

**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.

**STATE BRIEFS**

**FEDERAL COURT STRIKES DOWN NC CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING AS "UNCONSTITUTIONAL PARTISAN GERRYMANDER"**

[GREENSBORO] A federal three-judge panel for North Carolina's Middle District struck down North Carolina's 2016 congressional plan Tuesday as an unconstitutional partisan gerrymander. That 2016 plan was developed after a federal court invalidated two congressional districts as unconstitutional racial gerrymanders. When the legislature purported to "remedy" that racially gerrymandered plan with an unabashed and admitted partisan gerrymander, the League of Women Voters of North Carolina and several voters from across the state filed suit.

Allison Riggs, senior voting rights attorney for the Southern Coalition for Social Justice, offered the following statement after the opinion was released:

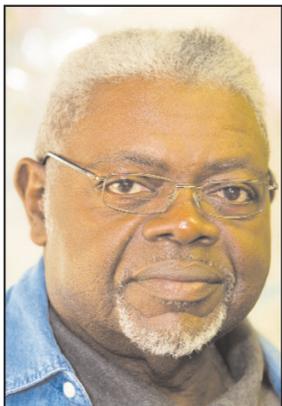
"A bipartisan three-judge federal panel agreed with us today that partisan gerrymandering is an affront to our Equal Protection Clause. They recognized the egregious nature of what the North Carolina General Assembly did in 2016, purportedly to remedy another unconstitutional congressional redistricting plan."

"We're enormously gratified on behalf of our clients and all voters in North Carolina that no one will have to endure another congressional election under an unconstitutional map. The court was clear in demanding a real remedy before the 2018 elections, and we expect the General Assembly to respect that order."

Per the ruling, the North Carolina General Assembly has until January 29 to enact a remedial plan; the federal court plans to employ a special master to draw an alternative remedial plan, and the remedial plan should be enacted before the 2018 congressional elections.

COMPILED BY CASH MICHAELS

**BRUNSWICK COUNTY UPDATE**



**BERNEST HEWETT**

Returning next week.

# THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

VOLUME 91/No.2

JANUARY 11, 2018 - JANUARY 17, 2018

FIFTY CENTS

**EXCLUSIVE**

## CHANGES COMING TO 1898 "COUP" MARKER

Armed crowd met, Nov. 10, 1898, at armory here, marched 6 blocks S. E., and burned office of Daily Record, black-owned newspaper edited by Alex Manley. Violence left up to 60 blacks dead. Led to overthrow of city government and the installation of coup leader Alfred Moore Waddell as mayor. "Race riot" was part of a statewide political campaign based on calls for white supremacy & exploitation of racial tensions—Current inscription for planned 1898 Historical Marker to be unveiled in the fall

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

The NC Historical highway marker commemorating the 1898 Wilmington race massacre has already been approved by the NC Highway Historical Marker Advisory Committee, but when it is finally unveiled on Market Street between Fourth and Fifth streets later this fall, expect changes to the marker's controversial inscription describing the bloody events that started on Nov. 10, 1898.

The primary change will be to the

sentence, "Violence left up to 60 blacks dead," which several in the community, including the NHCNAACP, have indicated is incorrect because a six year inquiry into the massacre by the 1898 Wilmington Race Riot Commission noted that the number of known dead was "unknown."

The new inscription will indicate that the number of African-Americans killed during the massacre was undetermined.

Please see **1898 MARKER** Page 2



**ARMED CROWD BURNED THE OFFICE OF DAILY RECORD. VIOLENCE LEFT AN UNKNOWN NUMBER OF AFRICAN AMERICANS DEAD.**

In an exclusive interview this week with *The Wilmington Journal*,

### The community celebrates the life of The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



THE REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

The New Hanover County Branch of the NAACP will hold its annual breakfast on Saturday, January 13 at 9:00 a.m. at Dreams, 901 Fanning Street. Keynote speaker is native Wilmingtonian, Attorney Reginald Shuford. Proceeds to benefit youth programs.

The Southeastern North Carolina Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Committee will celebrate its annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Celebration by hosting the following events from January 11 - January 15, 2018.

January 11, 2018	6:00-8:00 pm	Potluck for Peace by the YWCA	Martin Luther King Jr. Center Hilton, Downtown Wilmington
January 12, 2018	6:00 pm	Dr. MLK, Jr. Banquet	Martin Luther King Jr. Center
January 13, 2018	11:00 am	Family Fun Day	Brodgen Hall, NHHS
	1:00 pm	CFCC Women vs. Patrick Henry	Brodgen Hall, NHHS
	3:00 pm	CFCC Men vs. Denmark Tech	Brodgen Hall, NHHS
January 14, 2018	Ecumenical Service	January 15, 2018	1:00 am MLK, Jr. Parade Downtown, Wilmington

**SUBMITTED BY THE SOUTHEASTERN NORTH CAROLINA MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CELEBRATION COMMITTEE**

The purpose of the MLK, Jr., Celebration Committee is to pay homage to an American hero through educational seminars, religious events, art and cultural events while displaying positive interactions within our community through professional and social gatherings. We seek to incorporate health and wellness concerns and help to build our capacity to do more to address and improve racial relations, community and visibility of the positive achievements and contributions of African Americans throughout our history. Wilmington is particularly important place to fully commemorate the work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., because of the continuing impact of the 1898 coup d'etat, overthrowing an elected

African Americans government, which radically disenfranchised African Americans here. These actions and inactions cost many their lives and many more their rightfully owned land. In addition, the heroic efforts of the Wilmington Ten, who fought tirelessly to desegregate the local schools, must be remembered. A little known fact is that Dr. King was due to arrive in Wilmington, NC but postponed his arrival to assist striking sanitation workers with their issue in Memphis, Tennessee where he met his untimely demise. This year will mark the 50th Anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s death. We will celebrate his life and legacy by continuing to be an example and teach the principles of Dr. King. Our theme of 2018 "Life is a gift, Living is to serve". For more information please contact the MLK, Jr. Celebration Committee at (910)763-4138 or visit our website at www.mlkjrcelebration-senc10.com.



### Federal court close to deciding on new districts

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

If political body language means anything, Republican legislative leaders in the NC General Assembly and their attorneys in the Covington vs. North Carolina redistricting case seem almost resolved that the federal three-judge panel hearing the case is going to rule against them sometime soon and implement the special master's redrawn voting maps in place of their own.

