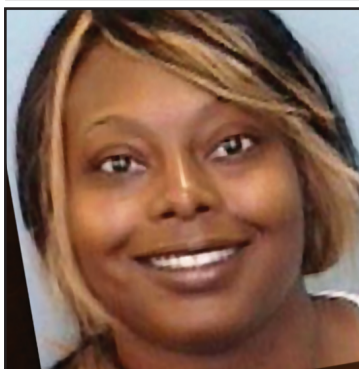


MISSING



EBONEE SPEARS

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

**OUTside
Looking IN**

COMMENTARY



REV. DR. SUSAN SMITH

The president who does not care
PAGE 5

BRUNSWICK COUNTY UPDATE



BERNEST HEWETT

HWY 211 AND MIDWAY ROAD

BY **BERNEST HEWETT**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Last week, I attended a meeting at Saint James Community Hall about the new intersection coming to HWY 211 and Midway Road. I find it very hard for this type of intersection to work effectively on a main throughway and also an evacuation route. There is a great deal of traffic on this road now, with all the stop lights and unchecked, or unplanned, road work, and some people believe that only their own thoughts matter. This should be something that has the concerns of everyone in mind, not just the few of whom I have spoken before. A great many people have voiced their opinions against this project, and it is the same. We are not heard or considered at all. This project is going to be very expensive and does not promise

Please see **BRUNSWICK**/Page 2

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

VOLUME 90/No. 42

OCTOBER 19, 2017 - OCTOBER 25, 2017

FIFTY CENTS



NC DEMOCRACY DIRECTOR BOB HALL



NC NAACP PRESIDENT T. ANTHONY SPEARMAN



NC HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE PRICEY HARRISON



NC SENATOR PAUL LOWE

NAACP AND DEMS CRY FOUL

SAYS GOP IS PLOTTING TO TAKE OVER COURTS

BY **CASH MICHAELS**
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

North Carolina Republicans say the State's judicial districts have not been fine tuned in 60 years, and, as a result, some districts have too many judges, while others have too few. It's time to correct that imbalance so that all

North Carolinians are treated "fairly and equitably," Republicans say.

"This gets them back closer to similar size districts," says Rep. Donny Lambeth (R-Forsyth).

Indeed, there is general consensus that new district lines need to be redrawn, and the process of judges being elected or appointed deserves a

long overdue look, with judicial input.

But what State House Republican lawmakers have done per judicial redistricting in their third Special Session of the year goes beyond any "fine tuning," Democrats, NCNAACP leadership and others insist. They see a plot by the GOP to systematically take over North Carolina's court sys-

tem so that more Republican judges and prosecutors can be elected, and Republicans ultimately have a better chance of winning cases involving legislative policy disputes, like voting rights and redistricting.

FOUL/Page 2

Heather Hodges to lead Commission

SPECIAL TO
THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

Heather Hodges, an administrator of a nonprofit law firm that provides free legal services in Washington, D.C., and a photographer who documents African, Afro-Latino and Hispanic cultures, has been named executive director of the Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor.

Hodges was recently selected by the 13-member federal commission that manages the coastal corridor that extends from North Carolina to Florida. She will bring to the Corridor her nonprofit experience, legal training and interest in cultural documentation to continue the Commission's implementation of the Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Management Plan, approved by the Secretary of the Interior and the National Park Service in 2013.

She will assume her position on Monday, November 6, 2017.

The Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor was established in 2006 by Congress to recognize and preserve the cultural treasures of Gullah Geechee people. Gullah Geechee people are direct descendants of enslaved people brought primarily from Africa's rice-producing regions. They were forced to work for almost two centuries on coastal plantations in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and northern Florida.

Dr. J. Herman Blake, a founding member of the Commission, provided leadership as a full-time volunteer during 2014, and then as executive director since 2015. Congress re-authorized the Commission in 2016 and recently a foundation to develop funding support was restructured. Currently the Commission is developing strategies to develop as well as strengthen corridor-wide programs, including an "Emancipation Day" celebration, an important treasure of Gullah Geechee culture.

Speaking of the new executive director, Dr. Blake said, "She is an excellent person with a superb foundation. She brings vision and wisdom to the sacred task of honoring our Gullah Geechee past by strengthening our future."

Commission Chairman Emory Campbell of Hilton Head Island, S.C., said, "The entire Commission is excited about the depth of experience and high-quality skills Ms. Hodges will bring to our work. We look forward to her leadership."

Dr. Dionne Hoskins-Brown of Savannah, Ga., who chaired the search committee and also represents Georgia on the Commission, commented that "Ms. Hodges' excellent combination of qualifications and her love of African culture throughout the diaspora will take the Corridor in



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
ATTORNEY HEATHER HODGES

its next logical direction. Her unique experience of working with people and her particular interest in the richness of Gullah Geechee communities makes me excited for the future of advocacy for the Corridor."

An honors graduate from the Tulane University School of Law, Hodges began her legal career in private practice in Washington, D.C., as an associate at the international law firm Arnold & Porter LLP (now Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer). She spent eight years at that firm before becoming a counsel with Crowell and Moring LLP.

