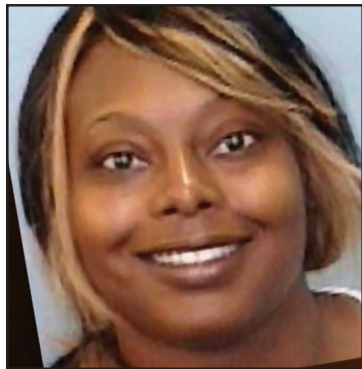


MISSING



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.

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Even more civil rights and consumer protection rollbacks sought
BY CHARLENE CROWELL



Black wealth 2020: New economic justice movement aims to 'turbo charge' Black wealth
BY HAZEL TRICE EDNEY

BRUNSWICK COUNTY UPDATE



BERNEST HEWETT

THE LAW MUST BE UPHELD BY ALL

BY BERNEST HEWETT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This week, I received word that a lady's house in the Longwood Community had been shot into. I asked questions in the community and found it to be true that a woman's house had been shot into, and Brunswick County's 911 services were called. At that

Please see
BRUNSWICK/Page 2

THE WILMINGTON
JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

VOLUME 90/No. 30

JULY 27, 2017 - AUGUST 2, 2017

FIFTY CENTS

**REDISTRICTING COURT HEARING:
WILL SPECIAL ELECTIONS HAPPEN?**

BY CASH MICHAELS
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

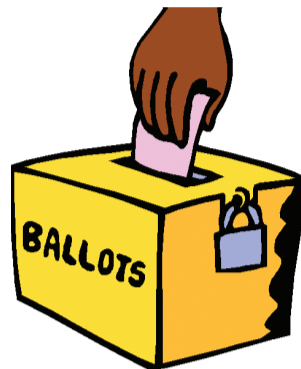
[GREENSBORO] Today, in a US Middle District courtroom, before a special three judge federal District Court panel, arguments began to determine when legislative districts that were originally racially gerrymandered in the 2011 redistricting by the Republican-led NC General Assembly will be redrawn and if special elections can be held before the 2018 mid-term elections.

All briefs in the case were filed on Friday, July 21. Both sides, plaintiffs (attorneys for Sandra Little Covington and others, and defendants, lawyers for the Republican-led NC General Assembly and the State Board of

Elections, were scheduled to be given 90 minutes to present testimony by way of witnesses and supporting evidence to convince the court of the best remedy available.

Plaintiffs have filed a brief, saying, in essence, that the moment the US Supreme Court affirmed in June the three judge panel's August 2016 ruling that 28 of 100 legislative districts were unconstitutional because of racial gerrymandering, the Republican-led NC General Assembly had no authority to override Governor Cooper's

veto because lawmakers were elected illegally, and cannot have that authority until all districts are redrawn, declared legal by the court, and special elections held.



Plaintiffs say State lawmakers can redraw the districts when they reconvene during their upcoming August 3 special session, which starts next week. New maps could be enacted by August 11, with a candidate-filing period between September 11 and September 25.

Primaries could be held December 5, 2017, and the special leg-

islative elections held on March 6, 2018. Absentee voting for both the primaries and special elections were built into the plaintiff's plans when they were scheduled to introduce in court today, according to documents filed.

Six witnesses are listed for the plaintiffs, including Gary Bartlett, Former Executive Director of the NC State Board of Elections; George Gilbert, Former Director of the Guilford County Board of Elections; and State Representative David Lewis (R-Harnett), one of the 2011 redistricting leaders responsible for the racially gerrymander districts.

Per the defendants' "witness des-
Please see **REDISTRICTING**
Page 2



INSIDE GREEN THUMB FLORAL BOUTIQUE

PHOTO BY JOHN DAVIS

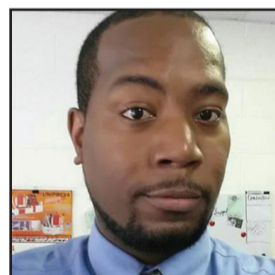
A hobby turns into a business

BY JOHANNA THATCH-BRIGGS
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

Who would have guessed that a visit home would spark a creative genius, sharpen an innate talent, and eventually materialize into a family business? Business owners, Muraad Salaam and Aften Solomon say that's exactly what happened after Aften's aunt gave her a monstera plant when she was visiting home. Aften, whose mother's family roots are in Paw Creek, North Carolina, says she "rooted it and started growing it", and not only did the plant grow, but Aften says a profitable plan blossomed as well. Muraad says the more their skills improved



AFTEN SOLOMON



MURAAD SALAAM

and their knowledge grew, "A lot of people saw that we showed promise." With that extra encourage-

Please see **BOUTIQUE/**Page 2



DR. PHILLIP CLAY

Clay to speak at NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet August 19, 2017

SPECIAL TO
THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

Dr. Phillip Clay, a 1964 graduate of Williston Senior High School, will be the keynote speaker at the annual NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet at 7:00 p.m., on August 19, 2017. The theme of the banquet is: "Forward Together". The banquet will be held at the Coastline Convention Center at 501 Nutt Street in downtown Wilmington, NC.

Dr. Clay received an AB degree with honors from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1968 and his Ph.D. in City Planning in 1975 from Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Professor Clay served as chancellor of MIT from 2001 until 2011 and is currently a professor of Housing Policy and City Planning at MIT.

Professor Clay is widely known for his work in the United States urban development. In his leadership roles at MIT, he played a key role in MIT's international education and research partnerships and initiatives around the world. Professor Clay, also, brings additional experiences in higher education from service boards of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the Aga Khan University.

Information about sponsorships and individual tickets may be obtained by calling Carl Brown (910-313-1206) or online at www.nhcnacp.com.

Two state African American projects in desperate search of funding

BY CASH MICHAELS
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

Last March, when Governor Roy Cooper, a Democrat, submitted his proposed State Budget, he appropriated \$200,000 for "Freedom Monument Planning," to provide, "...one-time funding for the African American Heritage Commission to complete the planning, construction, and related costs of the African American

Monument on the southeast corner of the State Capitol grounds."

Republican legislative budget writers ignored the Governor's proposed appropriation, however, and now the Freedom Monument project, planning for which began over two years ago under Republican Governor Pat McCrory, is officially idle, unless the GOP has a sudden, yet unexpected, change of heart.

However, the Freedom Monument is not the only long-term project hon-

oring African American contributions to North Carolina's history on which Republican leadership reportedly turned their backs.

"Freedom Park," also planned for near the State Capitol, is a creature of the North Carolina Freedom Project, a registered IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable corporation. Touted as "...the



ARTIST CONCEPTION OF PROPOSED FREEDOM PARK

Please see
MONUMENTS/Page 3

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BRUNSWICK

Continued from Page 1

time, a sheriff's deputy was
dispatched to the house. He
found that the house had, in
fact, been shot into. He con-
ducted an investigation and
found the path of the bullet
and, after a search, found the
bullet and the suspects. At
this time, the facts and
details are unclear. It is my
understanding that the
deputy gave the suspect, who
admitted he was the shooter,
the bullet back and told him
to keep it as a token. As I

REDISTRICTING

Continued from Page 1

ignation" court papers, Kim
Westbrook Strach, Executive
Director of the NC
Bipartisan State Board of
Elections & Ethics
Enforcement, is scheduled to
be called State Attorney
General Josh Stein is repre-

BOUTIQUE

Continued from Page 1

ment from others, the couple
decided to take a leap of faith
and monetize their gifts.

After, who is also a certi-
fied nurse's assistant, further
explains, "What began as a
hobby later became a great
business venture for us. We
both gave great thought in
entrepreneurship to make
this a lucrative business. We
have invested countless
hours researching horticul-
ture and floral design."

To be exact, Muraad says
they conducted the research
for three years, and went into
business for themselves in
July of 2015, marking the
opening of Green Thumb
Floral Boutique. The floral
boutique, which is located in
the Plaza on Market, is what
he describes as a "combina-
tion business that does plants
and flowers". The couple spe-
cializes in designing unique
arrangements for weddings,
corporate events, funerals,
and everyday "just because"
creations.

When asked what sets
them apart from other
florists in the area, they
respond with utmost confi-
dence, "We provide our cus-
tomers with the greatest and
most creative floral designs
around. We also provide our
customers with the knowl-
edge to maintain their
arrangement for up to two
weeks, which lasts three to
four times the average vase
life. Educating our clients on
how to keep their flowers
lively, beautiful and fresh for
an extended period of time
gives us an edge on the com-
petition, making us the lead-
ing florist in town. We pro-
vide plants, plant restoration
and plant maintenance pack-

understand it, he was told
that he had to fix the house.
This is very unusual because
this is a felony offense. Then
the deputy made the judg-
ment and told the man he had
to fix the house without offi-
cial court action or consent. I
see this as unacceptable.

In a free society, with laws
that are very clear, we are
reminded again that when
the persons who serve the
law begin to make the law,
then there becomes a situa-
tion wherein there is no law.

This type of action is very
unprofessional and illegal.
When this type of action is
allowed to happen and when
higher authority in the Sher-
riff's Department knows this
and does nothing, your law
enforcement becomes weak
and tainted with corruption.