That much seemed clear during the Jan. 5 hearing in federal court in Greensboro last Friday, as attorneys for the State did their best attacking Special Master Nathaniel Persily's work, which effectively removed the illegal racial gerrymanders evident in the GOP's 2011 voting maps and their 2017 redrawn districts of which the three-judge panel

Please see **DISTRICTS**/Page 2

### NCNAACP leery of GOP special session

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

On Wednesday, supporters of the NCNAACP came from all across North Carolina to rally at the NC General Assembly to protest why they believe the State legislature is back in session weeks before they're officially scheduled to come back.

"The independent judiciary is under attack in North Carolina," says Rev. Dr. T. Anthony Spearman, President of the NCNAACP "...and the people understand that this attack...is a threat to our democracy."

Thus the reason for "Fair Courts Day of Action."

A coalition of social justice groups, led by the NCNAACP, Democracy North Carolina, and Progress NC, reacting to bills either passed or introduced by the Republican-led legislature in 2017 that gerrymanders North Carolina's judicial districts targeting Black judges by packing them so they would compete against each other (passed) or would cut judicial terms from the State Supreme Court to Superior Court from eight years and four years, down to just two years (proposed) or even institute a merit selection system where North Carolina's

lawmakers appoint the judges they want to the bench (also proposed).

No other state in the nation has such a system in place.

"It targets Black judges and women judges and Black voters, which is really racist," Linda Sutton, organizer for Democracy N.C., told the Times-News. "[The Republicans] plan to take over the courts to appoint their own judges ... so when we challenge them, we won't have anywhere else to go."

Indeed, one of the key legislative measures passed last year was in the

Please see **NAACP**/Page 2



REV. DR. T. ANTHONY SPEARMAN



THE WILMINGTON  
JOURNAL

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The Wilmington Journal cannot  
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## DISTRICTS

Continued from Page 1

found 29 to be legally prob-  
lematic as well.

At stake is the 2018 NC leg-  
islative midterm elections  
coming up in November. With  
Democrats energized to  
retake the State legislature  
from the Republican major-  
ity, many political observers  
expect Republican attorneys  
to appeal an expected nega-  
tive ruling to the US Supreme  
Court, thereby delaying the  
scheduled Feb. 12 through 28  
candidate filing dates for the  
May primaries and, possibly,  
throwing off the entire elec-  
tion year schedule until they  
can get a favorable ruling that  
will help them retain legisla-  
tive power.

Led by Republican  
Attorney Phil Strach, the  
Republican argument was  
that the special master  
redrew certain districts  
with race in mind, contrary  
to what they believe the  
judicial panel originally  
wanted.

"The way you remedy the  
use of a quota is you take  
the quota out," Attorney  
Strach told the court.

Strach added that Persily  
was never needed because  
GOP lawmakers were fully  
capable of redrawing their  
own maps and should have  
been given the opportunity  
to do so by the federal court.

Strach even called their  
own expert witness, who  
submitted his own maps, to  
the stand to testify that  
Persily used Black voting  
age percentages in the dis-

## NC groups call to balance scales of justice in NC

BY STEPHANIE CARSON  
OF NC NEWS SERVICE

RALEIGH, N.C. - Wednes-  
day dozens of people convened  
at the North Carolina State  
Capitol in Raleigh to speak out  
for the judicial system.

Lawmakers were expected to  
take up several issues related to  
the selection of judges and  
lengths of their terms, but have  
since delayed that discussion  
for later this month.

Melissa Price Kromm,  
director of North Carolina  
Voters for Clean Elections,  
says her organization and

other supporting groups  
won't be deterred.

"We're not going any-  
where," she stresses. "We're  
going to stand here and we're  
going to fight for our courts."

"North Carolina must  
draw a line in the sand, and  
say, 'No, we are here to pro-  
tect fair and impartial courts,  
we are here to protect institu-  
tions of democracy, and we're  
not going away.'"

The General Assembly  
recently passed a bill, vetoed by  
Gov. Roy Cooper, that would  
have canceled primary elec-  
tions for judges, and the House

passed a bill that would modify  
legislative maps as they relate  
to judicial districts, which  
opponents say will reduce  
minority judges.

Other proposed ideas  
include limiting judges' terms  
to two years and eliminating  
judicial elections completely.

Supporters of the changes  
say the current system is con-  
fusing for voters.

Progress NC and the North  
Carolina Council of  
Churches also are participat-  
ing Wednesday in the Fair  
Courts Day of Action.

Jennifer Copeland, execu-

tive director of the North  
Carolina Council of  
Churches, likens the system  
of government to a three-  
legged stool you wouldn't  
want to sit on.

"What we have is a broken  
General Assembly leg, a  
weak governor leg, because  
the General Assembly has  
exerted so much control over  
the governor, and now this  
third leg that has been up to  
now the strongest leg is in  
danger," she states.

A new poll released by  
Public Policy Polling found  
that 75 percent of voters

oppose the proposal to elimi-  
nate judicial elections and 59  
percent oppose last year's law  
to cancel judicial primaries.

Kromm says attempts to  
change the way judges are  
selected isn't localized to the  
Tar Heel State.

"This is an incredibly  
important battle because if  
the legislature is allowed to  
do court meddling right now,  
this will grow like a disease  
across our country, where  
other legislators will think,  
'Hey, North Carolina can pick  
their judges. I can pick my  
judges, too,'" she stresses.

## Opponents: Offshore drilling opens Pandora's box for NC coast

BY STEPHANIE CARSON  
OF NC NEWS SERVICE

BEAUFORT, N.C. - On  
Thursday, the Trump adminis-  
tration announced plans to  
open up Atlantic, Pacific, Gulf  
and Arctic waters to offshore  
drilling. If the Department of  
the Interior moves forward, it  
will be the biggest oil and gas  
lease sale ever.

The news is initiating ripples  
of concern from the  
North Carolina coast, where  
tourism and commercial fish-  
ing could be impacted.

Tom Kies, the president  
and CEO of the Carteret  
Chamber of Commerce, says

the state has a lot to lose in  
the deal.

"What's at stake are mil-  
lions of jobs and millions of  
dollars of revenue," he states.  
"We are deeply dependent on  
tourism, and if we lose that  
we pack our bags and we go  
someplace else."

There have been no oil and  
gas leasing of federal waters  
since the 1980s. The five-year  
plan announced during the  
final days of the Obama  
administration offered a  
small selection of leases in  
parts of the Gulf of Mexico  
and the West Coast, but left  
the Atlantic, Pacific and the  
eastern Gulf of Mexico off

the table.