Hodges is joining the Gullah Geechee Corridor after serving as pro bono counsel for almost a decade at Neighborhood Legal Services Program (NLSP) of the District of Columbia, a nonprofit law firm that provides free legal information, advice and representation to low-income residents. In this role, she had day-to-day responsibility for overseeing program delivery, managing community partnerships, designing and managing administrative systems, and implementing multiple grants and

Please see **HODGES**/Page 2

As partisan gerrymander case begins, special masters considered for another

BY **CASH MICHAELS**
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

As a federal hearing in North Carolina's own partisan gerrymandering case involving congressional districts commenced this week in Greensboro, a three judge panel still reviewing redrawn legislative redistricting maps seemed to hint that they aren't pleased with what Republican lawmakers came up with, especially with race not being considered in the equation, and have asked both the State and plaintiffs to recommend possible special masters who would ultimately redraw fairer voting districts in time for the 2018 midterm elections.

Day One of the partisan gerrymandering hearing saw expert witnesses taking the stand, testifying how much of an "extreme statistical outlier" the 2016 congressional maps drawn by Republican voting district mapmaker Tom Hofeller are.

Hofeller also drew the 2011 NC legislative maps that were found to be unconstitutional by the US Supreme Court because they "stacked-and-packed" NC Black voters into 28 out of 170 voting districts, thus lessening their influence in elections.

In the case of the 2016 congressional elections, out of 13 NC congressional districts, Republicans were elected to 10 of

Please see **MASTERS**/Page 2

NEWS ANALYSIS

America forced to face conflict between principles and racist reality

BY **DR. WILMER J. LEON, III**

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - "Time catches up with kingdoms and crushes them, gets its teeth into doctrines and rends them; time reveals the foundations on which any kingdom rests, and eats at those foundations, and it destroys doctrines by proving them to be untrue." - James Baldwin, The Fire Next Time

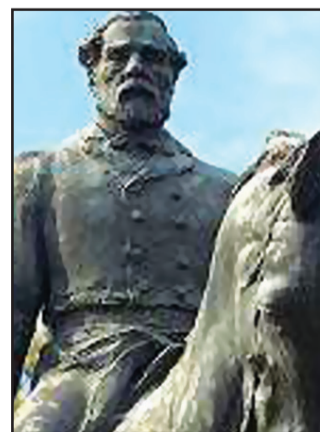
America, the international global hegemon, the empire finds itself conflicted. At the crux of this conflict is the fact that for as noble as its founding pretexts are, "...that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights..." the "grand experiment" of American or Jeffersonian democracy was actually founded on the myth of racism/

White Supremacy. Americans, both White and Black have been indoctrinated to believe in the false social construct of race and the false narratives that Whites - Europeans and European Americans are superior to all others in the world, Manifest Destiny and American Exceptionalism.

So, what we are seeing today play itself out with the

Columbus myth, Trump, Charlottesville, DACA and the Dreamers, the Muslim ban and the NFL fiasco, etc. is America being forced to face up to the conflict between its founding principles and its racist reality. Time is catching up to these doctrines and prov-

Please see **CONFLICT**/Page 3



ROBERT E. LEE STATUE



CFPUA SUES CHEMOURS IN FEDERAL COURT OVER GENX DISCHARGE

[WILMINGTON] Cape Fear Public Utility Authority (CFPUA) filed suit in US District Court Monday against the chemical companies Chemours, and its parent, DuPont, alleging that they knew the chemical discharge of GenX into the Cape Fear River since 1980 would be hazardous to human health. Until recently,

GenX has been released into the Cape Fear, the New Hanover County region drinking supply. CFPUA further alleges that Chemours and DuPont are in violation of several federal environmental laws as a result of the GenX discharge. CFPUA is suing for



STATE BRIEFS

damages in excess of \$75,000, the final amount to be determined when the lawsuit is heard at trial. Neither Chemours nor DuPont had an immediate response after the suit was filed.

DELAYED COUNCIL VOTE ON POLICE RIOT WEAPONS

[WILMINGTON] The Wilmington City Council delayed a scheduled vote this week on

purchasing \$42,000 worth of riot batons, canister grenades and other riot equipment for the Wilmington Police Dept's Mobile Field Force Team D (MFF-D). Official say the riot equipment would help the force to disperse demonstrations. Approximately 30 current officers will be assigned to the MFF-D. The council vote was delayed, however, to allow for more public comment on the purchase. Officials say the

MFF-D would be paid for through funding of the N.C. Drug Tax. The next council meeting is scheduled for Nov. 8th.

INFANT CHILD VICTIM OF RANSOM STRAY BULLET

[CLINTON] Sampson County authorities are investigating the shooting of an infant girl who fell victim to a random bullet which hit the child in the torso. Authorities say shots

were fired at 25 Bumpy Lane Tuesday night when two armed men approached a man attending a birthday party, and an argument commenced. As the man ran away, the two apparently fired shots, with one of the bullets striking the home, and hitting the child. The infant was eventually airlifted to UNC Hospital in Chapel Hill for treatment.

COMPILED BY CASH

CONFLICT

Continued from Page 1

ing them to be untrue.

The late great Dr. Francis Cress Welsing defined racism/White Supremacy as, "The local and global power system structured and maintained by persons who classify themselves as White, whether consciously or subconsciously determined. This system consists of patterns of perception, logic, symbol formation, thought, speech, action and emotional response, as conducted simultaneously in all areas of activity [economics, education, law, etc]."

The following are two examples to support the position that the grand experiment of American or Jeffersonian democracy was founded on the myth of racism/White Supremacy.

1) The Virginia Slave Code Act I 1669, "Be it enacted...if any slave resist his master...and by the extremity of the correction should chance to die, that his death shall not be accepted felony, but the master...be acquit from molestation, since it cannot be presumed that prepense malice...should induce any man to destroy his own estate." This is the first example that I found where we were relegated to property or what Amiri Baraka called "thingness".