*Bernest L. Hewett is im-
mediate Past President of the
Brunswick County Branch of
the NAACP.*

sending the State.

Defendants say special
elections cannot be held
before the 2018 mid-term elec-
tions because it would be dis-
ruptive to legislators elected
in 2016 to two-year terms who
would have their tenures
unfairly cut short, only to
have to run again in 2018.

Most legal and political
observers say so much time

has passed since August 15,
2016, when the judicial panel
originally ordered new maps
by March 2017, followed by
special elections in August-
September 2017. However, the
US Supreme Court later
stayed that order at the
request of Republican law-
makers, until it agreed last
month that the maps needed
to be remedied and ordered

the three judge panel to con-
sider other options beyond its
original order for special
elections.

Governor Roy Cooper, a
Democrat, ordered the legis-
lature into a 14-day special
session to immediately
redraw the maps, but
Republican legislative lead-
ers ignored his order, saying
it was unconstitutional and

that he could only do so on
"extraordinary occasions."

Prior to the federal hearing
today, Republican legislative
leaders called for two special
sessions in August and
September, adding that,
based on that schedule, new
redistricting maps should be
ready by November 15, a date
that gives no time for special
elections this year.

ages."

The couple says another
aspect that makes them one
of a kind is they alleviate the
anxiety of customers who
may be on a tight budget. It is
no secret that floral arrange-
ments can be expensive, and
choosing the right arrange-
ment for the right price can
be a tremendous task—espe-
cially for the bride under
insurmountable stress or the
bereaving family in still sul-
king in sorrow. To this,
Muraad says it is not a chal-
lenge they cannot handle. He
told the *Journal*, "We want
customers to feel comfortable
with our price. We don't want
you to be overwhelmed, so we
take that weight off their
shoulders."

In fact, they say customer
satisfaction is what makes
the job worthwhile. After

expresses, "What is so
rewarding is seeing the
expressions on our clients'
faces after they receive our
flowers and our services. It is
so pleasing to experience
such a great feeling of cus-
tomer gratitude and appreci-
ation. We love bringing hap-
piness to other's because that
is the single most gratifying
accomplishment."

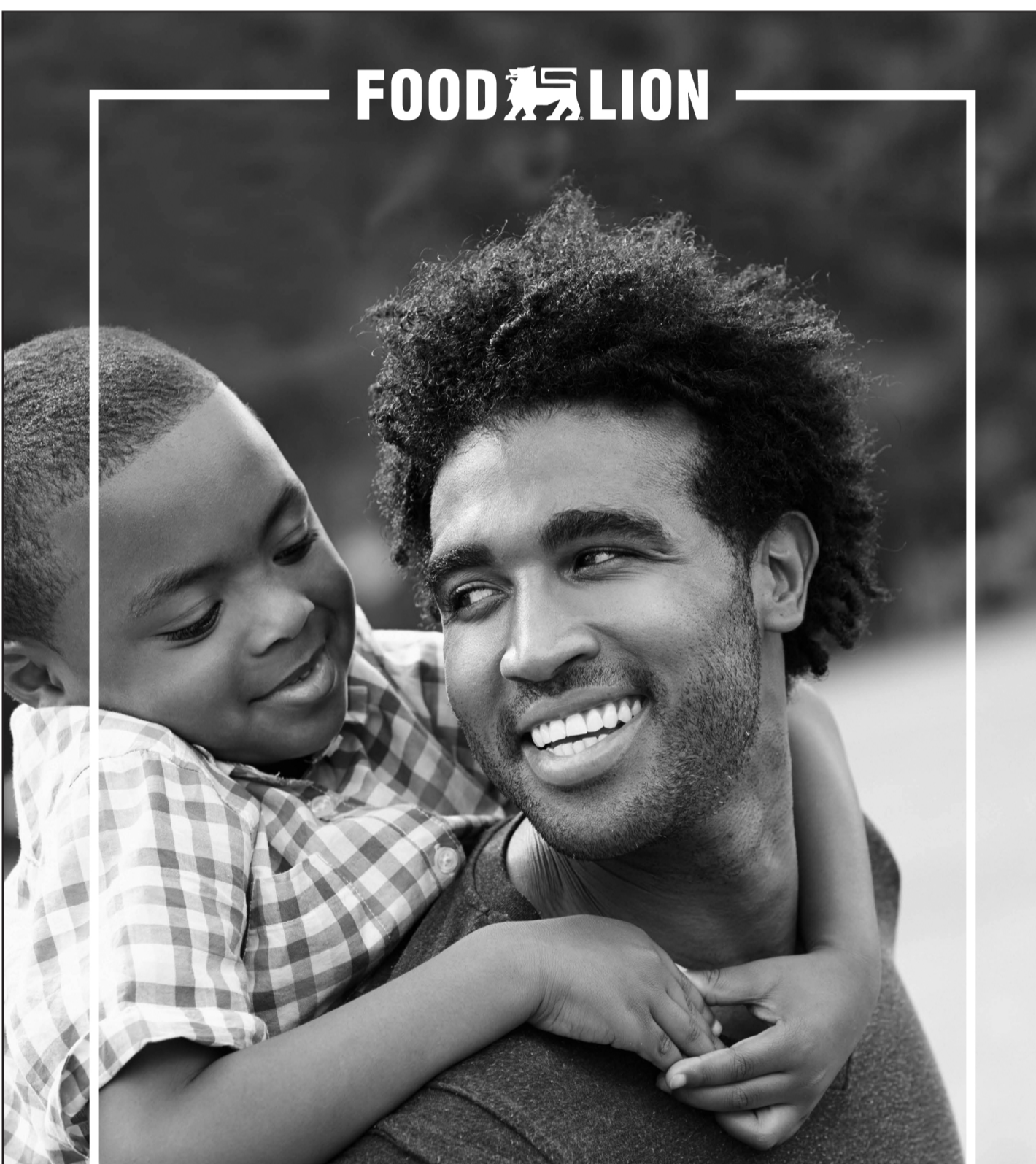
As with every business, for
every successful moment,
there are still obstacles to
overcome, and for the
Solomon family, there have
been some challenges. In
their quest to "attract the cus-
tomer" who appreciates "a
higher quality floral arrange-
ment", they have had some
difficulties. They mention
their location as being the
first reason and describe it as
one that "isn't really ideal for

floral foot traffic." Recognizing this as a hurdle,
they simply have had to go
the extra mile with market-
ing, advertising, and being
visible at expos and other
showcase events.

Muraad says they also
have reached out to other
business owners in the com-
munity and even tapped into
the thoughts and wisdom of
their mentor, Larry Epps, a
beloved local florist who
gained the support of many
in the community when he
once owned and operated his
own shop. Muraad says Mr.
Epps has been an invaluable
resource and mentions,
"When we need uplifting or
encouragement, he comes in
and tells us, 'You guys are
doing great.' Or he tells us
what we need to improve on."
Ultimately, Muraad and

After wish to expand and
relocate to an area that will
offer them greater visibility,
but for now they recognized
that they "have to start from
somewhere." In the very
final, the two hope to estab-
lish a lifelong family busi-
ness that will prove to be a
viable venture for their chil-
dren. While juggling a
demanding life and perfect-
ing the craft of keeping busi-
ness "separate" from family,
the couple has yet to lose
sight of their common goal.

Characterizing themselves as
a "combined family", they
both agree wholeheartedly,
"Our three sons, who are
fourteen, eleven and nine
years old, have been the driv-
ing force of our lives. Every
day we push to become finan-
cially free to provide a better
life for all of us."



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GOOD WEEK FOR "BISHOP" BARBER AND THE NCNAACP

[NEW ORLEANS, LA.] At the annual national convention of the NAACP in Baltimore this week, the NC NAACP was cited being the number one state conference in the nation for membership growth in 2016. That, coupled with the conse-

MONUMENTS
Continued from Page 1

public park celebrating freedom and the African American experience," the planned park is slated to be developed on one acre of land between the State Legislative Building and the Governor's Mansion on the corner of Lane and Wilmington streets in Raleigh. With initial funding starting in 2002 from the Paul Green Foundation, named after the famed Pulitzer Prize winning author and playwright, the pri-

vation of NC NAACP President William Barber as a bishop in The College of Affirming Bishops last Saturday in New Orleans made this a good week for the civil rights leader.