Supporters of offshore  
drilling argue it's needed for  
the country's energy inde-  
pendence and will create  
jobs.

The draft proposal esti-  
mates the amount of oil off  
the Atlantic coast to equal  
approximately a seven-month  
supply based on current U.S.  
consumption.

Steve Mashuda, the man-  
aging attorney for oceans at  
Earthjustice, says the risk to  
the coast doesn't merit the  
reward at a time when clean-  
energy options are on the  
rise.

"We not only don't need

this now, we're not going to  
need it later," he says. "In a  
world where we need to  
address the threats from cli-  
mate change, we're going to  
be burning less oil 20, 30  
years from now than we are  
today, and this oil is not need-  
ed now and it's not going to be  
needed down the road,  
either."

The announcement comes  
at a time when the Trump  
administration is working to  
roll back restrictions put in  
place after the Deepwater  
Horizon spill. Kies says once  
drilling begins, there's no  
going back to a protected  
coast.

"That's a devil's bargain,"  
Kies warns. "Once you've  
started, that will never end. It  
is a huge concern of ours  
that instead of bringing jobs  
to eastern North Carolina,  
we could very easily lose just  
a huge amount of jobs."

Kies and others add that  
it's also unclear how much  
interest there will be on the  
part of oil companies in bid-  
ding on the leases, and if the  
price garnered will be worth  
the risk. Because of histori-  
cally low oil prices, many off-  
shore drillers are working  
with existing infrastructure,  
versus exploring new territo-  
ries.

## 1898 MARKER

Continued from Page 1

Michael Hill, Research  
Supervisor at the NC Office  
of Archives and History, a  
division of the NC Dept. of  
Natural and Cultural  
Resources, confirmed that  
staff at the NC Highway  
Historical Program met last  
Friday and determined that  
some of the proposed lan-  
guage of the planned 1898  
marker needs to be changed  
before it is unveiled.

"We wish to seek input from  
the local community. We've  
received several emails, includ-  
ing from the local NAACP, and  
probably about a half dozen  
others," Mr. Hill told *The  
Journal*.

Hill went on to say that the  
agency has "set aside plans to  
order the sign," and plans at the

next marker committee  
meeting in May to revisit the 1898  
marker language issue. "The  
point of the reassessment is to  
revisit the text and to accom-  
modate people's wishes and  
suggestions."

Mr. Hill added that Ansley  
Wegner, the administrator of  
the NC Highway Historical  
Marker Program, has been  
working on redrafts of the 1898  
marker inscription.

As indicated before, per the  
inscription, the number of  
Blacks killed will be changed to  
"unknown," in addition to the  
term "race riot" deleted. The  
name of the 1898 massacre  
leader, Alfred Moore Waddell,  
will also be dropped, and the  
name of Alex Manley, the pub-  
lisher of the Black newspaper  
that was burned to the ground,  
*The Daily Record*, will also be  
dropped, though the *Record*  
will continue to be cited by

name on the marker.

There already is a historical  
marker citing Manley by name  
on Seventh Street where the  
*Daily Record* was torched by an  
angry mob of White suprema-  
cists on Nov. 10, 1898. The new  
marker on Market Street will  
denote the spot from where  
the mob gathered at the  
armory and then proceeded to  
Seventh Street to burn down  
the *Record*.

"The next stage will be to  
share the new drafts with all  
interested local parties," Hill  
continued, including Rend  
Smith, of the nonprofit  
group, Working Narratives,  
which made the original  
application for the 1898 mark-  
er, and Deborah Dicks  
Maxwell, President of the  
NHCNAACP.

The New Hanover African-  
American Heritage Commis-  
sion will also be included.

Smith, as the applicant, will  
then have the right of first  
appeal to the marker advisory  
committee when they meet in  
May.

Members of the New  
Hanover County House delega-  
tion to the NC legislature seem  
to be in agreement about mak-  
ing sure that the 1898 marker  
inscription is historically accu-  
rate.

"The marker is long overdue  
and I hope that it will serve to  
inform the public of the horri-  
fic events of 1898 so that our  
community in time can heal,"  
Representative Deb Butler [D-  
New Hanover] told *The  
Journal*. "To that end, and in  
order to prevent any further  
revisionist views of history, it  
must be as accurate as possi-  
ble."

Her Republican colleague in  
the State House from New  
Hanover County, Rep. Holly

Grange, agreed.

"Not only do I support a his-  
torical marker commemorat-  
ing such a notable event in the  
history of Wilmington, I  
believe it also important that  
the marker be historically and  
factually accurate. Therefore, I  
agree with the report by the  
1898 Wilmington Race Riot  
Commission and [the public's]  
request to modify the historical  
marker."

*Editor's note - Those wish-  
ing to write the NC Highway  
Historical Marker Program to  
express your concerns about  
the proposed inscription on  
the 1898 race massacre marker  
should address your corre-  
spondence to : 4610 Mail  
Service Center, Raleigh, NC  
27699-4610, to the attention of  
Ansley Wegner, administrator,  
or email Ms. Wegner at ans-  
ley.wegner@ncdcr.gov.*

## NAACP

Continued from Page 1

State House, canceling the 2018  
primaries for judicial candi-  
dates. Earlier last year, the GOP  
majority also passed HB 239,  
which reduced the number of  
judges on the State Court of  
Appeals from 15 to 12, in an  
effort to deny Democratic Gov.  
Roy Cooper the ability to fill the  
three court vacancies that  
would occur during his term.

That plan was partially  
thwarted when Appellate

tribunal he redrew. The special  
master denied the charge.

Persily, a Stanford  
University law professor,  
and considered an expert in  
redistricting mapping,  
defended his work, saying  
that his job was to follow the  
directives of the three-judge  
panel to correct nine NC  
House and Senate districts,  
making sure that there was  
no racial stacking and pack-  
ing, which the Republicans  
had previously employed in  
order to lessen Black  
Democratic voter influence  
throughout North Carolina.

Federal Appellate Court  
Judge James Wynn chastis-  
ed Strach and the  
Republican attorneys, alleg-  
ing that, instead of working  
to undermine Persily's work,  
they could have had their  
expert work with him to  
produce maps with which  
both sides could live.

Attorneys for Sharon  
Covington and her co-plain-  
tiffs suing the State gave a  
rhetorical "thumbs up" to  
Persily's work, and urged  
the court to adopt his  
redrawn maps.