2) 13th Amendment to the Constitution - Section 1. "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction." This led to the implementation of the convict leasing system as a replacement for slavery. This is brilliantly documented by Douglas Blackmon in his book Slavery By Another Name.

On October 9th, Americans celebrated the traditional "Columbus Day". According to Steve Kurtz, from Fox News.com, "Columbus Day... is a nationally recognized holiday...It is true that the conquest of the Americas by Europeans, which starts with Columbus, was very ugly, and involved a lot of violence. But that, for better or worse, is how history worked pretty much everywhere for thousands of years. (Though it should be noted a large portion of the deaths of Native Americans was due to disease, not violence-an inevitable consequence of Old World illness in New World soil...)...The point is not to excuse the worst that happened, but to understand it. And to see that it is not the essence of Columbus, but rather part of the times. With all that, there are reasons to celebrate Columbus Day."

Now, if that's not Eurocentric nonsense I don't know what is. According to the LA Times, "Columbus' landfall ushered in one of the greatest injustices in human history: the wholesale transfer of wealth and lands from native peoples to Europeans; the unprecedented depopulation of vast swaths of the Americas as European diseases reduced native populations by 90%..." From the Eurocentric perspective violent history is celebrated, the death, destruction, rape, slavery and other atrocities committed by Columbus are ignored and he is

deified because history is written from the perspective of the victor. That's why it's called "history".

This racist logic, this White Supremacist narrative that is clearly articulated in Kurtz's rationale for honoring Columbus is the same narrative used by Sons and Daughters of the Confederacy, neo-Confederates and neo-Nazi's supporting the terrorist statutes from the Civil War as paragons of virtue. In this instance it is not that the South won the Civil War: Their racism compels them to protect their whiteness, history and heritage. Their narrative tells us that the statues are supposed to help us understand context and the dynamics of what was happening at the time from their perspective. But, like the Columbus lie, the story is told from the perspective of the oppressor, not the oppressed. They simply want to maintain some semblance of the myth of White Supremacy.

One very simple question, how could Columbus "discover" something when the Arawak people were already there? They are some of the indigenous peoples of the West Indies that Columbus first encountered not "discovered". That "discovery" lie is the blindness that attends arrogance. That's the ignorance born out of the false narrative of White-Eurocentric supremacy. I discovered you! Columbus was late, real late, centuries late to the party.

Now to support this ignorance, Kurtz writes, "While there is only limited knowledge of what pre-Columbus America was like..." Really? Try telling Dr. Ivan Van Sertima, author of They Came Before Columbus that his lifetime of work on Olmec civilization in the Americas is limited knowledge. Try telling Dr. Ben, John Henrick Clark, Chancellor Williams and the host of other Black scholars on this history that their life's work and research is limited knowledge. Kurtz is like Columbus - just because he refuses to recognize it, it must be "limited knowledge" and research.

Kurtz wrote, "While there is plenty to criticize about Columbus...I think this movement (Indigenous People's Day) is missing the point...History, in fact, is the story of conquest. We may not like it, but it's our shared heritage." No sir; that's the Eurocentric historical perspective...not all historical perspectives begin and end with, we came, we saw, we kicked your butt. That's the basis of the same lie being told by those who want to fly the Stars and Bars and commemorate the Confederate generals. They continuously tell us "it's our shared heritage... The point is not to excuse the worst that happened, but to understand it." Here's the reality, those neo-Confederates who want to "celebrate their heritage" and "commemorate their ancestors" are celebrating treason and commemorating racists and traitors. Where's the honor in that?

Most of the post-Civil War statues that were erected in Virginia and Louisiana and other Southern States were not erected to commemorate Confederate Generals. Most of the statues in question were erected as acts of intimidation to terrorize African-Americans and show unified opposition to

the movement towards civil rights; not to honor dead "heroes". In fact, Robert E. Lee opposed Confederate memorials. He wrote in 1869, "I think it wiser...not to keep open the sores of war but to follow the examples of those nations who endeavored to obliterate the marks of civil strife, to commit to oblivion the feelings engendered." Lee eventually swore allegiance to the Union and publicly decried southern separatism, whether militant or symbolic. These neo-confederates want to honor a man who did not want to be honored.

So, what we see with the narrative of the Charlottesville race riot and Trump saying that there were good people on both sides is as Dr. Welsing clearly articulated. It is a narrative developed through and support-

ed by patterns of perception, logic (The Lost Cause for example), symbol formation (The flying of the Stars and Bars and these statutes), thought, speech, action (glorifying Columbus w/ a holiday) and emotional response (the Charlottesville riot). It is a White Supremacist

narrative that goes all the way back to the Columbus myth and a last-ditch effort by those in 2017 like Steve Kurtz who desperately try to defend the indefensible.

Dr. Wilmer Leon is the Producer/ Host of the nationally broadcast call-in talk radio pro-

gram "Inside the Issues with Leon," on SiriusXM Satellite radio channel 126. Go to www.wilmerleon.com or email: wjl3us@yahoo.com. www.twitter.com/drleon and Dr. Leon's Prescription at Facebook.com © 2017 InfoWave Communications, LLC

W.M. Jordan COMPANY

As construction manager of the UNCW Allied Health Building is hosting a **Minority Business Enterprise Outreach Event** On the UNCW campus at **McNeill Hall - Room 1027** **October 30, 2017** **3pm-5pm**

For additional information, please contact John Carter 910-679-4551

OCTOBER 11TH - 31ST

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New Hanover County

Basketball Registration! MLK Community Center, 401 S. 8th St. Pre-registration is required. Must provide birth certificate. Register Online or drop off registration form at the MLK Center. Deadline: November 1st. Questions please call 910-341-0057 or 910-341-7866.



