1001 S. 7th St., will hold their 2017 Vacation Bible School program during Monday, June 26th- Thursday, June 29th, 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. nightly. The theme is "Glow For Jesus...Let Your Light Shine!" For additional information contact Sister Helena Highsmith at 910-794-4482.

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, 701 South 12th St., will celebrate their Pastor Rev. Dr. Carl McIntyre and First Lady Sister Bertha McIntyre's Anniversary on Sunday, June 25th. Dr. Connie Armstrong will render for 11:00 a.m. service and Elder Darrell Walker will be the speaker for the 3:00 p.m. service. The church will also host their 3 nights Mid-Year Revival from Wednesday, June 28th- Friday, June 30th at 7:30 p.m. nightly. The speaker will be Minister Jennifer Webb-Farris of Life Church Ministries, Chadbourn, NC.

St. Andrew AME Zion Church will celebrate Men's Day on Sunday, June 25th at 3:00 p.m. The theme is "Gladiators For Christ." The guest speaker will be Reverend Donald Mapson of Mt. Heron AME Zion Church, Hallsboro, NC. The choir and congregation will accompany him.

Brunswick County

Crystal Spring Missionary Baptist Church, 4754 Blue Banks Loop Rd., will hold their annual revival from Wednesday, June 28th- Friday, June 30th. Devotional services will start at 7:00 p.m. Apostle Anthony Richburg, choir and congregation of Salvation & Deliverance FWC will be the guest on Wednesday. Rev. Jeremy Buie, choir and congregation of Mt. Zion MB Church will be the guest on Thursday. Rev. Joseph Nixon, choir and congregation of Bethel AME Church will be the guest on Friday.

Columbus County

Community Prayer House, Bolton, NC will hold their Vacation Bible School from Monday, June 26th- Friday, June 30th at 6:30 p.m. nightly.

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

OBITUARIES

Continued from page 7

father-in-law, Willie Bordeaux of Currie, NC; four brothers-in-law, Bishop Rickie Bordeaux (Brenda) of Burlington, NC, Sammy Bordeaux (Jessie) of Savannah, GA, Kim Bordeaux (Jackie) of Ivanhoe, NC Jeffery Bordeaux of Ft. Hood, TX; two sisters-in-law, Pastor Sylvanis Armstrong, Gail Newkirk of Currie, NC; two aunts, Izola Byerson and Ruby Gaymon; one uncle, Deacon Thomas Jones; a host of nephews, nieces and friends, including best friend, Ethel McClammy and a very special niece, Simone Hooper. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Marvin Earl Freeman, Jr.

Marvin Earl Freeman, Jr., died June 11, 2017. Funeral services were held Saturday, June 17, 2017 at St. Phillip AME Church.

Marvin was born on March 19, 1971 in Okaloosa, Florida to Marvin Earl Freeman, Sr. and Patricia L. Freeman. Upon graduating from eastern Wayne High School, Goldsboro, North Carolina, Marvin was accepted to attend NC A&T State University, Greensboro, North Carolina. Being that his father was military, Marvin opted to travel to Europe with his parents where he attended The University of Maryland in Munich, Germany and pursued a degree in Business Administration. Upon returning to the United States, Marvin followed in his father's footsteps and joined the US Air Force, choosing Logistics as his Air Force Specialty Code. After serving a tour of duty in the USAF, he and his family resided in Atlanta for many years where he worked as a Logistics Manager with Eastern Shore Transportation and as a New & Pre-owned Sales/Leasing Consultant with several dealerships in Atlanta. He also worked a short stint as a consultant for Verizon Information Services. When he returned to the Port City with his family he worked for