"I think they've been pret-  
ty honest that they intend to  
seek appellate review,"  
plaintiff's attorney, Allison  
Riggs, told reporters after  
the four hour hearing. "So  
we'll be prepared."

Court Judge Douglas  
McCullough retired early,  
allowing Cooper to appoint his  
replacement before the bill  
could be enacted.

So exactly what are both the  
State House and Senate plan-  
ning in terms of revamping the  
State's judiciary - the one  
branch of government that in  
recent years, has successfully  
countered much of the  
Republican social agenda for  
North Carolina?

Last week, during a special  
Senate committee appointed by  
Senate Pres. Pro-tem Phil

Berger (Rockingham), four  
possible plans were revealed to  
be under consideration -

1. The Blue Plan - where judi-  
cial elections for appellate  
judges are suspended; the gov-  
ernor nominates candidates;  
both State houses confirm the  
nominations within 60 days;  
a general election is held for vot-  
ers to either accept or reject the  
legislative confirmation.

2. The Orange Plan - a 15-  
member Judicial Nominating  
Commission picks two candi-  
dates. The governor appoints  
one of the two, with that judi-

cial appointee serving a 14-year  
term, and is eligible for re-nom-  
ination by the Commission.

3. The Red Plan - The  
General Assembly appoints a  
candidate when a judicial  
vacancy occurs. That judicial  
appointee serves for life or  
until the age of 72.

4. The Purple Plan - a non-  
partisan independent Merit  
Selection Commission appoint-  
ed by the State Supreme Court  
Chief Justice. That 7 or 9 mem-  
ber panel will forward all nom-  
inations to the NC General  
Assembly for further consider-

ation. Local commissions will  
do the same for Superior Court  
and District Court nominees.  
Upon review, State lawmakers  
forward the three best nomi-  
nees to the governor; who then  
appoints. Voters vote to con-  
firm or reject the governor's  
choice, which, if confirmed,  
would serve a ten-year term.  
That appointee is not eligible to  
be re-appointed to the same  
court.

Whatever plan the NC  
General Assembly ultimately  
chooses will become evident  
during the Special Session.

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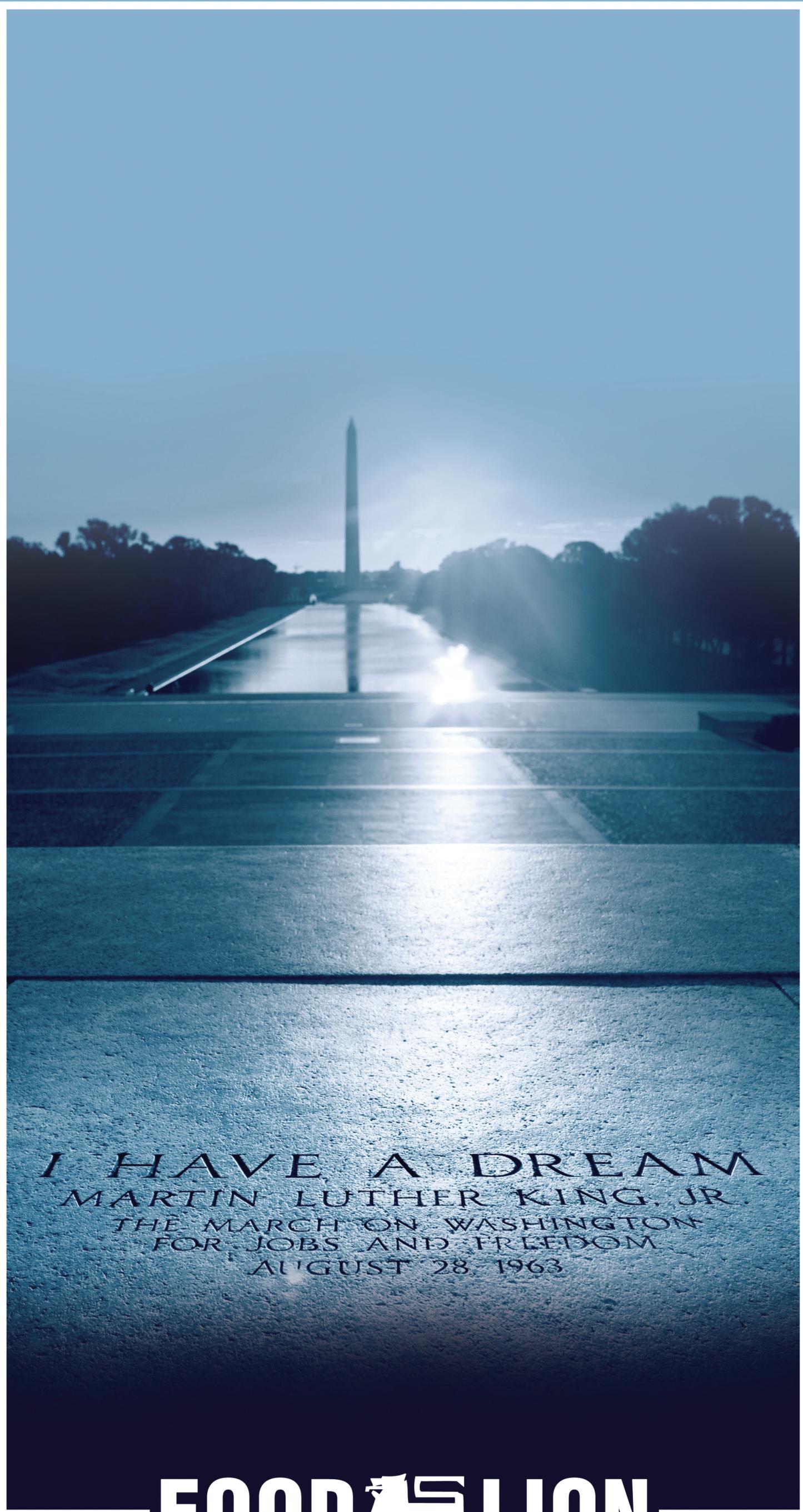
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**"If the lions do not write their own history,  
then the hunters will get all the credit."**