The New Hanover NAACP monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, October 26th at 7:00 p.m. at St. Stephen AME Church, 501 Red Cross Street, Wilmington. Information on voter registration and GOTV efforts for the November Wilmington City Council/Mayoral election and other vital community and state issues will be on the agenda. For more information, call 910-765-0102 or email nhnaacp@gmail.com.

Community Briefs

The Williston Senior High Class of '61 will hold its 2017 fourth quarter class meeting on Sunday, October 22nd at Mt. Olive AME Church Fellowship Hall, 1001 S. 7th Street at 4:00 p.m. All graduates, those on track and those out of town classmates are invited.

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

There is something good for everyone

There is something good for every living person. We know that food, shelter, and clothes are necessities. You may have a gift that was discovered in early childhood or you could be a leader in your community or some religious organization. You may go on trips for your personal enjoyment. Whatever your gift, it ought to bring you great respect and help bring you a new way of life.

Verniece Stanley

We are now in basketball season because it is an indoor game for both males and

females. There are countless people who enjoy this particular sport, as well as others. Older people, even on walking canes, on walkers, or even in wheelchairs come to enjoy watching players exercise their gifts in athletics as they play this game. Large gatherings fill auditoriums and stadiums all over the land to watch this game played.

There is something good for everybody and somewhere for everybody to go for enjoyment. I was in a shopping center a few days ago, where I saw a small boy sitting in a wheelchair. Though it was obvious that he was handicapped, the expression on his face indicated that he was comfortable and was enjoying his surroundings.

This is an ever changing society, and many different things are going on, but there is something that brings each of us joy. Therefore, we must live and let live and try to understand each other. In other words, we ought to live and let live.

Not only should we live and let live, but we must remember to live and give to help [others] live. It's the American way. It ought to offer us a special inspiration to assist those who have been victimized by tragic circumstances, such as the recent hurricanes, earthquakes, and devastating fires, etc. Some have been rendered homeless and helpless by nature's numerous tragedies. Every kindness we accord these unfortunate victims will,

more than likely, be greatly appreciated.

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.



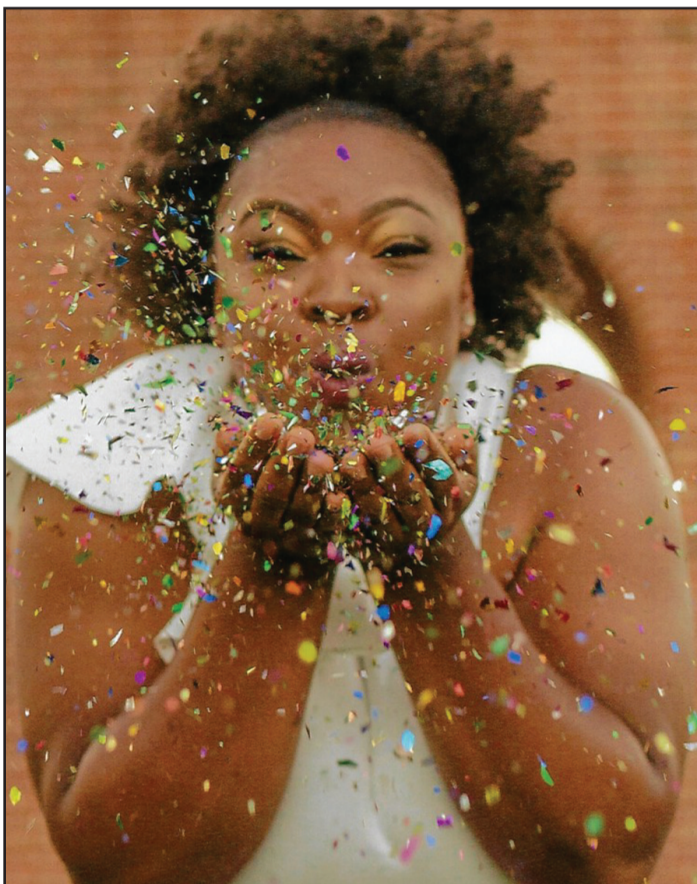
Treze Martin Happy "75" Birthday

All Family and Friends would like to say Happy Birthday to our love one, Treze Martin. Mr. Martin has been a resident of Brooklyn NY for over 50 years. As a true native of Wilmington, NC who attended the historical Williston High School during the 60's will be returning to the Port City to celebrate his 75th Birthday at the Martin Luther King Community Center (8th Street Center).
MLK Community Center, Wilmington NC
Saturday - October 21, 2017
3pm - 8pm

Special Thanks to all Family & Friends who have dedicated their time and attention to making this a joyous occasion.

Happy Birthday & God Bless you

Congratulations Shakera Wilson



SPECIAL TO THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

From very humble beginnings, Shakera has always

strived to improve her situation, despite the odds stacked against her. From fights in the street as a child to fighting for students with disabilities as an educator, Shakerka has always been determined and passionate.

Today, she works to ensure students with disabilities have an equitable education in public schools. She also continues to teach and mentor young women from similar backgrounds. It is her hope that her life experiences, will be able to help future generations, aspire to be greater than their circumstances.