COOPER PROMISES WILMINGTON ACTION ON GENX WATER CRISIS [WILMINGTON] With nervous local officials looking on, Gov. Roy Cooper Monday vowed that the state would aggressively address the Gen X water contamina-

tion problem, starting with denying Chemours, the chemical company in Fayetteville that produces the substance, a permit to continue to dump it in the Cape Fear River, the region's primary drinking water source. The governor also said he is asking the NC General Assembly for more funding for the NC Dept. of Environmental Quality to continue its investigation and testing. Cooper also said that the State Bureau of Investigation is looking into

possible criminal charges regarding the dumping of Gen X into the Cape Fear. Gen X levels in the Cape Fear have dropped since Chemours was ordered to stop its dumping several weeks ago. Dr. Mandy Cohen, secretary of the NC Dept. of Health and Human Services, said that based on her agency's testing, the water in Wilmington is safe to drink. However, several citizens say they don't trust the water despite that assurance, and

want done to either filter it more efficiently, or provide other sources for drinking and bathing. **STATE DEPT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION CUTS SERVICES TO STUDENTS MOST IN NEED** [RALEIGH] Thanks to budget cuts by the state legislature, the state Board of Education ordered the state Department of Public Instruction to cut \$2.5 million. That means seven full-time employees and three

temporary workers are being laid off; eight vacant positions will be eliminated; and 19 instructional coaches will get pay cut and have their terms of service shortened. More cuts are expected in the coming weeks. Officials say the reductions will impact counties with low-performing schools, and also teacher training. State Board of Education member Eric Davis said the budget cuts will "adversely impact our students..." **COMPILED BY CASH MICHAELS**

vate effort steadily attracted donors who shared the vision of a place reflecting the deep roots of Black contributions to the State both in the past, and towards the future. It attracted august leadership, such as historian, Dr. John Hope Franklin, and famed civil rights attorney and educator, Julius Chambers. In 2004, the project, then known as the "Freedom Monument Project," received its nonprofit status. In 2008 -10, under the leadership of then State Rep. Alma Adams (D-Guilford), the

Democrat-led legislature, a \$197,500 grant was awarded for planning and development. Another \$100,000 was donated by Paul Green, Jr. and his wife, followed by various corporate donations. Professional fundraisers were hired to develop a strategy, with the ultimate goal a \$5 million capital campaign. In 2015-16, the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation helped to redesign the original concept for what is now known as the "Freedom Park," bringing on board famed architect, Phil Freelon (known for designing

the Smithsonian Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, DC).. Freelon's new design was unveiled in December 2016. Led by a Board of Directors and an Advisory Board, the Freedom Park is slated for completion by 2020, assuming its \$5 million fundraising goal is met. By all accounts, however, that effort has stalled. Dr. Goldie Frinks Wells, of Greensboro is the co-chair of the project's Board of Directors. She confirmed Tuesday that private fundraising for the park has hit a ditch.

"We're really trying to get a big donor to get the ball rolling for us," she said, indicating that meetings with large corporations are ongoing. "We're moving forward." However, Dr. Wells also confirmed that two weeks before the just approved State Budget was passed in June, Republican House Speaker Tim Moore met with representatives of the Freedom Park project, was very welcoming and "sounded so hopeful" about their request for State Budget funding. However, in the end, Dr. Wells

says, they got nothing. "We were left out completely," she said. Civil rights activist, Linda Sutton, of Winston-Salem, is a former member of the Freedom Park Advisory Committee. She noted how Republicans appropriated \$5 million from the latest budget for the new Civil War Center in Fayetteville and not a dime to the Freedom Monument, or neither, apparently, the Freedom Park project. I guess that was more important," Ms. Sutton quipped.

NAACP names interim president and CEO

SPECIAL TO THE TRICE EDNEY NEWSWIRE BY FREDERICK H. LOWE OF NORTHSTARNEWS TODAY.COM

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - The NAACP, the nation's

oldest civil rights organization, has named Derrick Johnson, formerly the vice-chair of its board of directors, interim president and CEO, succeeding Cornell William Brooks who was not offered a new contract when

his old one expired on June 30. Brooks was named president in 2014.

The NAACP's executive committee of the board of directors on Saturday chose Johnson to lead the organization at its 108th annual convention in Baltimore, although Brooks had been notified in May that his tenure had come to an end as organization leaders said they wanted to move in a new direction.

Johnson, president of the Mississippi State Conference, will serve as interim president and CEO until a new president is selected, the NAACP said.

"It is truly an honor and a privilege to be named the interim president and CEO of an organization that I've served for decades," Johnson said. "There's a lot of work that needs to be done and we won't waste any time getting to it. We are facing unprecedented threats to our democracy and we will not be sidelined while rights are being eroded every day. We remain steadfast and immovable, and stand ready on the front lines for the fight for jus-

tice." Leon Russell, NAACP board chairman, said Johnson is the right person to lead the organization through this important transition.

Johnson is a Mississippi native who has a law degree from South Texas College of Law.

As president of the Mississippi NAACP he has led campaigns for voting rights and equitable education. Johnson also managed two bond referendum campaigns in Jackson,

Mississippi, that raised \$150 million to be used for school building improvement and \$65 million toward construction of a new convention center.

He also has had fellowships with the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, the George Washington University School of Political Management and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is an adjunct professor at Tougaloo College, his alma mater, and guest lecturer at Harvard University.



DERRICK JOHNSON

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OUR VOICE

CASH IN THE APPLE THE BIG TAKEOVER

I know, I know, you are tired of hearing of and reading about what new injustice Donald Trump is behind, and quite frankly, I don't blame you. Even Tricky Dick Nixon waited a while after he got to the White House before he began acting crazy.



Cash Michaels

Trump clearly lost his marbles before the election; during the election, and certainly after the election. Now this madman is talking about pardoning himself and his family of any and all crimes should the day come when Special prosecutor Robert Mueller finally decides to nail their Russian-loving behinds to the wall.

But in the meantime, we have to put up with The Donald and all of his craziness until Mueller and company slap on the cuffs (I know we may never see THAT, but I'm more than willing to settle for Trump's fellow Republicans impeaching him from office. Mind you, that would give us Mike Pence, but with any luck, hopefully Mueller has plenty of dirt on Mr. "Nice-n-Tidy" too.

But until then, here's what's becoming a growing concern - Trump is filling up federal judicial seats. He's picking some of the most right-wing candidates to become federal judges we've ever seen.

In case you didn't know it, federal judges, once confirmed by the Senate Judiciary Committee, serve on the bench FOR LIFE! That's why, if your court case is in federal court, you're essentially dealing with someone you can't touch, unless you've got photographs of him or her in a compromising position, if you know what I mean?

Well, during the eight years that President Barack Obama served in office, didn't he get to nominate a whole lot of progressive-to-moderate judicial candidates to fill various seats? Yes and no. Oh yes, the president indeed nominated many names for the federal bench, but the Republicans in the Senate found ways to block those Obama nominees from ever getting anywhere.

Two of those judicial nominees were from right here in North Carolina, two black women, one a federal prosecutor and the other a retired state Supreme Court justice, and our Republican Senator Richard Burr had a problem with both of them.

Neither of them went anywhere. Well guess what. The 44-county Eastern District judicial seat those two black women nominated to by President Obama, is being targeted for a right-wing Republican attorney named Thomas Farr now. And given how he has led GOP efforts in recent years to defend voter ID and racially gerrymandered redistricting, his credentials are exactly what Trump and his clan are searching for, especially since the Eastern District is 27% black.

But even though Republicans are in charge in the US Senate, surely they will use their better judgment and not put someone on the federal bench just because he or she has an "R" after their name?

Guess again! Last week, on a party-line vote, Senate Republicans voted to confirm judicial candidate John Bush to the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. Bush is a Kentucky lawyer, but he is best known as a pretty fierce political blogger (under a fake name) who authored such gems like President Obama was born in Kenya, and likened the 1973 Roe v Wade decision to the pro-slavery Dred Scott decision.

At least one Republican senator was quoted as saying he was "not impressed" with Bush, but guess what, that GOP senator fell right in line with the rest of his party and voted the wrong-way blogger onto the court.

So anyone doubting that Thomas Farr can make it is fooling themselves.

So pay careful attention of where the Farr story goes now. The NC NAACP has come out against Farr, as has Congressman G. K. Butterfield and others.

The bottom line to all of this is that the longer Trump and Pence remain in office, the more conservative federal judges we will get who will last or a lifetime.

That fact right there should scare us all out of our minds. Cash Michaels is a journalist and reporter for *The Wilmington Journal*, *Winston-Salem Chronicle*, and *Carolina (Greensboro) Peacemaker*. He is also a member of *The Wilmington Journal's* editorial board.

Visual Voice



WHAT WE BLACKS NEED TO DO!

Civics 101: The mid-term election is in 2018, but local elections are right around the corner. We hear a lot of people

say they do not get involved in politics. Our entire life in America is controlled by politics. We are not legally born until someone pays \$10 for our birth certificate. We are assigned a social security num-

ber and pay taxes until our death, then pay \$10 for our death certificate. Even after we are buried or cremated, a lawyer will be paid to settle our estate plus a fee to the Clerk of Court. We pay all the bills, so

why not speak up by registering and voting? Learn how to play the political game or get played!!!

James Hankins
 Wilmington, NC

Your Voice

Matters of Opinion

Get well soon Senator John McCain

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

I don't agree with Arizona Senator John McCain about very much, but I was saddened by his recent diagnosis of brain cancer. He says he will be back on the Senate floor soon, sparring with Democrats. I say, "Bring it on, McCain."



Dr. Julianne Malveaux

McCain is a patriot. He has been a thorn in 45's side since the 2016 campaign. He has been especially critical of the occupant of the Oval Office on his relationship with Russia. He is a principled Republican, quite a contrast to 45. He has been fierce, feisty, and also gracious.

When McCain lost the Presidential election in November 2008, his concession speech was an exceptional acknowledgement of an historic election, and its symbolic importance to African American people. He said: "This is a historic election, and I recognize the special significance it has for African Americans and for the special

pride that must be theirs tonight.