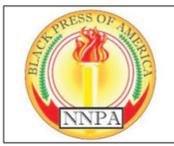
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**POWER1220AM**  
**WENC**  
Whiteville, North Carolina  
**Godwin Communication, LLC**  
Godwin Communications passion is to inspire people through  
good radio programming that uplift, motivate and empower people  
to achieve greatness.  
Our local station WENC has served Columbus County and  
surrounding areas since 1974. We are committed to providing the  
highest quality of service.  
Our goal is to introduce a wholesome format with positive  
connotations to assist the spiritual growth of our listeners. We feel  
this goal is attainable because of our coverage.  
Our station broadcasts National News and Sports from the NBC and  
NC Network. The coverage of WENC is Southeastern North Carolina  
and Northeastern South Carolina, which includes Bladen, Horry,  
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*I HAVE A DREAM  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON  
FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM  
AUGUST 28, 1963*

**FOOD  LION**



THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

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

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## OUR VOICE

GUEST EDITORIAL

### Fifty years ago

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., born on January 15, 1929, turned 39 years old fifty years ago. Assassinated on April 4, 1968, he didn't make it to 40. Yet in his scant 39 years on the planet, he upended the ways we think about race, capitalism, poverty, power, and imperialism. The powers that be—foundations, corporations, and the media—were okay with him when he talked about race and discrimination. They were much less happy when he rattled their cages, talking about capitalism and imperialism.



Dr. Julianne Malveaux

When he began to speak out against the Vietnam War, King was pretty much told to stay in his lane. When he didn't, some of his support drifted away. Yet he persisted. He lifted his voice. He made a difference. And he left a legacy that, fifty years later, we must reclaim.

1968 was a fascinating year, perhaps one of the most important as a game-changer in our national consciousness. King was assassinated, and so was Robert Kennedy, a man who embraced King's message and who might have been an amazing President, had he been able to complete his campaign and win.

In 1968, despite Dr. King's assassination, his colleagues executed the Poor People's Campaign. It brought people from all over the country to the Washington Mall, people who were prepared to confront our government about the way we treated poor people. Some of those who were there spoke of the "absolute audacity" of the people who gathered, who believed they could make a difference.

Their audacity reflected the audacity of Dr. King the man who, in his Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech in 1964, spoke of the "audacity to believe" that our society could be different, more accepting of the poor, and more committed to "three meals a day for our bodies, education and culture for our minds, peace and freedom for our spirit."

Fast forward. Peace is elusive. We may well be looking at a nuclear war with North Korea. Two unstable individuals are playing the 11 year old game (with all due respect to 11 year olds) of mine is bigger than yours.

I think the whole world cringed when 45 continued to sell wolf tickets to North Korean President Kim Jong-Un. 45 keeps calling that clearly unstable leader out of his name, and engaging him in toxic insults. When crazy meets crazy, what does this mean for the rest of us? Fifty years ago, Dr. King would have made time for both, speaking of peace. Now, we have pugilists in charge of diplomacy. This is someplace past challenging—it is a prescription for disaster.

Then we have the new tax bill that flies in the face of everything Dr. King stood for. It will cut social programs, and filter more money to the wealthy. When Dr. King said he had the audacity to believe that people could have three meals a day, he supported the Food Stamps program that House Majority Leader Paul Ryan (R-WI) would like to reduce or eliminate.

More than that, when Dr. King talked about "education and culture" his comments are radically different from those of Education Secretary Betsy DeVos (of good sense, but she goes by the name DeVos). Her work in these short months has minimized opportunities and safety for students.

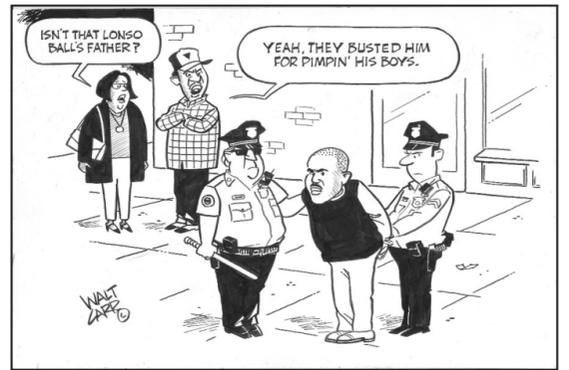
This year there will be commemorations of the many things that happened fifty years ago. This year we will again mourn Dr. Martin Luther King and Senator Robert Kennedy. This year we will remember the 1968 Presidential campaign, the drama in Chicago, the Presidential candidacy of the racist George Wallace, the rising fists of Black athletes at the Olympics, and the peak in Vietnam deaths. We in the civil rights community will think of Dr. King, but 1968 was one of those years, fifty years ago, when lives were upended, conventional wisdom was challenged, and audacity was celebrated. Yes, 1968 was an audacious year; more audacious than many we have seen since.

Fifty years ago, we lost a King and gained audacity. We turned it up and turned it out in cities around the country. We confronted government with the Poor People's Campaign. Now what?

Rev. William Barber, author of the Third Reconstruction, and President of the moral movement, Repairers of the Breach, carries on the legacy. So does Rev. Jesse Jackson, leader of Rainbow PUSH and a close associate of Dr. King's. There are others who have audacity, but they can't do it alone, any more than our leaders did fifty year ago. Where do you stand?

Julianne Malveaux is an author and economist. Her latest book "Are We Better Off? Race, Obama and Public Policy" is available via [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) for booking, wholesale inquiries or for more info visit [www.julianmalveaux.com](http://www.julianmalveaux.com).

## Visual Voice



## MATTERS OF OPINION

### RAINBOW COALITION

#### Sessions stands for outmoded, unjust law-and-order policies

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

Attorney General Jeff Sessions gets it wrong. On core issue after core issue - civil rights, voting rights, women's rights, police reform and particularly mass incarceration - he is a destructive force.



Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.

The United States locks up more people per capita than any country in the world. China, run by a brutal Communist Party that is paranoid about dissent and upheaval, doesn't put people behind bars at the rate we do.

In the last years of the Obama administration, a bipartisan consensus formed about the need to reduce unnecessary imprisonment. Republicans signed on because it could save money. Democrats liked it because it offered hope that fewer lives would be destroyed for making a mistake.

Sessions, upon becoming attorney general, turned his back on this movement, instructing U.S. prosecutors to charge the most serious provable offenses. He has boosted private prisons, reinstated the federal asset forfeiture program and moved to lengthen drug sentences. Most recently, he instructed prosecutors to enforce U.S. laws making marijuana illegal, even in states that have legalized it such as Colorado and California. So much for

Trump's campaign pledge that he is a "states' rights" supporter.