Shakera is the first in our family to receive a bachelors degree from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte on



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS SHAKERA WILSON

May 15, 2010. She has a Bachelors of Arts in Criminal Justice and Psychology. Striving to continue her education, she is the first to obtain a masters degree in the family as well. Despite adversity, heart-break and ridicule; Shakera has been able to beat every odd stacked against her.

Today, she continues to shine and help others excel too. We are so proud of you Shakera, continue to shed your light over this world. "The light shines in

the darkness and the darkness can never extinguish it". John 1:5.

In love, we are pleased to announce the graduation of Shakerka J-lese Wilson

Master of Arts in Education/Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Phoenix on October 21, 2017. Continue to soar "Kera-Lou", you are a phoenix! We are so proud of you and love you so much. Your mother, Cathleen Robinson Gore and family.

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www.reelectkevinogrady.org @2017KOG

PUBLIC NOTICE PROPOSED POLICY ON TOBACCO/SMOKE-FREE HOUSING EFFECTIVE: JULY 31, 2018

This notice is to inform you that The Housing Authority of the City of Wilmington (WHA) is proposing a new policy, complete and total Tobacco/Smoke-Free Housing. The policy will prohibit smoking and use of tobacco products on all WHA properties, which includes apartment units, residential units, housing development community centers, the housing development grounds, and yards of single family homes, by tenant(s), guest(s) or invitee(s).

The WHA is making available for public comment a draft of the Tobacco/Smoke-Free Housing Policy. The 45-day Public Comment Period will begin on October 18, 2017 and end on December 1, 2017. The proposed policy is also available for review at your Property Management Office and on the Authority's website: www.wha.net

Comments must be made in writing and mailed to the Housing Authority City of Wilmington, 1524 S. 16th Street, Wilmington, NC 28401, Attn. Resident Services or by hand delivery to Wilmington Housing Authority Property Management Offices no later than 10:00 a.m. on November 29, 2017

A public hearing will be conducted on December 1, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. in the Executive Conference Room of the WHA's Central Office, 1524 S. 16th Street, Wilmington, NC. Anyone interested in commenting on the proposed policy is invited to attend.

October 19, 2017

PUBLIC NOTICE OF 2018 PHA PLAN

The HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA (WHA) is updating our Annual Plan for FY 2018.

This is a 45 day notice with an opportunity to present public comments regarding 2018 updates to the Annual Plan.

The draft of the proposed 2018 Annual Plan is available for review beginning Wednesday 18, October, 2017 at the WHA website at www.wha.net and at the WHA Central Office, 1524 S. 16th Street, Wilmington, NC 28401 and at the locations listed below.

Comments must be made in writing and presented to the main office located at 1524 S. 16th Street, Wilmington, NC 28401, Attn. Michael A. Williams or via email to mwilliams@wha.net no later than 10:00 a.m. on November 29, 2017.

A public hearing will be conducted on December 1, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Executive Conference Room of the WHA's Central Office, 1524 S. 16th Street, Wilmington, NC. Anyone interested in commenting on the proposed revisions is invited to attend.

**In addition the Wilmington Housing Authority (WHA) Annual Plan will be provided for public viewing at the following locations:

Amp Number	Property Name	Property Addresses
NC001000004	HOUSTON MOORE TERRACE	1601 S. 13th St Wilmington, NC 28401
NC001000005	HILLCREST APARTMENTS	1402 Meares St. Wilmington, NC 28401
NC001000007	SOLOMON TOWERS	15 Castle St. Wilmington, NC 28401
NC001000080	CREEKWOOD SOUTH	714 Emory St Wilmington, NC 28401
NC001000017	NEW BROOKLYN HOMES	1205 North 5th St Wilmington, NC 28401

October 19, 2017

Mr. Joseph Robin Drakeford

Our Heavenly Father, who knows best, called Joseph Robin Drakeford home on Monday, October 9, 2017.

After a brief illness, he passed away peacefully at Trident Medical Center in North Charleston, South Carolina with his family by his side. He was born in Wilmington, North Carolina on October 25, 1964, the son of the late Jessie and Martha Ann Drakeford.

Joseph was affectionately known to many as "Joe Joe." He attended New Hanover County Schools and graduated from New Hanover High School in 1983. After serving in the United States Army from 1984 - 1995, he was honorably discharged. He was a dedicated, hardworking employee who took pride in doing his job, and doing it well. Over the years, he was employed with various companies; Corning, Inc., Mundy Company and DAK Americas. Joe loved his family and would visit home whenever he could.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his brother, Anthony H. Drakeford, and one special aunt, Lucy Robinson Harrison. Joseph leaves to cherish his memory: on son, Daniell Drakeford of Germany; sisters, Kathy Eckles (Ray Thomas) and Diana Drakeford of Wilmington, North Carolina; one brother, McKinley E. Drakeford of Goldsboro, North Carolina; one nephew, McKinley E. Drakeford, Jr. of Atlanta, Georgia; one niece, Monique Drakeford of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina; three special grand nieces, Jamaría Finkley, MaLayla Finkley and Aaliyah Finkley of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina; one special grandnephew, King Finkley of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina and a host of relatives, friends and coworkers.

A funeral service was held at Noon on Monday, October 16, 2017 at Union Missionary Baptist Church. Internment in Calvary Memorial Cemetery. *Arrangements by Adkins-Drain Funeral Service, 515 South Eighth Street, Wilmington, North Carolina 28401. Condolences may be shared at www.adkinsdrainfuneralservice.com.*

Linda Joyce Batts Meggette

Linda Joyce Batts Meggette died October 3, 2017 in Winston Salem, NC. Funeral services were held Saturday, October 14, 2017 at Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, with Rev. Charles Farmer officiating.