I've always believed that America offers opportunities to all who have the industry and will to seize it. Sen. Obama believes that, too. But we both recognize that though we have come a long way from the old injustices that once stained our nation's reputation and denied some Americans the full blessings of American citizenship, the memory of them still had the power to wound.

A century ago, President Theodore Roosevelt's invitation to Booker T. Washington to visit - to dine at the White House - was taken as an outrage in many quarters. America today is a world away from the cruel and prideful bigotry of that time. There is no better evidence of this than the election of an African-American to the presidency of the United States. Let there be no reason now for any American to fail to cherish their citizenship in this, the greatest nation on Earth."

Notice the difference between McCain and 45. He knows history, knows that Booker T. Washington is deceased, not alive and well (as 45 thought Frederick Douglas was). He acknowledges the

importance of the Obama election, and also acknowledges our nation's history of discrimination. While I don't agree with all of McCain's soaring sentiments, I am moved by his grace. And, again in contrast to 45, he acknowledged President Obama, while 45 spent years disparaging him with his "birther" arguments.

To be sure, I wish that McCain would be more vocal in his opposition to 45. And I do hope that, as he recovers from brain cancer, he has the opportunity to reflect on the quality of health care that he is receiving, a quality of health care that most Americans can't afford. Still, McCain's diagnosis afforded an opportunity for me to consider the Arizona Senator's importance, and to remember his gracious response to losing the 2008 election.

In his 2008 speech, McCain asked people to offer "our next president our goodwill and earnest effort to find ways to come together, to find the necessary compromises, to bridge our differences and help restore our prosperity, defend our security in a dangerous world, and leave our children and grandchildren a stronger, better country than we inher-

ited." Lofty words. Instead, Republicans opposed President Obama at every turn, and have yet to attempt to work with Democrats. Senate Republican leaders drafted health insurance legislation without involving Democrats in any of the drafting. The "take it or leave it attitude" is part of the reason that Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell can't get legislation passed. Republicans can hardly compromise with each other, let alone Democrats. We could stand some of McCain's sage wisdom as the Senate tackles health care, but he is among those who seem to have placed partisanship over principle.

It would be nice to have more Republicans with John McCain's dispositions (though not, necessarily, his positions). I wish him a speedy recovery; meanwhile, his civility will be missed. Furthermore, we need him to be that Republican thorn in 45's side.

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.

Why the United States is the richest country in the world

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

The United States of America (USA) is much-heralded by itself, and by its friends and enemies as the materially richest country in the world. Which it really should be since it's the only country in the world that had over 300 years of enslaved labor. This fact is well-documented in the National Museum of African American History and Culture's section on the enslavement of African people. The following information which is posted on the walls of the section, tell the story of how the USA got so wealthy:

I. Slavery's success built the economic foundation of America. In two generations, cotton produced by enslaved people transformed the fledgling nation into a world power and a leader in global trade. This rapid change sparked heated political debate. Southern slave owners demanded political power to match their financial influence. Northern interests pushed back, fearing the power of the slave-owning minority. This unease over slavery created dangerous new forms of racism. Together, enslaved and free African Americans organized to overthrow slavery. (To me that last sentence should say "enslaved and free Africans" since at that time our

ancestors were not citizens of the USA).

II. The financial legacy of the slave trade helped create the nation states of Spain, Portugal, The Netherlands, France, Great Britain and the United States, as well as others in the Caribbean and South America. The church, merchants, families and individuals benefitted from those profits which helped to build the large assets of many institutions.

III. By the mid-1700s numerous colonies were deeply invested in slavery. Rhode Island grew wealthy from the slave-based economy and the slave trade while New York maintained one of the largest North American slave ports. Northern merchants looked toward the Caribbean and found new ways to profit from slavery. In fact, the labor of enslaved Africans supported Northern merchants' efforts. They grew the food that sustained enslaved workers on Caribbean plantations, served on the docks where slave ships were built and afforded a luxurious life for the slave-owning aristocracy.

IV. The mark of slavery was everywhere in America. Drawing on generations of skill and artistry, enslaved people built railroads, constructed canals, dug the intercostal waterway, designed beautiful homes and crafted fine furniture. They lived in cities, small towns, on farms and on huge plantations. Each experience was different and left a small opening for freedom and ingenuity. Regardless of the place, though, the threat of violence

and punishment was never far away.

V. In the domestic slave trade, the brutality that connected people and profits was clearly on display. Dealers were meticulous in their assessments of the value of enslaved people. During slave sales, enslaved people were forced to deliver a good showing to bring in the most profits; a glum display sometimes brought a whipping. Pleading for loved ones was not tolerated. Slave dealers believed such behavior made for a poor business environment, which cost time and money.

VI. The lives and labor of enslaved African Americans transformed the U.S. into a world power. Yet they received no recognition or payment for what they created. By 1860 four million enslaved people produced well over 60 percent of the nation's wealth. And the slave trade valued them at \$217 billion. Selling an enslaved person provided ready cash, explaining in part why roughly 600,000 people were sold in the domestic slave trade. This vast wealth in human form, affected the entire nation.

VII. In the Low country, slave owners were dependent on enslaved West Africans from the Upper Guinea Coast. Generations of West Africans mastered the rice production in their homelands by harnessing the tide and inland marshes. Africans carried this knowledge to America. Their skills and labor transformed the land from deep swamp into rice fields and made South Carolina one of the richest colonies before the Revolution.

By enslaving skills, slave owners reaped enormous profits and political power.

VIII. Many Americans opposed slavery. White workers saw enslaved people as undercutting their pay with cheap labor. Farmers feared the competition from wealthy slave owners for land and agricultural markets. Other Americans thought slavery would inevitably lead to rebellion. Regardless of their stance, most white Americans did not want to be integrated with African Americans. Only a few believed that slavery denied human equality. In 1853, Indiana Congressman, George W. Julian remarked, "The American people are emphatically a negro-hating people."

IX. On January 1, 1808, a new federal law prohibited the importation of enslaved people into the United States. This opened up a massive internal slave trade. Between 1820 and 1860, as cotton cultivation expanded westward, roughly 1,000,000 people were taken away from their families to vast plantations along the Mississippi River Valley. Enslaved Blacks were bequeathed to relatives or moved as planters looked for new land. This immensely profitable trade in humans and forced migration had financial, political and demographic repercussions still felt today.

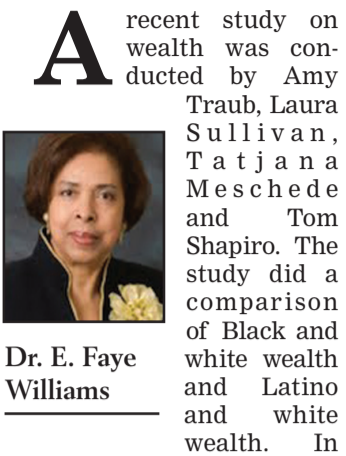
And So It Is.
 A. Peter Bailey, whose latest book is *Witnessing Brother Malcolm X, the Master Teacher*, can be reached at apeterb@verizon.net.

The Black Press:

USE It or LOSE It!

When will we learn?

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)



Dr. E. Faye Williams

A recent study on wealth was conducted by Amy Traub, Laura Sullivan, Tattjana Meschede and Tom Shapiro. The study did a comparison of Black and white wealth and Latino and white wealth. In our community, we have been consumed with racial inequities, voter suppression, health care, unjustified police shootings and racial bias in our criminal justice system. We've been concerned about shootings among our people within our community. Not often enough do we give serious attention to economic exclusion and inequity, and yet, poverty eats away at our communities every day. Too often, we find ourselves contributing to our problem. We often choose to spend our money where we are not respected and on

items we simply do not need. Not enough of us spend our dollars in our own community to help in building our community.

Building wealth in our community is as important as all of the other issues we face. As a matter of fact, with more attention to the wealth gap our people face, some of the other challenges would at least lessen.

According to the study, "No metric more powerfully captures the persistence and growth of economic inequality along racial and ethnic lines than the racial wealth gap. According to data from the Survey of Consumer Finances, the median white household possessed \$13 in net wealth for every dollar held by the median black household in 2013. That same year, median white households possessed \$10 for each dollar held by the median Latino/a household."

We have the ability to at least close that gap if we spend some of our money where we live. All of us know somebody who sews and charges far less than the commercial businesses where we

currently take our clothing to be repaired. We know somebody who repairs cars, who cuts hair and someone who curls hair. We sure know somebody who can run circles around anyone who cooks in the average restaurant outside our community.

There was a time when we were limited to businesses in our community. We patronized our own, and built prosperous businesses that put money back into our community. We held our events at our own churches, schools and businesses. We banked with Black banks.

I'm not suggesting we can handle all of our business with Black companies/businesses. It sure would help Black wealth if we did as much business as possible where most of us live. My organization (NCBW) is 33 years old and for all of that time our banking has been with a Black bank where we know the people with whom we deal and they know us. I purchase my clothing from a Black woman, get my hair done by a Black woman, attend a church pastored by a Black woman, and get my

clothing repaired by a Black woman. We have a Black male accountant, a Black woman services our computers and our webmaster is Black. Our interns and our staff members are Black. I write for a Black woman's wire service.