Corning, Inc. He was employed at Eastern Carolina Human Services Agency, Inc. He was employed with Eastern Carolina Human Services Agency, Inc. at the time of his passing. He found favor in his job and enjoyed working closely with US Veterans. As an entrepreneur, he operated a lawn care service and dog breeding business under the name of "My Brother's Keeper" for many years. He believed in higher education and recently obtained an Associate Degree in Accounting. When time allowed Marvin loved spending time with his family and close friends. He was a member of the Free and Accepted Masons-Hanover Lodge #14. Marvin also

so enjoyed fishing, golfing, hunting and weight lifting. Marvin was married and he leaves to cherish his memories: four children; three daughters, Marleena, Trevadj, and Trinity and one son, Marvin III "Tre"; his loving parents; his brother, Andrew (Stephanie), niece, Drew and nephew, Javae; a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, and close friends. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Bryan A. Walker

Bryan A. Walker died June 14, 2017. Visitation was held Monday, June 19, 2017 at Willie L. Shaw, Jr. Memorial Chapel. Memorial services will be held at a later date. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Wendy Brandon

Wendy Brandon died June 17, 2017 in Durham, NC. Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced later by John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Katie Mae Shannon

Katie Mae Shannon died June 18, 2017. Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced later by John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

SENIOR MOMENTS

Speak out to the leaders and the church

My Fellow Seniors,

A few days ago there was an article in *The Journal* entitled, "Criminal Justice Disparities". It said Black Americans make up more than forty percent of the prison population. But when we read such an article, it goes no further. What can one person do? We just read the paper and put it



Ruth Johnson

aside.

If we could have the spoken facts presented to a group, followed by a discussion, we would come to some conclusion, which would be followed by actions. But without that discussion, there will be no solution and no progress. No matter how great your idea is, publishing it in a newspaper is like telling one person because people tend to read alone. That's why we need the church, which is the center of the community, to hold meetings to further discuss such articles.

If we could have Community Sunday once in a while, and talk about something other than religion, we would begin to see improvements. We have potential leaders in the community, but they have no gathering place, and no access to public opinions. Therefore, they are not able to reach people in groups.

There was one article entitled, "The Church and Law Enforcement Guides Teenagers". Now that's what I'm talking about! If we expect to navigate the twirling tides of the 21st Century, we need to

step out of the Bible once in a while and step into the world outside. The church is the place to go for leadership and guidance. It is the place to put politics aside and start molding our world in the image of God.

No matter what your profession is, the church is the place to go to meet with members of our communities. Speak to the leaders, then speak to the church. If you want to help, we'll see you there.

Ruth Johnson is a First Baptist Church Ministry Worker.

TELL SOMEBODY

"Let the Words of My Mouth"

"Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight. O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer." Psalm 19:14

Once a word is spoken, it can never be retrieved, therefore, we should be ever so careful to watch the words that come from our mouths!

David, the great Psalmist, prayed for grace (unmerited favor) as he sought to live a life that was pleasing in the sight of the Lord. He prayed for God to give him an understanding of his errors, for he genuinely wanted to know what it was that



Sylvia Hooper

he was doing wrong. David was referred to as, "A man after God's own heart", because after he would sin, he would humble himself and repent (be Godly sorry) for his sins, and sincerely seek to be restored in the sight of the Lord. (Psalm 51) David even asked to be cleansed from secret faults. He admitted that there were things in his heart, that only God could see. His earnest

and honest attitude toward God was often met with mercy, because he truly meant what he said. He truly wanted to be saved, and he truly wanted to be delivered from himself.

"Who can understand his errors? Cleanse thou me from secret faults. Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression. Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer." Psalm 19:12-14

The words of our mouths as Christian Believers, should be filled with wisdom. This wisdom of words works harmoniously with wisdom of thought and mind. "I thought on my ways, and turned my feet unto thy testimonies." Psalm 119:59

Ecclesiastes 5:2 says, "Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty (in a hurry) to utter anything before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy word

be few." If we were to limit ourselves to saying only the things that we know to be fact, and not what we hear from second hand smoke, our words indeed would be few!

Proverbs 18:21a says, "Death and life are in the power of the tongue." The words of our mouths should be carefully spoken and righteously weighed, for our speech reveals our true character. Jesus said that we will account for the words we speak!