Linda was born in New Hanover County, NC to the late Naomi Hill and William Batts on September 23, 1954. She met and married Julius Leroy Meggett, Sr. and unto this union was born, one child, Julius Leroy Meggett, Jr.

While raising her children, Frank Batts and Julius, Jr., family devotion and love was instrumental in them becoming strong young men. Linda had a giving heart, always wanting to give and provide, especially children. She loved her pastor, DK Ferguson or "Rev" as she called him. As she battled disease, she was lifted up by children, especially her grandchildren and prioritized her behaviors according to their presence. She loved to hear children sing; when they visited her at the nursing home, she was delighted. Linda was proud of her family and always wanted them closer. She loved receiving Sunday School books and the occasional care packages sent to her by her Sunday School class. When she believed something, there was no changing her mind. She was loyal, either she liked you or she didn't. Linda loved God and would apologize to Him saying, "Excuse me Lord". In addition to her parents, Linda was preceded in death by her brothers, Hildred Hill, Samuel Hill and William Batts, Jr.

She leaves lasting memories with: her sons, Frank Batts (Katrina) and Julius L. Meggett, Jr.; sisters, Genetha Faye Hill Cummings, Beatrice McGee (Howard) and Stephanie Barnes; sister-in-law, Myrtle Hill; daughter-in-law, Sharene Willis; 15 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; very special friends, Mrs. Della Kenion, Mrs. Becky Kenion and Mrs. Sheila Watkins; and a host of other relatives and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Elsie Bowden

Elsie Bowden died Sunday, October 15, 2017 in Concord, 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.*

Marshall Griffin "Pee Wee"

Marshall Griffin "Pee Wee" died Sunday, October 15, 2017 at Wilmington Health and Rehab. Funeral services will be 1:00 p.m. on Friday, October 20, 2017 at Willie L. Shaw Jr. Memorial Chapel. Burial will follow in Pine Forest Cemetery. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Bishop William M. Martin, Jr.

Bishop William Meyers Martin, Jr., was born May 31, 1943 and departed this earthly realm on October 6, 2017. Funeral services were held Friday, October 13, 2017 at Davis Funeral Home. Burial followed in Greenlawn Memorial Park.

As a youngster, Bishop Martin attended public schools

in Washington, DC where he graduated from Cardozo High School.

Upon graduation Bishop Martin was eager to serve his country and enlisted in the United States Army where he became an excellent cook and baker. His signature dessert was pineapple cheesecake. However the main impetus of his expertise was an expert sharpshooter. After serving for two years, Bishop Martin was released with an honorable discharge.

Bishop Martin began his career with the Smithsonian Institute in the field of carpentry. While under the tutelage of one of the most senior and gifted carpenters at the Smithsonian, Bishop Martin excelled in his craft and soon accepted his life-long career with the DC Department of Housing and Community Development. There he was promoted to Supervisor/Foreman and retired from that position in 1997.

During Bishop Martin's career, he found the love of his life, Eloise Elizabeth Randolph who he described as a "brick house" and knew she was the one. They united in holy matrimony, February 13, 1965, to which three children were born.

Bishop Martin loved the Lord and after serving in various leadership positions, was ordained a Bishop at New Beginnings Church of Deliverance Ministries, where he continued to minister to the saints in word and song along the East coast.

Bishop Martin used his professional skills to help build and repair several church sanctuaries to the Glory of God.

Bishop Martin loved to have fun and was always the life of any party telling his corny jokes laughing at them as hard as we were.

Bishop Martin was preceded in death by his mother, Edwina Moe; son, Gregory Martin; daughter, LaVera Martin Burges and sister, Ferne Williamson.

Bishop Martin leaves to cherish his memories: A loving wife of 52 years, Eloise Elizabeth Martin; daughter, Kimberley M. Martin; god-daughter, Stephanie Berry; grandchildren, Adrian Martin, LaPria Martin and Mehliá Anderson; great grandchildren, Andrianna Gaiter and Amoni Springs; brother, David Carroll (Dorothy); sisters, Judith Moe and June Moe; nephew, Daryl Williamson and a host of 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.*

Carl A. Sisco

Carl Anthony Sisco was born on 2 November 1957 in

Hampton, Virginia to the late Harold and Robena Sisco. On Monday, 9 October 2017, he unexpectedly departed this life. Funeral services were held on Wednesday, October 18, 2017 at Freedom's Way Ministries. Burial followed in Coastal Carolina State Veterans Cemetery.

As a youth, Carl was a member of the Baltimore City Boys Choir; played soccer; built models, and excelled in academics. Carl was educated in the Baltimore Maryland School System where he graduated a year early Upon graduation he immediately entered the United States Marine Corp and was honorably discharged after 3 years due to an injury. But if you know Carl, he didn't let an injury keep him down, so in 1989 he joined the Maryland Air National Guard and served for 4 years, he then enlisted in the United States Air Force where he served for 7 years.

During his active duty period Carl came to Wilmington, NC where he met his loving wife Aris. They were married on 8 March 1992 and were blessed with 25 years of marriage. They were best friends, there equation for marriage was 1+1=1.

Carl was employed at Sunny Point Ammunition Terminal where he was the Arms Room Keeper.