I don't mean to suggest that we'd never hire or do business with a non-Black person, but I'm perfectly happy with doing the majority of my business in our community and circulating our dollars there so that we can at least put a dent in that wealth gap.

In every article I write, I try to have an "ask" of everyone or at least issue a challenge to think about how we improve our community. I'm asking that if you're not now doing business with at least one Black business, think about it, and try to find one Black person or company with which to do business so long as they give back to our community.

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

BLACKONOMICS

Reciprocity in the marketplace

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

We hear a great deal of discussion about the percentage of money Blacks spend with Black businesses versus how much we spend with White businesses and others as well. It has been said that 90 percent or more of Black dollars are spent at non-Black businesses. Obviously, that leaves about 10 percent for our businesses. What are we getting for that 90 percent? Blacks must drastically change our spending habits and/or leverage what we do spend.

The average annual revenue (sales) for Black owned businesses without employees is \$58,000 and for those with paid employees it is \$948,000, both of which are much lower than other so-called "Minority Groups."

A report published by the U.S. Small Business Administration, titled, "Minority Business Ownership: Data from the 2012 Survey of Business Owners" by Michael McManus, Regulatory Economist, had this to say about Sales Disparities:

"Evaluating disparities using per-firm sales average shows the stark difference between minority and nonminority firms. It also highlights key variations between minority groups. For example, [Black]-owned firms average about \$58,000 in sales per firm, while Hispanic firms generate two and a half times this amount; Asian-owned firms, 6 times as much; and nonminority-owned firms over 9 times this amount."

One can reasonably extrapolate a couple of things from that point: Black businesses must grow to the point of being able to hire employees; and Black businesses need a great deal more support from Black consumers as well as other consumers to reach parity.

One other point of consideration is the industry in which we choose to start a business.

The report states, "While the number of minority-owned businesses is growing rapidly, disproportionate amounts are in the lowest 20 industries in terms of sales. In aggregate almost 58.9% of all African American-owned businesses are in the 20 lowest sales-generating industries..."

Finally, as I have cited many times, of the more than 2.6 million Black businesses only 111,000 have employees. Do the math and see why we must grow our businesses in order to make them more viable in the marketplace. In order to have more of our \$1.2 trillion flowing through Black businesses we must have larger ones in more profitable industries. Make sense?

Now here's the rub against us as consumers of Black products and services from Black entrepreneurs. Paradoxically, while we must have more sustained growth and we must venture into more scalable business ventures, many Black consumers are buying from other groups and some are even refusing to do business with Black firms, for one reason or another. Add that reality to the fact that other groups do not support our businesses to any great degree, which could be due in part to the industries we select, and Black business is stuck on a treadmill, expending a lot of energy without moving forward, multiplying but never growing.

Top all of this off with the fact that we hold our entrepreneurs to a higher standard than we hold others. We want reciprocity from them, and we want them to "give back," which is quite reasonable and appropriate. However, we do not demand the same level of reciprocity from the other businesses that we support virtually every day. Don't agree? Then tell me, where is the balance of our \$1.2 "trillion" annual income when we deduct the \$188 "billion" in annual revenues earned by Black businesses, not all of which comes from Black consumers?

Let's face it, Black consumers could never spend all of our \$1.2 trillion with Black owned businesses; we do not have enough businesses for that ideal to become a reality. We can certainly increase the amount we currently spend, but until we establish and grow more businesses, which will take at least a generation if we concentrate on it, we will continue to spend vast sums of money with businesses other than our own. So why are we not seeking reciprocity from them?

We must use collective leverage that can be given or withdrawn at a moment's notice. Understanding that Black consumers cannot get around spending dollars with non-Black companies, the Collective Banking Group of Maryland, and its local chapters, work with White owned and other companies, in mutually beneficial strategic partnerships, to obtain reciprocity. Banks, furniture stores, carpet stores, automobile companies, restaurants, movie theaters, supermarkets, and many other companies that profit from the Black dollar should reciprocate to their Black customers beyond sponsoring a dinner or a youth baseball team.

If we are going to spend tremendous sums of money with White owned, Indian owned, Chinese owned, and Arabic owned businesses, then it's up to us to initiate and negotiate reciprocal agreements that benefit both groups. One side of that equation is already complete: We benefit them. Since we inevitably will keep spending our money with them, don't you think we should complete the equation by getting some benefit ourselves?

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

JACKSON

Continued from this page

will literally cost Americans millions of jobs and economic growth, threaten the Earth's equilibrium and the existence of the human race.

In foreign policy Trump has weakened our international leadership role established over the last three-quarters of a century through the North American Treaty Organization (NATO) that has successfully maintained peace in Europe. He has cozied up to authoritarian leaders, shown little interest in advancing human rights or a free press, and has turned our wars over to the generals, shunning civilian leadership. Trump's "eye for an eye" and "fight fire with fire" policy would leave many blind and burned. Trump's most fervent sup-

porters are the same people who sanctimoniously attend annual prayer breakfasts, cite scripture and pray in public. Trump and Republicans see ending health care for millions and giving tax cuts to the rich as victorious. Jesus warned about "religious" people who walk over the sick and past the poor.

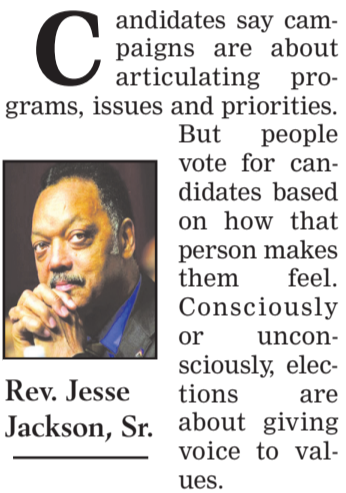
Republicans are struggling to keep promises they made - ones they shouldn't have made because they lack a moral foundation. Their values are unhealthy and dangerous - and will lead to calamity and downfall. They can't be exported to the rest of the world by our diplomats, and polls show Americans don't agree with them. It's an immoral agenda with no market value at all.

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

RAINBOW COALITION

Trump's cold-hearted agenda is immoral

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)



Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.

Candidates say campaigns are about articulating programs, issues and priorities. But people vote for candidates based on how that person makes them feel. Consciously or unconsciously, elections are about giving voice to values.

Voters are moral proxies who want to know that a candidate or elected official truly cares about them - that they are authentic - more than they care about what they know. President Donald Trump and his administration are expressing moral values that have no market value. The Golden Rule has both moral and market value. Trump wouldn't want done to him what he's doing to the majority of the American people. Trump's values express reverse gratification. The

powerful are suppressing the weak; the rich are exploiting the poor; the elephant is crushing the gnat.

Attorney General Jefferson Beauregard Sessions disavows the Voting Rights Act. He has a history of politicizing it by frivolously charging blacks with voter fraud, and has withdrawn Justice Department support from a voting rights case involving racial discrimination. That's an expression of this administration's values.

Trump has established a voter fraud commission despite having no evidence of voter fraud. He appointed Kris Kobach, secretary of state of Kansas and the "King of Voter Suppression" as its head, apparently for the purpose of finding 3 million to 5 million examples in order to "prove" to he lost the popular vote to Hillary Clinton because of voter fraud. That's an expression of twisted moral values.

Candidate Trump promised a universal health care system better and cheaper than the Affordable Care Act (ACA), but Senate Majority

Leader Mitch McConnell appointed 13 men (no women) who came up with a plan to repeal and replace the ACA that would take away affordable health insurance from over 20 million Americans.

It would deny money to Planned Parenthood, an organization that provides health services for women; remove billions of dollars from a Medicaid program that serves over 70 million poor people, including children and the disabled; threaten to bankrupt nursing homes for the old and financial security for their families; threaten the existence of rural community hospitals and urban public hospitals; drive up costs and drive down health benefits for the middle class; take away millions of jobs from the people who provide these services; and do all these things in order to give massive tax cuts to the greedy.

If Sen. John McCain was poor or middle class and had the Republican plan - i.e., old and infirm - he would be in trouble, and that's a moral disgrace! The Constitution,

like the ACA, was imperfect and had shameful flaws, but we chose to amend it not end it.

Trump wants to close public schools and build private jails. He appointed a secretary of education, Betsy DeVos, who has dedicated her entire life and lots of money undercutting public education and advocating for-profit private schools. He is weakening civil rights protections that include racial and sexual minorities.

He appointed Scott Pruitt as administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), a person who was joined at the hip with the fossil fuel industry as Oklahoma's attorney general and who many times sued the organization he now heads. Pruitt is gutting the strong environmental achievements of Obama and led the charge for Trump to withdraw from the Paris climate agreement, relinquishing America's environment leadership on an issue that

JACKSON

Continued on this page

TO BE EQUAL

50 years of Black mayors

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)



Marc Morial

"To be an African-American mayor leading a city in the 21st century is not about "power" but about "possibilities." With more than 470 African-American mayors leading cities across the United States, the lens of our leadership is shaped from our own personal experiences. Together, we collectively bring a perspective that allows for a spectrum of possibilities." - Mayor Sylvester Turner, Houston, TX.