While Republicans protest that mass incarceration isn't about race, you know it is certainly about race. People of color - African-Americans particularly - are a disproportionate part of those locked up. The institutionalized racial bias of our criminal justice system is notorious and indisputable. Black fathers warn their sons about driving while black. Blacks are more likely to be stopped, more likely to be searched if stopped, more likely to be detained if searched, more likely to be charged if detained and more likely to be imprisoned if charged. Black men are imprisoned at six times the rate of white men.

The result is shameful. In 2014, the Bureau of Justice Statistics showed that black men have a staggering one in three chance of going to prison in their lifetimes. Having a record makes getting a decent job more difficult. Serving time makes that even worse. Many states still disenfranchise those convicted of a felony even after they have served their time. Michelle Alexander has termed this a new Jim Crow, yet another way to keep down the black vote.

Finding alternatives to incarceration, particularly for nonviolent crimes, should not be a partisan issue. And in Illinois, to some extent, it isn't. Once elected, Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner pledged to reduce the number incarcerated in the

state by one-fourth by 2025. Recent reports suggest it is down by about 9 percent this year.

This isn't due to any one reform. Prosecutors and judges are asked to use common sense in deciding whether to seek prison sentences. In Chicago, widespread use of "ankle bracelets" allows police to keep track of offenders without locking them up. Reducing waiting times for trial helps. In Chicago, a staggering nine of 10 people in jail are waiting for trial, not serving a sentence. Seven of 10 are charged with nonviolent crimes. The West Side Chicago neighborhood North Lawndale will host the first "restorative justice community court." The court enables the offender and a victim to determine what an appropriate remedy would be - from community service to repayment of costs, resulting in both more social peace and fewer people in prison. And on fulfilling the agreement, the offender's record is erased - a big plus for his or her future.

Reducing excessive incarceration is necessary but not sufficient. Those released from prison or avoiding prison need job training, jobs and affordable transportation. Some need drug rehab and psychological assistance. They need hope and a hand up, not simply a get out of prison card. The parallel is what happened with welfare. The repeal of welfare and its implementation in various states reduced the welfare rolls. However, it didn't

reduce poverty or the vulnerability of the impoverished mothers who were pushed off the rolls. They need job training, jobs, affordable transportation, child care, health care and more. And that hasn't been forthcoming.

Young people make mistakes. They get in the wrong crowd; they grow desperate or cynical. Too many fall for drugs and gangs. We need a process that insures a mistake does not condemn them to a life of crime. An offender may be released from jail, but if his or her record keeps him or her from getting hired, the chances of returning to jail are high. Nearly 50 percent of ex-offenders in Illinois are back in prison within three years.

Reducing the number of people in jail would save a lot of money. Those savings could help defray the cost of education, training and transportation subsidy for those who are released. We need to invest more in these things as a society - for those coming out of high school as well as those coming out of prison. Instead of locking people up, we could decide to help them up. Surely that would make America better.

In the 1960s George Wallace vowed to stand in the schoolhouse door to keep African-American children from getting in. Now Jeff Sessions is standing in the prison door to keep young people of color from getting out. Surely we can do better than that.

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

## "It's only a nigger"

We had come home from church, shedding our coats and ties on a hot humid Southern summer Sunday.

Sitting down for dinner, grace having just been said, we heard the screeching of tires and the crashing of metal.

Walking outside down the dirt driveway to the Farm-to-Market road that ran in front of the property, three of us went to investigate. Dust rising in the distance from a culvert under a bridge pointed to an accident where we found an old, rusted pickup truck at the bottom of the ravine slammed into the ground in its fall from the highway. Walking sideways down the hill we got to the truck and, looking inside, saw a lone occupant, an old man, crumpled into the steering wheel in an age before seat belts.

I can still remember the scene 50 years later frozen in my memory, not because of what was seen but because of what was said. Looking inside, the patriarch of the family with whom I was having Sunday dinner said in an unemotional tone bordering on disappointment, "It's only a nigger," and turning, walked

back in silence up the ravine and back home to call the police.

I followed in silence, overwhelmed not only by what I heard but equally by what we failed to do - check the old man to see if he was alive - but then, "It was only a nigger."

As we celebrate the life and legacy of The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., we are reminded that while he identified with and was followed by millions of hard-working Blacks, he was equally at home in the halls of white academia, and the recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964, the year following his famous "I Have a Dream" speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, four years before his assassination in 1968.

His 'dream' speech was delivered in the rich tradition of the passionate preaching of the Black church, rising in a crescendo of conviction, declaring "I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed - we hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal."

Years later in a 2015 National Public Radio interview given just one week after the racist inspired killing of nine Black church members in Charleston, South Carolina, President Barack Obama observed that we have not yet realized this commitment to equality: "Racism. We are not cured of it. And it's not just a

matter of it not being polite to say 'nigger' in public. That's not the measure of whether racism still exists or not. It's not just a matter of overt discrimination...the legacy of slavery...casts a long shadow. And that's still part of our DNA that's passed on. We are not cured of it."

As we mark this MLK national holiday we are not only not cured of racism, but sadly Dr. King's dream for our nation is under assault by the 'long shadow' of racism cast by the highest office in the land denigrating and sowing seeds of suspicion and division in our national soul regarding Mexicans as rapists, Muslims as terrorists, Haitians as all having AIDS, Nigerian tourists as living in huts, Black football players exercising their American right to peaceful protest as 'sons of bitches,' Native Americans through his Pocahontas jab at a congresswoman, and at the same time defending the white supremacists in Charlottesville - "some very fine people," rendering his delayed reluctant post-Charlottesville comment that "Racism is evil" hollow if not hypocritical. It is therefore not surprising that the Southern Poverty Law Center reports a 20% increase in race-related hate crimes through September of this year.

"It's only a nigger." The offense is not the suspect N-word, but the use of the subtle

and more damning qualifier 'only' - it was a disturbing statement about the man in the truck being of less value solely due to the color of his skin. "Only" is implicit in every comment made that diminishes the value of any group of people through the use of negative labels, an assault on equality.

MLK Day is a time for personal reflection and examination of the contents of our hearts, for repentance of any and all prejudices we see within, and a commitment to the dream of King to our great and unique American experiment increasingly being hijacked by ignorance and arrogance compounded by incivility and lack of respect for others, an inequality plowing mistrust deep into our national soul.

The Golden Rule in the Gospels, a God-given commitment to equality, remains the most direct and explicit measurement for our interactions in a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic, multi-racial culture: "Treat others in the same way you would have them treat you," leaving no room for an "It's only a nigger" mentality.