Carl was not a shy person, he never met a stranger, just a new friend. Anyone who knows him knew that he loved to talk. About everything, but politics was one of his favorite topics. He kept up with all the news, and shared his knowledge with all who would listen.

Carl was preceded in death by his beloved brother Michael Sisco and step-brother William Brown, Jr.

He leaves to cherish his sweet memory his loving wife, Aris Sisco; sons, Brian and George Evans; daughters, Cilara Sisco, LaKecia (Elijah) Haywood, Tameika Evans, T'Keyah Sisco; brothers, Steven (Debbie) and Mark Sisco; sister, Therese (Gene) Corbett; step siblings, Pamela (Lee) Jarvis, Jacqueline (Jerry) Harris; step-mother, Marion Sisco; mother-in-law, Mary Burwell; sister-in-laws, Angela (Dale) Flaverney and Sharon Gittlings; brother-in-law, Ralph Burwell; grandchildren; Ashley Burwell, D'Angela Wrisborne, Mariah Wrisborne, Kimora Haywood,

In Loving Memory Of



Geraldine Crummy

Meet you at the gate

A beautiful garden now stands alone missing the one who nurtured it but now she is gone. Her flowers still bloom and the sun if it still shines, but the rain is like tear drops, for the one left behind. The weeds lay waiting to the gardens beauty away but the beautiful memories of its keeper are in our hearts to stay. She loved every flower even some that were weeds, so much love she would plant with each little see. But just like her flowers she was part of God's plan, so when it was her time he reached down his hand, we looked through the garden searching for the best, that's when he found Gerry, it was her to rest. it was hard for those who loved her; to just let her go. But God had a spot in His garden, that needed a gentle soul, so when you start missing Gerry, remember if you just wait, when God has a spot in his garden, she'll meet you at the gate....

Love,
William, the children
and the grandchildren

Please see **OBITUARIES/** Page 8

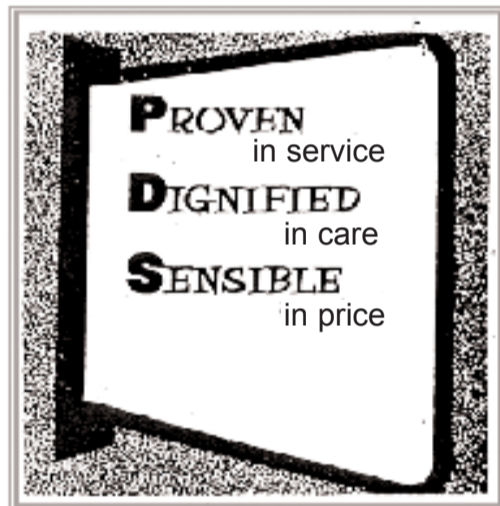
Card Of Thanks



The family of Sylvia Nixon Hyman has been blessed with a wonderful circle of extended family and friends who surrounded us, supported us, and lifted us up during this journey and time of bereavement. Your love and care will always be remembered. May God continue to bestow His richest blessings on each of you.

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Connie Drain Green
Funeral Director



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New Hanover County

Fatih Temple Cogie, 1119 S. 4th St., will hold appreciation services for Pastor Lorenzo Edge and Lady Anne Edge from Thursday, October 12th at 7:30 p.m. with speaker Bishop Linwood Nesbitt, Friday, October 13th at 7:30 p.m. with Pastor Johnson Hooper as guest speaker, Sunday, October 15th at 11:00 a.m. with guest speaker Mother Patricia Lofton and at 4:00 p.m. the guest speaker will be Rev. Henry Gregory.

Religious Briefs

Mount Zion AME Church, 1111 N. 5th Ave., will hold their 2017 Fall Revival from Wednesday, October 18th-Friday, October 20th. Praise and worship at 7:00 p.m. nightly. The Revivalist will be Rev. Abdue Knox I of Bethel AME Church, Selma, NC.

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, 701 S.12th St., will celebrate their Gospel Choir Anniversary on Saturday, October 28th at 4:00 p.m. There will be choirs and musical groups from the surrounding areas. For more information call Sue Irving at 910-200-7043.

Traveling Shoes Ministry will celebrate its 23rd Anniversary Sunday, October 29th at 3:30 p.m. at Bethel Holiness Church, 5425 Market St.

Brunswick County

Holy Covenant United Holy Church of America, 237 Snowfield Rd., will hold their Fall Revival from Wednesday, October 18th- Friday, October 20th. Praise & Worship will begin at 7:00 p.m. nightly and Worship service will begin at 7:30 p.m. nightly. On Wednesday the guests will be Bishop Durward Murril, choir and congregation of Anderson Tabernacle. Thursday the guests will be Bishop Tommy Nesbitt, choir and congregation of Christian Hope Christian Church. Friday the guests will Reverend Richard Smith, choir and congregation of Mt. Nebo Missionary Baptist Church.

Moore's Chapel A. M. E. Zion church, Leland, will be having a musical/baby contest Oct. 8th at 3pm.

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

In Loving Memory Of Our Parents



Rueall Bennerman, Sr.
Sunrise: January 1, 1920
Sunset: November 26, 1990

Velma Nixon Bennerman
Sunrise: November 14, 1922
Sunset: June 29, 1999

JOINED IN UNION OCTOBER 19, 1939

Dear Dad and Mom,
We will always cherish sweet memories of you. Daughter; Juanita; sons, Sterlin and Ricardo; son-in-law, daughters-in-law, grand children and great grand children, other relatives and friends

SENIOR MOMENTS

Working together to benefit our youth

My fellow citizens,

I was very happy to see the article by James Hankins (a cousin of mine) in the Journal. He mentioned some things the church could do to give our children a head start, such as an after school program. It's a great idea which is long overdue.