The Role and Obligations of African American Mayors in the 21st Century," State of Black America, May 2017

Today, the sight of a Black mayor is unlikely to turn any heads or draw any particular attention. But in 1967-during the continuing turmoil of the civil rights movement and two years after the passage of major civil rights legislation-a first generation of African Americans would be elected to helm major American cities and this first wave would go on to irrevocably reshape our American political landscape.

Carl Stokes was the first Black mayor of a major U.S. city. Elected on November 7, 1967, Stokes served as a 51st mayor of Cleveland, Ohio

from 1967 to 1971. A one-time high school dropout, Stokes would go on to get a degree in law. In a life filled with firsts, Stokes' political career began in 1962, when he was elected to serve in the Ohio House of Representatives, becoming the first Black Democrat elected to the Legislature. He ran for mayor of Cleveland in 1965 and lost. In 1967, he ran again, defeating Seth Taft, the grandson of president William Howard Taft. On the night of his election victory, Stokes, the great-grandson of a slave, shared with his supporters that, "truly never before have I ever known to the extent I know tonight the full meaning of the words, 'God Bless America.'"

But that historic day in 1967 produced the first two Black mayors of cities with populations of over 100,000 people. On the same day, Richard Hatcher was elected the first Black mayor of Gary, Indiana. Hatcher turned down an offer from President Jimmy Carter to serve in the White House, instead he chose to stand at the helm of the city he called home. The youngest of 13 children and the son of a Pullman Company and factory worker, Hatcher's start in politics began with the familiar activism of his time, participating in sit-ins at establishments that would not serve Black customers. He became a city council member in 1963 and then became city council president. In 1967, Hatcher unseated the incumbent, winning the general election

with 95 percent of the Black vote. During his swearing in ceremony, Hatcher promised that, "together, we shall beat a way; together we shall turn darkness into light, despair into hope and promise into progress. For God's sake, for Gary's sake, let's get ourselves together."

These pioneers, and the many who would follow in their footsteps-including my own father, Ernest N. "Dutch" Morial, who was elected the first Black mayor of New Orleans in 1977-came to power during turbulent times in our country. To be an African-American mayor, especially during the polarizing struggle of Black Americans and other marginalized groups to be fully incorporated into American society, was an incredible feat. These early pioneers aspired to political office at a time that was not so far removed from lynchings, segregated schools, and anti-miscegenation laws. Every step, every vote and every position attained was marred and marked by transparently racial barriers, and every victory was made all the more sweet by overcoming them.

Committed to overcoming inequality, the first wave of African-American mayors tackled an array of urban problems from poverty to discrimination and local civil rights issues to high unemployment rates-all while responding to the needs of their wider constituency. Between 1967 and 1995, it is

estimated that almost 400 African Americans-including women-have been elected to lead their cities, large or small.

The first generation of African-American mayors was steeped in the concerns and activism of the civil rights movement, garnering much of their support from Black voters. Today, according to a 2001 study by the Joint Center for Politics and Economic Studies, over 50 percent of Black mayors in big cities were elected in cities without a Black majority. As Houston mayor, Sylvester Turner, described in his State of Black America essay, leading in this current time requires that Black mayors are "nimble and strategic in their approach to leading our cities."

Mayor Richard Hatcher is a storied figure in Gary, Indiana and a storied figure in American politics. He was one of the first Black mayors to lead a major city and demonstrate that nimbleness and gift for strategy that not only got him elected, but kept him in office for five terms. For his part in shattering that glass ceiling for Black politicians and inspiring others to aspire for higher political office, the National Urban League will honor Mayor Hatcher during our annual conference this year, recognizing his historic achievement and lasting legacy.

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

New Hanover County

Narconon can help you take steps to overcome addiction in your family. Call today for free screenings or referrals. 1-800-431-1754. Learn more about the signs of heroin addiction. If you believe one of your loved ones is abusing drugs, learn how you can make a difference by visiting <http://www.narcononnewliferecovery.org/drug-rehab/>



Community Briefs

The New Hanover NAACP monthly meeting is Thursday, July 27th at 7:00 p.m. at St. Stephen AME Church, 501 Red Cross Street, Wilmington. Information on the upcoming Freedom Fund Banquet August 19 and other vital community and state issues will be on the agenda. Members and friends are encouraged to attend. For more information, call 910-765-0102 or email nhnaacp@gmail.com.

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

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

HOMETOWN NEWS FROM BRUNSWICK COUNTY

More African American women needed in politics

Politics is the art or science of political government, or political science. It embraces particularly the policies, goals or affairs of a government or the groups or parties within it. At this present time we are standing in the need of more women, especially African American news reporters. This would be another step towards



Verniece Stanley

a more peaceful country to live in.

Right now our government in this country can't agree on a suitable health care program for the poor. A question

that continues to rise concerns what is happening to all the money for health insurance for poor people? Instead of providing sufficient healthcare for those who need it, the current plan which has been presented by the Trump administration is nothing more than a tax cut for those who need it least. That is, the very rich, who can afford to pay more in taxes will pay considerably less. The sad truth is that far too many people think this injustice is justified.

Inadequate healthcare is just one battle Blacks and other poor, aged, and ailing must fight each day. Many family find it a daily struggle just to survive. Many children go to school hungry each day and go to bed hungry every night. It is

a blessing to many children that the free breakfast and lunch program has been implemented in the public school systems over the years. No child should have to go to school hungry nor be forced try to perform in an educational setting hungry.

Many Black Americans are subjected to living in some of the poorest places and under some of the poorest conditions in the country. It is great thing to be able to help those who are facing needy conditions, and those of us who can be of service to others ought to feel blessed enough to readily do so. We ought also to speak out about injustice and other things that truly matter. I believe it is the responsibility of every citizen to speak out and work together for better

education and living conditions for our children. In that way, we can make this world a better place.

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.

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October 14th 12:00 p.m. -1:30
November 18th Thanksgiving Dinner 11:30 p.m. -2:30p.m.

Contact Margie Armstrong
at 910-675-9260
or St. Mark's Episcopal Church
at 910-763-3858 for further information



Ocean View Missionary Baptist Center hold annual youth camp



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

OCEAN VIEW CAMP STUDENTS ASSEMBLE FOR THE CLOSING CEREMONY

BY WILLIAM FLYTHE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The annual Youth Bible Day Camp was held at the Ocean View Missionary Baptist Center in Sunset Beach during the week of July 10-14. Approximately 55 students participated in various field trips and on-site activities. The Olympic-style opening ceremony began with students from eight churches marching to the theme song, "I've Got Talent". Once the assigned class had conducted the devotion, students went to their designated classes. They were given literature on five biblical characters--Tabitha, Daniel,



Mrs. Dorothy Frink (L) directs her class during the talent presentation.

Jesus, Luke, and Paul.

Two classes (11-12 and 13-15 years old) spent most of Monday at the government complex in Bolivia. They visited two courtrooms that were in session and listened later to two judges give advice on avoiding the judicial system. The group was given a 45-minute tour of the County Jail before returning to camp. A representative from the Fort Fisher Aquarium shared information about animals found in Southeastern North Carolina. All of the five classes participated in arts and craft activities from Monday through Thursday.

On Tuesday, two classes (5-6 and 7-8 years old) were treated to popcorn and a free movie at Franks Cinema in Shallotte. Later, all classes were scheduled to build a

variety of wooden objects but this activity was cancelled because of a scheduling mix up.

On Wednesday morning, the younger students (5-8 years old) toured the Lowe's Food "factory" at Ocean Isle Beach. They joined other students in the afternoon for presentations and demonstrations--canine and helicopter--by the Brunswick County Sheriff Department. The 11-12 and 13-15 year old classes went to the BCC swimming pool during the afternoon.

On Thursday morning, the two youngest classes toured the Museum of Coastal Carolina. A presentation, designed for our students, was given in the Native American section. The 9-10 year old class went to Planet Fun for Laser Tag, bowling,

and video games. Transportation was provided by vans from Cedar Grove, Little Prong, and/or Union Baptist churches during the week. All students participated in a music workshop conducted by a professional singer. Her presentation also included the accomplishments of famous African-Americans that reflected the camp theme, I've Got Talent.

On Friday morning, separate presentations on life skills were given to boys and girls (ages 9-15). All students, dressed in donated red and blue t-shirts, gave talent presentations during the closing ceremony. The presentations included singing, storytelling, poetry, and lesson reviews. Certificates were presented to students, teachers, and staff.

The New Hanover County NAACP Freedom Fund Annual Banquet "Forward Together"

Keynote Speaker:
DR. PHILLIP L. CLAY
CHANCELLOR EMERITUS MIT

Mistress of Ceremony
AMANDA FITZPARTICK
NEWS ANCHOR WWAYTV3



Saturday, August 19, 2017
7:00 PM
Coastline Convention Center
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Cleveland Brown

Cleveland Brown was born August 3, 1935 in Wilmington, NC, where he grew up. Later moving to NY, he was a lifetime teacher in the White Plains City School system who passed away on July 13, 2017. He is survived by wife Joyce (Norfolk, VA), son Barry (Brooklyn), and daughter Deirdra (Poughkeepsie - husband John) and a host of family and friends. Services were on Saturday, July 22nd at Union Baptist Greenburgh, NY. Burial followed at Kensico Cemetery, Valhalla, NY. *Arrangements Entrusted To Lee's Funeral Home, LLC, White Plains, NY* www.LeesFuneralHome.com.