Matthew 12:36, "But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgement. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned."

Through the wisdom of the Word of God, we are told repeatedly to put restraint on our tongue. "Keep thy tongue from evil and thy lips from speaking guile." Psalm 34:13 "Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles." Proverbs 21:33 "Thou art snared with the words of thy mouth, thou art taken with the words of thy mouth."

Proverbs 6:2

Prayer: Heavenly Father, "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer."

Psalm 19:14 In Jesus' Name, Amen. Tell Somebody!

Mrs. Sylvia B. Hooper is a native Wilmingtonian, married to Pastor Johnson A. Hooper, First Lady of Faith Outreach COGIC, Jacksonville, N.C. She is a mother of three wonderful children and a proud grandmother! She is a Licensed Evangelist with COGIC, International.

She is the President of P.W.E. Pastors Wives Empowerment Conference, an annual event held in honor of Pastors and ministers Wives. This support group's focus is to Encourage, Embrace and Empower Elect Ladies to be all they can be in Christ Jesus, while providing support to their husbands, who are Gospel preachers and pastors. Her heart's desire is to please the Lord, rescue the perishing, comfort the dying, and live a life that gives God glory!

SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING

Are you a card-carrying Christian?

Just how hard is it to be a card carrying Christian these days?

Republicans, Democrats, the NAACP, the ACLU all carry cards and encourage like-minded people to become card-carrying members. You can get a car for just about any group or organization. Now when it comes to being a spiritual card-carrying man or woman of faith, the results can be devastating; someone scream, "Incoming!" for there is indeed an artillery barrage headed our way. Scripture suggests that, historically, life was no easy task for those early practitioners of the Christian faith. Crucifixion, becoming lion food for fun and games, beheadings and, at a minimum, being labeled an outcast, were normal expectations for those who believed and then lived



James Washington

according to the Word of God. Is today so different?

Once one takes up the standard of this revolutionary thinking, once you commit, once you decide to live humbly and mercifully in love and forgiveness, isn't it interesting the kind of attention you attract?

"Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings." —1 Peter 5:8-9 (NIV).

Looking around the world today, it would be naïve not to recognize that religious persecution is still a critical component of man's inhumanity to man. Real and fake news will show you that people all over the world are being annihilated for the God they worship. We sometimes take for granted the religious freedom we have in this country and I believe that has lulled us into a false belief that being a

Christian is easy. Well it's not. It's empowering. It's enlightening. It's eternal. But it is not easy.

The good news is we are not alone and never have been. Living for God is probably the best reality check. Its reward is an inner understanding of the workings of the universe that affords one the idea that physical life is temporary while the spiritual is eternal. Many of us believe in life after physical death. The faithful have some insight into this. Life as we know it can be cruel. We have come to think that eternal life is just the opposite. Rationalizing the difference is where and when faith resides. Is it any wonder then that belief in a deity that invites humility, demands love and recognizes mercy is cause for ruthless and radical reaction among those who would live otherwise? Is it any wonder that love for Christ Jesus invites the wrath of Lucifer in all of his forms? That spiritual card we carry as Christians indeed needs to be worn as a red

badge of courage, because courage is what it's going to take to withstand the ridicule and violence of this world, as well as the scorn of those who would tempt you with the weaknesses of your passions. And lastly, courage is a prerequisite for the certainty of death that will befall all of us.

If life after death is a fact that most can agree upon, then I believe it stands to reason that our membership card is most assuredly a ticket into a kingdom of blood and faith preserved for believers; the same believers who are shunned and persecuted today and yesterday in the name of God. I continue to be moved by the acts of faith in the Bible where mere acknowledgement of one's beliefs in the Son of God invites certain death. This is not ancient history; not if you profess Jesus is still Lord.

May God bless and keep you always.

James Washington of The Dallas Weekly is a member publication of the NNPA. Learn more about becoming a member at NNPA.org.

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