Ruth Johnson

If a few small churches would come together in one building, we could do great things for the community. As we reach out to help the chil-

dren, we would also help the church. I have seen small churches wither away because the next generation dropped out. They failed to attend because there was not enough being done to hold their attention. Certainly, our main focus is Bible Study, but one book is not going to hold the attention of all ages for all time. So the church should have something more to offer. An after school program would be great, but most adults have other responsibilities, and only a few elderly members can be there. Taking care of children can be too much.

That's why we need several churches to come together and sponsor a program in one

building. We need to reach out to one another as sisters and brothers in Christ. We can have a great after school program, but one church should not have to work alone. Several churches should come together and put a plan on the table.

Back in the fifties, when the suburbs started springing up, White people started fleeing the inner cities in droves. A huge Baptist Church in Providence, Rhode Island went down to just thirteen members! There was a small Black church down the street, which was overflowing and needing to expand. Both churches depended upon the A. B. C. for support. That organization tried to per-

sue the two churches to combine, but it never happened. Eventually, the huge church, which was deep in debt and almost empty, decided to turn their building over to the Black church for a small sum, and A. B. C. was there to witness the transaction.

But why couldn't two churches worship together in one building? Don't answer that. A better question would be why can't a few small churches work together during the week for the benefit of our children? have a good day!

Mrs. Ruth Johnson is a First Baptist Church Ministry Worker.

TELL SOMEBODY

"People Get Ready !"

"Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." Matthew 24:44

Ready - prepared or available for service or action

For years we have been told that the coming of the Lord is drawing nigh and that in fact, Jesus is soon to come. We were told...Get Ready ! Get ready ! Get Ready! Scoffers and unbelievers seem to be amused that so many believers are yet holding on to their faith in God. These type of people are described in the bible as... "Ever



Sylvia Hooper

learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth." II Timothy 3:7 They do not understand, God's word is true. If he spoke it, it shall come to pass!

"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to usward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." People Get Ready!

If we believe this is true, then we need to live in a state of preparedness so we will be ready when the Lord Jesus comes for his church. In order to GET READY for his second coming, believers must have faith in him, be willing to (fulfil) carry out his will, and follow his teachings. People Get Ready!

Faith - Confident belief in the truth, value, or trustworthiness of a person, idea, or thing. In order to be ready for the coming of the Lord, we must have faith in his word and believe and receive his promised blessings! The blessings of the Lord maketh rich and adds no sorrow. The blessings of the Lord will provide much needed support and provide provisions to help us do the work of the ministry. Confident faith edifies and promotes God's people to walk in faith and victory.

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for; the evidence of things not seen." Hebrews 11:1 "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

Hebrews 11:6

Fulfil - To carry out. In order to be ready for the coming of the Lord Jesus, we must walk in obedience to his word and pray that his will be done on earth, even as it is in heaven. We must do our part to make it happen! We are workers together with Christ!

Jesus said in Luke 6:46, "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?"

Follow - To accept the guidance or leadership of. In order to be ready for the coming of the Lord, we must accept the leadership of Jesus Christ as our Lord and personal Saviour. If we follow Christ, we will accept his salvation. As we follow Christ, we will accept the gift of the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

"If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honor." John 12:26

Servant - One expressing submission or debt to another. "Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as you think not the Son of man cometh. Who then is a faith-

ful and wise servant, whom his Lord have made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing." Matthew 24:44-46. People Get Ready!

And 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!

The Young At Heart Club holds annual picnic

BY EVELYN SMITH
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

September, 1997, giving birth to the Young At Heart Club under the leadership of Reverend Artie Odom, the club has been active in many religious and social activities.

In memory of Sister Mary Patrick, the club donates to Mount Olive Mementos to honor her.

We are very blessed to add to our helping hand of Nesley O. Nixon the names of Robert Milner, Thomas Ingram and Henry Brown.

We were happy to have



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

MEMBERS OF YOUNG AT HEART CLUB

Brother Brown help us finance our annual picnic. Also to have had Reverend Tony Mills join Reverend and Mrs. Anthony Watson as our guest. Sadly, due

to illness we regret the absence of Dorothy DeShields. We thank Princess Seafood and Smithfield's Chicken for catering the picnic.

Now that we have jumped up our hearts, the members are ready for the journey of Christian duties and social events for the year.

OBITUARIES

Continued from page 7

Tremayne Hansley and **Brianna Evans**; great-grandson, **Grayson Walker**; a host of nieces and nephews and special nephew who was like a son, **Romello Seth**. 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

Easter Patrick

Easter Patrick, age 58, of Wilmington, passed away Friday, October 13, 2017. Friends are cordially invited to a visitation with the family from 6:00 - 8:00 PM on Friday, October 20, 2017. A celebration of Easter's life will be conducted at 12:00 p.m., Saturday, October 21, 2017 at **Davis**

Funeral Home. Interment will follow in **Salvation and Deliverance Church Cemetery**. 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

Jonathan J. Halyard

Jonathan J. Halyard, age 30, of Brooklyn, NY, passed away Sunday, October 8, 2017. Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, October 20, 2017 at **Davis Funeral Home**. A public viewing will be held from 12:00 PM to 2:00 p.m. Interment will follow in **Oak Grove Cemetery**. 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

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