Mary Butler

Mary Butler died Sunday, July 16, 2017 at Silver Stream Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Funeral services were held Thursday, July 20, 2017 at St. Andrew AME Zion Church. Burial followed in Calvary Memorial Cemetery.

Mary Lou Keitt Butler, daughter of the late Eugene M. Keitt, Sr. and Annie Payton Keitt-Williams was born March 28, 1934 in Delco, North Carolina. Mary was educated in the New Hanover County Public Schools, attending Williston Industrial School. She was a member of St. Andrew AME Zion Church where she served diligently, until her health failed. Mary loved her family unconditionally and there was nothing she would not do for her children and especially her grandchildren. She was a wonderful mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend. On Sunday, July 16, 2017 at Silver Stream Health and Rehabilitation Center, Wilmington, North Carolina, Mary gently and quietly took wings and soared to heights never dreamed. She was preceded in death by one son, James R. "Blow" Butler, Jr. and grandson, Delonte Brunson.

She leaves to cherish fond memories: two sons, Windell C. Butler (Felbie) and Ronald Butler all of Wilmington, NC; grandchildren, Monica, Wendy, Shana, Kyrese, Katrina, Danielle and Darius; one brother, Eugene Keith, Jr. (Carol) of Sacramento CA; one sister, Novella Beckwith of Yonkers,

NY, special nieces, Alberthina McKissick "Abbie" and Beverly Beckwith both of Yonkers, NY; special nephew, George Foster Pellom of Wilmington, NC; three special cousins, Studie Bell Powell, Novetta Little John, and Christine Foster; special friends, Johnnie and Raymond Davis and family, and other relatives and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

John Charles James

John Charles James died Tuesday, July 18, 2017 at Lower Cape Fear Hospice Center. Funeral services were held on Saturday, July 22, 2017 at John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

John, son of the late Rosa Brown James and Albert James was born on June 4, 1939. He was educated in the New Hanover County Public School System, attending Williston Industrial School. Affectionately called "Uncle B" or "Uncle Bobby" by friends, family and people he didn't know, John joined the United States Navy. After serving sometime in the military he moved to New York City. While residing in New York he married Susan Hawkins who preceded him in death. From this union they had three beautiful children, Derrick James-Hawkins, John James and Levi James. John later met Lucretia Williams and they had two children, Kevin Williams and Carol Williams. He was employed by Jensen Dry Cleaners and held several different positions. John loved life and his family and had a great sense of humor. He loved cooking and was a great father and friend. John was hard-working and would give the shirt off his back.

His memory will forever be etched in our minds and hearts. John leaves to cherish his memories: his children, Kevin Williams of Bronx, NY, Derrick James-Hawkins of New York, NY, Carol Williams-Crawford (Leonard) of Bronx, NY, John James, Jr. and Levi James both of New York, NY; three grandchildren, Jamal James, Tajahundra S. James and Shanatria Williams; great-grandson, Xavier Lyons; special nephew and niece, Julius and Eugenia James; a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Stephanie Ann Powell

Stephanie Ann Powell died Tuesday, Tuesday, July 18, 2017 at New Hanover Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were held Monday, July 24, 2017 at Joh H. Shaw's son Funeral Home.

Stephanie was born October 10, 1971 in Wilmington, North Carolina. She attended Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church at an early age where

she was taught to love God and the mercy of God. Stephanie received her GED in 2000. She was a loving person, full of life and really loved her two children and family. Stephanie will be truly missed by those who knew and loved her. She was preceded in death by her grandfather, David Age.

Stephanie leaves behind to cherish her memories: two children, Jasmine Ivana Carmichael and Brandon Montrell Francis both of Wilmington, NC; her mother, Sheila Powell and father David Cedric Age both of Wilmington, NC; grandparents, Geneva Age, Warter Williamson, Jr. (Marjorie) all of Wilmington, NC; sisters, Valerie Powell, Iesha Age and Niesha Age and brothers, Riane Powell, Chris Powell and Montrel Age, all of Wilmington, NC; aunts, Renee Williamson, Karen Williamson, Evelyn Age Jones (Hugh), Jeanette Age and Yvette Green, all of Wilmington, NC; uncles, Nathan Williamson, Anthony Age, Wayne Age (Marie), Henry Walker and Andre Green, all of Wilmington, NC; a very close and special friend Patrice Robinson and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Cynthia Bell

Cynthia Bell died Saturday, July 22, 2017 in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Funeral services were held Thursday, July 27, 2017 at St. Matthew Church, Leland, NC. Burial followed in the Robinson Cemetery, Leland, NC. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Ms. Mae Eleanor Spicer

Mae Eleanor Spicer was born March 20, 1934 to Oliver Dinkins Sr. and Letha D. Dinkins. She departed this life July 15, 2017. Her husband, Harlee Spicer preceded her in death.

Mae received her education in the New Hanover County School system and graduated from Williston High School. She was employed as a housekeeper and childcare provider.

Mae was a devoted member of Union Missionary Baptist Church and worked as the financial secretary for 40 plus years. Her favorite pastimes were watching baseball and wrestling. Her favorite team was the Saint Louis Cardinals.

Mae leaves to cherish his memories six siblings; Oliver Dinkins, Jr., Martha L. Hawkins, James H. Dinkins, Alice L. Hankins, Victor L. Dinkins and Loretta Dinkins-Taylor and a host of other family members and friends.

A service was held on Friday July 21, 2017 at Union Missionary Baptist Church. Internment at Calvary Memorial Cemetery.

Wilmington, NC. *Arrangements by Adkins-Drain Funeral Service. 515 South Eighth Street, Wilmington, North Carolina 28401. Condolences may be shared at www.adkinsdrainfuneralservice.com.*

Franklin R. Clark

Franklin Roosevelt Clark, age 82, of Hampstead, passed away Friday, July 14, 2017. A celebration of Frank's life was held on Thursday, July 20, 2017 at Kendall Chapel AME Church. Burial followed in St. Thomas Cemetery.

Longtime Local 1426 International Longshoremen's Association (ILA) veteran, Franklin "Frank" Roosevelt Clark, passed away on July 14, 2017 at the Lower Cape Fear Hospice of Wilmington. A native of Winnabow, North Carolina "Frank" was born on December 3, 1934 to his mother, Rosa and father, Robert. After graduating from Brunswick County Training School, Clark began working on the waterfront in Southport, North Carolina as a Longshoreman and Hatch Tender, during the 1950's, hauling live ammunition and signaling cargo.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Lula Clark; daughter, LuRetha Clark; two sisters, Lula Palmer and Gerthel Fink; two brothers, James and Foster Clark.

Survivors, who will always cherish his memories, are four daughters, Sandra Reaves of Leland, North Carolina, Shelia Pierre (Sheldon) of Virginia Beach, Virginia, Karen Chavis (Charles) of Albemarle, North Carolina and Carla Howard of Charlotte, North Carolina; one

son, Reginald Montgomery; one special grandson, Tarrell Clark; nine other grandchildren; eleven great-grandchildren; two brothers, Lee Clark (Ella) of Winnabow, North Carolina and Kenneth Clark (Barbara) of Springfield, Maryland; four sisters, Lillie Hugh of Wilmington, North Carolina, Marian Clark of Wilmington, North Carolina, Bertha Freeman of Greensboro, North Carolina and Barbara Hooper (George) of Winnabow, North Carolina; three sisters-in-law, Laura Forney, Dorothy Montgomery and Elnora Montgomery; two brothers-in-law, Theodore Montgomery and Russell Montgomery; one very special friend, Alice Marie Howard and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends. *Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhomenc.com.*

Pauline T. Hunninghake

Pauline Theresa Hunninghake, age 85, of Wilmington, passed away Wednesday, July 19, 2017. A private memorial will be held at a later date. *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.*

Melvin Dinkins

Melvin Leon Dinkins was born on September 30, 1944 in Wilmington, North Carolina to the late Neil W. Dinkins and

Goldie E. Dinkins. He departed this earthly life on Wednesday, July 19, 2017 at his residence surrounded by his loving family. A celebration of Melvin's life was held on Tuesday, July 25, 2017 at the ILA Union Hall Local 1426. Burial followed in Oak Grove Cemetery.

Melvin was educated in the New Hanover County School System. He was a member of the Williston Class of 1965. He was reared in the Bowens Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church. Melvin served in many capacities, including the Senior Choir and the Trustee Board. Good work ethics were instilled into Melvin at an early age by his parents. Always hard working and industrious,

Melvin became owner and operator of Dinkins Landscape and Lot Clearing Incorporated. Being his own boss allowed him flexibility to also work for many years with ILA Local 1426.

Melvin accepted Christ as his personal savior in 2009. He began a new walk of faith when he gave his life to Christ. A brand new Melvin became engaged to Marilyn Louise Grady of Castle Hayne, North Carolina. They were joined in matrimony on July 30, 2010. Melvin loved his co-workers and friends. Civic affiliations include, The Port City Wheelers Motorcycle Club where Melvin was known as "Junction Bandit", Old Skool Car Club and ATU Local 1328.