The Rev. Dr. Robert Bayley is Pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Wilmington, North Carolina, and a member of the New Hanover County NAACP. He can be reached at [robertbayley@msn.com](mailto:robertbayley@msn.com).

## VOICE YOUR OPINION!!

WRITE A LETTER  
TO THE EDITOR,  
TODAY!

## Stop enabling white supremacy

Most Black folk might get offended if it is suggested that they are enablers to white supremacists. Yet, this enabling takes place every day.

In 1966, I was a 20-year-old Marine Corps draftee-recruit at Parris Island. I also was applying to get into the Marine Corps' aviation program similar to what was depicted in the film "An Officer and a Gentleman."

As a part of the application process, I had to be interviewed by a Marine colonel. At one point, the white colonel, who was seated behind his desk, asked me "Who do you admire more, Jackie Robinson or Cassius Clay?" A Black master sergeant, who was standing

behind the seated colonel, gave me the "Don't be a fool" look. That look made me know what answer the white man wanted to hear, so I loudly affirmed, "Jackie Robinson, sir."

Having lived most of my life in the segregated South, I knew danger lay in making white people feel uncomfortable, particularly a white man with power over my future.

A year later, I was a freshly minted lieutenant receiving flight training in Pensacola, Fla., and I never gave any thought to the fact that I had enabled that white colonel in maintaining his sense of racial superiority.

Don't get me wrong, I'm grateful to that Black master sergeant for keeping me from falling into a white superiority trap. The wrong answer would have sent me to Vietnam as an infantryman.

This little drama took place almost 52 years ago, but there are times today when

people of color feel the need to play the white superiority game for the sake of survival. Moving forward in the world as it exists, Black folks must develop strategies that tear down notions of white supremacy so there no longer will be a need to tell white people only what they want to hear. We must yank white people out of their comfort zones by emphatically and unapologetically making them feel uncomfortable. Many Black folks are in positions where they can do this and still survive. Former San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick is doing it. And while he is paying a high price, he still survives.

White supremacy and racial microaggressions intrude into the lives of people of color every day and we must begin to push back. It is important to push back even if we cannot do it in as visible a fashion as Colin Kaepernick. Particularly, these assaults can be chal-

lenged successfully in private settings and in one-on-one interactions with our white "friends" because they often do not realize that their actions are based upon notions of white supremacy as well as implicit bias.

In this era of Trump, America is growing uglier and white supremacy is resurging. If people of color do not push back, we will lose our opportunity to ever speak freely and live freely in this country.

We can't afford to delude ourselves into believing people of color have the freedom to speak and live freely in America. I knew I did not have those freedoms in 1966 when it was clear that I could not correct that white colonel and answer his question by saying, "His name is Muhammad Ali."

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



Oscar H. Blayton

## CRAZY FAITH MINISTRIES

### Attacking the issue of poverty

In a gathering not long ago of people who are about to become foot soldiers in the Rev. William Barber's "Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival, the question was raised as to what "poverty" is. In this country, nobody wants to own the label of being poor, and yet, the policies of this country have caused the numbers of people in financial distress to significantly increase.

It has been 50 years since the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King called for a poor people's campaign. It wasn't a campaign for just black people or people of color. No, the poverty that Dr. King saw ravaging this nation was sexless, ageless, and not relegated to anyone of one particular political party or religion. The three evils that Dr. King mentioned in his historic speech, "Beyond Vietnam: A Time to Break Silence," included racism, militarism and extreme materialism, three evils which have as much a foot in our society as they did

50 years ago, if not more. The tax bill which was just passed into law promises to devastate people in ways that we can only imagine. Black people and other people of color, college students, women, the elderly, children...all groups of people - stand to lose much. If the Congress has its way, programs put in place to help the marginalized will be drastically cut in order to pay for the tax breaks given to corporations and the very wealthy.

That being the case, it is foolhardy for any of us to minimize the suffering that the masses will endure. The truth of the matter is that there is a dwindling middle class; the number of people joining the ranks of "lower middle class" will increase, say economists, as well as the number of truly poor people. Even before this disastrous bill was passed, there were scores of people working two and three jobs to make ends meet; while the rich continue to earn their wealth on the backs and from the labor of the masses, the masses are given paltry wages, not enough to have dignified and comfortable lives. The poor are still the worst treated in our society and in the world; while corporations will enjoy huge tax cuts permanently, the tax cuts given to the masses are temporary and when the full impact of what this bill has done hits home, people will find themselves scrambling to survive and thrive in this, the most wealthy nation in the world.

That being said, what is poverty? Where is it? Poverty is a disease caused by systemic racism which results in crippling social policy. Many to most Americans are, right now, living from paycheck to paycheck with little to no savings, forcing older people to continue working in menial jobs, just to stay afloat. Too many people still do not have health care, and with this new tax law, upwards to 13 million more people will lose the insurance they have.

What is troubling is that these oppressive fiscal policies are being put in place, and have always been put in place, by "religious" people, people who say they love God. The question comes to mind, "Whose God, or which God, are they talking about?" The very rich want redistribution of wealth as long as the redistribution favors them. When distribution of wealth - which is what the Bible seems to support - is discussed as a means of providing fairness and financial equity to the masses, there is a loud cry of objection from the wealthy. That kind of redistribution is unacceptable to them; it is, they say, socialism.

What is remarkable is that as they decry socialism, they seem to support fascism or a form of fascism, or at least a plutocracy, where a very few people with money run the world and the lives of the masses. Plutocracy and oligarchy are considered to be virtuous, even though those systems cause the masses to suffer immeasurably as they work to create the wealth for the oligarchs and plutocrats. The god they serve seems to be all right with it.

Be that as it may, the financial structure of this country means that the category of poverty is ever widening. Far too many people are living in homes with inadequate or no heat in the winter and no air in the summer; they are living in homes owned by but not kept up by, wealthy landlords who collect their rent no matter how squalid their properties are. Too many children sit in schools with little to inadequate heat in the winter, no air in the summer, leaking water pipes and bathrooms in which too many toilets do not work well. Too many little children are getting sick and dying from diseases and illnesses that could be treated and cured if their parents could afford to take them to the doctor. Too many pregnant women cannot afford to get pre-natal care, and as a result, the child mortality rate in this country rivals that of many third-world countries. Too many people live in neighborhoods where there are no supermarkets and when there are said markets, cannot afford to buy the nutritious food they and their families need in order to be healthy; they rely on fast food which does them no good. Too many mothers and fathers have to work too many jobs in order to keep a roof over the heads of their families, causing too many children to be without supervision after school, which contributes to the problems of crime in our cities.