In addition to his parents, four brothers preceded him in death: Arie, Lindsey, Herman and Eugene Dinkins.

Loved ones left to cherish his

*Please see OBITUARIES/*Page 8

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LEGAL NOTICES

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the estate of **Betty Jo Sloop**, deceased, of the New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **14th day of October, 2017**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 13th day of July, 2017

Debra Williamson Peterson, Executrix
214 Candlewood Dr.
Wilmington, NC 28412

July 13, 20, 27, August 3, 2017

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the estate of **Elizabeth S. Newkirk**, deceased, of the New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **20th day of October, 2017**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 20th day of July, 2017

Karen E. Evans, Administrator
7511 Morningside Drive, NW
Washington, DC 20012

July 20, 27, August 3, 10, 2017

Notice of Sale

2013 Kia
VIN: KNDJT2A63D7554298
Owners: William Elmer Price and Dontae Rodell Price Smith
Place: Kirby's Garage Inc.
1513 Castle Street
Wilmington, NC 28401
Date: 08-18-17
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Telephone: 910-762-3159

July 20, 27, August 3, 2017

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER
IN THE DISTRICT COURT
JUVENILE SESSION
FILE NO. 17 JA 163, 14 JA
119**

**IN THE MATTER OF:
S.Y. (DOB: 11/27/2001)
C.J. (DOB: 10/04/2000)**

**TO: RESPONDENT-FATHER:
DEVONCEY CHRISHAWN
JONES**

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

Adjudication of a Juvenile Petition filed on June 7, 2017, alleging that the above-referenced Juveniles are neglected and dependent Juveniles.

You are required to make defense to such pleading within forty (40) days following Thursday, July 13, 2017, which date is the date of first publication of this Notice. Upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought. You have the right to attend this hearing, and you have the right to be represented by counsel.

You have been assigned Attorney Shawn Evans. Counsel may be contacted at (910) 251-6088, 611 Princess Street, Wilmington, NC 28401.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT AN ADJUDICATION/DISPOSITION HEARING ON THE JUVENILE PETITION IS SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 31, 2017, AT 9:30 A.M., or upon a date and time set thereafter, at the Office of Juvenile Justice, 138 N 4th Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401.

This the 12th day of July, 2017.

Regina Floyd-Davis
Staff Attorney - New Hanover Co. Dept.
of Social Services
1650 Greenfield Street
Wilmington, NC 28401
(910) 798-3615 (phone)
(910) 798-3772 (fax)

July 13, 20, 27, 2017

LEGAL NOTICES

**PUBLIC ADVERTISEMENT
HOUSING AUTHORITY OF
THE CITY OF WILMINGTON
NORTH CAROLINA**

The Housing Authority of the City of Wilmington North Carolina (WHA) invites proposals from contractors to Repair Fire Damaged Unit at 14 South Lincoln Wilmington NC. Please go to www.wha.net for bid package and further information.

July 27, August 3, 2017

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

Having qualified on the 17th day of May, 2017, as Administrator of the Estate of **LARRY DEAN RIPA**, Deceased, late of New Hanover County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the decedent to exhibit the same to the Administrator, Terri Ripa Hunnicutt, at 606 Hillview Drive, Wilmington, NC 28405, on or before the **4th day of October, 2017**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the estate should make immediate payment.

This 3rd day of July, 2017.

TERRI RIPA HUNNICUTT,
ADMINISTRATOR
Attorney for the Estate:
J. Wesley Casteen, Esq., CPA
Saffo Law Firm, P.C.
P.O. Box 12028
Wilmington, North Carolina 28405
Telephone (910) 256-3364

July 6, 13, 20, 27, 2017

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the estate of **Edwin Dale Merritt**, deceased, of the New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **20th day of October, 2017**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 20th day of July, 2017

William Gordon Yopp, Executor
3337 Paramount Way
Wilmington, NC 28405

July 20, 27, August 3, 10, 2017

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Ancillary Executor of the estate **William H. Bullard**, deceased, of the New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **14th day of October, 2017**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 11th day of July, 2017

Deborah Buchanan, Ancillary
Executor
6232 Allison Drive
Hiwassee, VA 24347

July 13, 20, 27, August 3, 2017

**NOTICE TO CLAIM
PERSONAL PROPERTY**

The Administrator of the Estate of **Jonathan Charles Nelson a/k/a Johnathan Charles Nelson (15-E-939)**, hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims who conducted business with or entrusted their personal property with Jonathan Charles Nelson a/k/a Johnathan Charles Nelson, in his individual capacity or as the sole proprietor operating J Nelson Designs which was formerly located at 4113-B Oleander Drive, New Hanover County, North Carolina, 28401 and claim said personal property on or before **October 14, 2017** or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 10th day of July, 2017

Charlotte Noel Fox, Administrator of the Estate of Jonathan Charles Nelson
Craig & Fox, PLLC
701 Market Street
Wilmington, NC 28401
Telephone: 910-815-0085
Facsimile: 910-815-1095

July 13, 20, 27, August 3, 2017

LEGAL NOTICES

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the estate of **Annie Marie Brinkley**, deceased, of the New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **14th day of October, 2017**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 13th day of July, 2017

Gloria Brinkley-Caldwell,
Administrator
4447 William Louis Dr.
Wilmington, NC 28405

July 13, 20, 27, August 3, 2017

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

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **Brenda Smith (17-E-1114)**, late of New Hanover County, Wilmington, North Carolina the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 701 Market Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401 on or before **October 28, 2017** or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 18th day of July, 2017

Charles Smith, Administrator of the Estate of Brenda Smith
Craig & Fox, PLLC
701 Market Street
Wilmington, NC 28401
910-815-0085

July 27, August 3, 10, 17, 2017

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **Vernon Lee Fash**, deceased, of New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **27th day of October, 2017**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This 27th day of July, 2017.

James William Fash, Executor of the Estate of Vernon Lee Fash
1528 Radian Road
Wilmington, NC 28405
MURCHISON, TAYLOR & GIBSON, PLLC
16 North Fifth Avenue
Wilmington, NC 28401

July 27, August 3, 10, 17, 2017

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the estate of **Chalmers Scott Ross**, deceased, of the New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **28th day of October, 2017**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 27th day of July, 2017

Charles Keith Parker, Executor
808 Santa Maria Ave.
Wilmington, NC 28411

July 27, August 3, 10, 17, 2017

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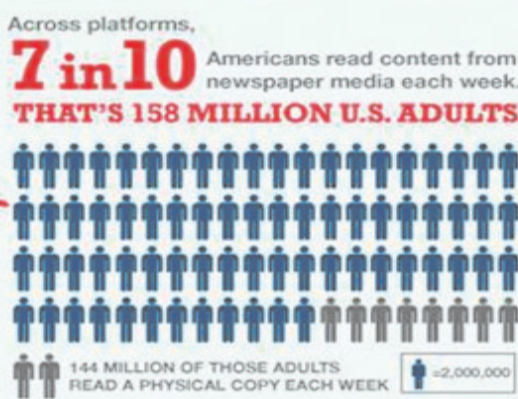
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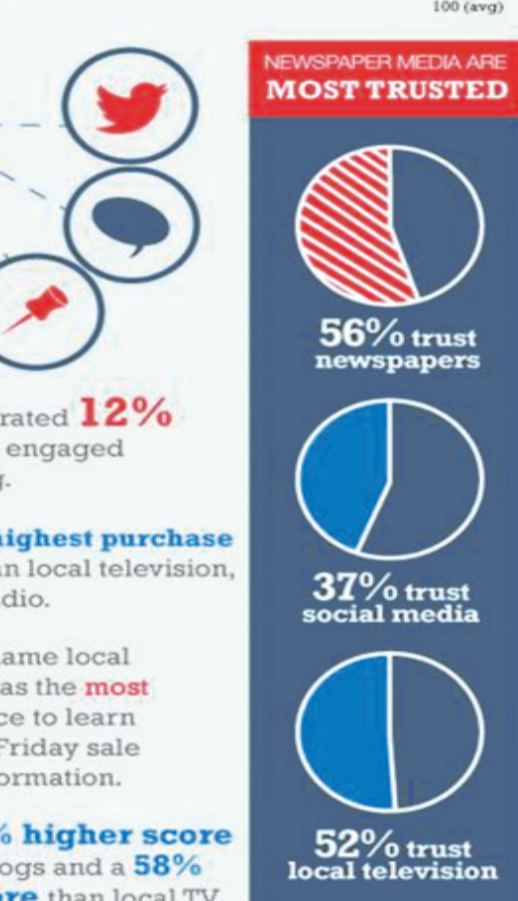
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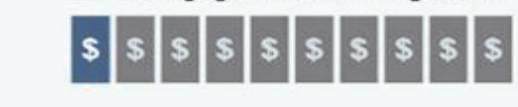
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Sources:
Across Platforms, 7 in 10 Adults Access Content from Newspaper Media Each Week (NAA.org, March 25, 2013)
The American Newspaper Media Industry Revenue Profile 2012 (NAA.org, April 8, 2013)
2013 Nielsen National Cross-Media Engagement Study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

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