There is too much suffering caused by the existence of widespread poverty. Poverty as a disease is contagious and it spreading slowly to more and more people, but nobody wants to face that reality.

Hopefully, the masses of people - from women to children, to the elderly and disabled to the underemployed, black, brown and people of other ethnicities, members of the LGBTQ community - will join hands and hearts and lose any shame they might feel for not having enough money to live decent lives. The system has been set up to make people poor; the poor people's campaign as an event and as an ongoing movement will challenge the system and the policies which have caused so many people so much suffering.

Fifty years later, the need for such campaign is real. As the masses realize it and garner the courage to fight for justice, there can be some significant change, but that change cannot come without "we the people" standing up to a system which works to keep so many people in misery.

There is an African proverb which says, "Together, the ants ate the elephant." We, the ants, have work to do.

Rev. Dr. Susan K Smith is a teacher, preacher and does workshops on learning the difference between the religion of Jesus and the religion of empire. Contact her at [revsuekim@sbcglobe.com](mailto:revsuekim@sbcglobe.com).

## TO BE EQUAL

### 2018 marks the 50th anniversary of a momentous year in civil rights

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

*"It is not an overstatement to say that the destiny of the entire human race depends on what is going on in America today. This is a staggering reality to the rest of the world; they must feel like passengers in a supersonic jetliner who are forced to watch helplessly while a passel of drunks, hypes, freaks, and madmen fight for the controls and the pilot's seat." - Eldridge Cleaver, Soul on Ice, 1968"*

As we embark upon the new year of 2018, we step into the 50th anniversary of a year that shook the world, in particular the world of civil rights in the United States.

Perhaps the most momentous of these events are the assassinations of Martin Luther King, Jr., and Robert Kennedy. Both of

these tragic deaths hold personal significance for my family. My parents, civil rights activists, were personally acquainted with the Rev. King. My mother, Sybil Morial, and King were students together at Boston University while she pursued her Masters Degree in education and he his PhD in theology. In her memoir, Witness to Change, she writes of the moment on April 4 when she learned of his death:

I could hardly grasp the words: Martin Luther King has been shot to death in Memphis. Dutch was in the study. I called to him, and he came and stood by me. "Martin has been killed." I could hardly say the words; I could hardly believe it. Not Martin. Dutch and I watched the gruesome footage in silence.

She recalled the words of his final speech, "I've seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land."

He knew it, but we didn't. And we didn't understand his death. I was inconsolable ... I

said to Dutch, "Now that Martin is gone, what will become of the movement?" "It will go on. It must."

My late father-in-law, Ross Miller, was a trauma surgeon and Kennedy campaigner who was present at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles on June 5. When the shots rang out, he bravely stepped forward and tried to save the lives of Kennedy and others who were wounded.

These deaths are but two of the civil rights milestones of that historic year half a century ago.

On February 8, the Orangeburg Massacre took place in South Carolina. Highway Patrol officers opened fire on a crowd of 200 students gathered on the campus of South Carolina State University to demonstrate against the continued segregation at the bowling alley. Three young men were killed and 27 other protesters were injured.

On April 11, amid continuing unrest triggered by King's murder, President Lyndon Johnson signed one of the most significant laws of the era - the Civil Rights

Act Of 1968, more commonly known as the Fair Housing Act. The Act prohibited not only racial and religious discrimination in the sale or rental of a home, but also racially-motivated threats, intimidation or retaliation in relation to housing.

In a move often cited as inspiration by current-day activists, on October 2 Black Olympians Tommie Smith and John Carlos African-American athletes raised their arms in a black power salute after winning the gold and bronze medals in the men's 200 meters.

November 22 saw the first interracial kiss ever to air on television in the United States, between the characters Captain James Kirk and Lieutenant Nyota Uhura, on the program Star Trek.

In the coming year, we will observe many of these anniversaries in-depth. We begin the year reflection on a half-century of civil eight progress, and the progress that lies ahead.

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



Marc Morial

## The lull

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

Certain characteristics are common to all living organisms. The shared need for rest pops into mind most quickly. Whether we label it rest, sleep, hibernation or dormancy, in the lifecycle of an organism, its health and well-being is only satisfied with time set aside for rejuvenation.

My studies and observations inform me that as the complexity of organisms increase, there is a corresponding complexity in their need for rest. For example, examine the behavior of lower life forms versus the human animal. Generally, lower life forms simply sleep when their need impacts. Unless threatened, they will awaken and pursue outcomes that are more instinctive than not. The simplicity and outcomes of their rest usually require no in-depth discussion.

Although the human animal will succumb to the need for sleep, its restfulness will

be determined by a myriad of circumstances that include, but are not limited to: individual anxieties; physical threats; physical discomfort, and more. Whatever our circumstance, rest is the absence of or a lull in the presence of stressors - the stressors that prevent us from allowing ourselves to experience a renewed state of peace and well-being.

Many who identify as my friends have called this year's holiday period a lull in their observation of the insane behaviors of #45. Their need to remove immediate thoughts of the past eleven months and potential consequences from their consciousness has directed them impose a personal lull in the processing of current events. I cannot help believing that this is the ultimate goal of #45 and his minions. As I have stated numerous times before, I think it is in #45's plan to have us thinking in so many different directions that we can't see the truth of his actions.

As we embark on a new calendar year, I again encourage and admonish my readers to STAY WOKE and focus on #45's REAL intent for our lives and future of our nation. Rather than tell you

what I surmise his intent to be, I will ask several questions to which I want you to give serious and on-going consideration. In the most honest manner possible, answer them for yourselves. Discuss them with others and open a dialogue that results in the development of personal clarity:

1. WHAT DOES OUR NATION GAIN WITH THE DESTRUCTION OF THE INSTITUTIONAL NORMS THAT GIVE DIRECTION TO OUR DAILY LIVES?

2. WHAT BENEFITS ACCRUE TO OUR NATION WHEN #45 AND HIS LACKEYS DISTORT AND MIS-SHAPE THE FACTS WE USE TO CONSTRUCT OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE TRUTH?

3. WHAT POSITIVE OUTCOMES CAN BE EXPECTED FROM DESTROYING PUBLIC FAITH IN THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM AND THOSE WHO ENFORCE THE LAW?

4. CAN OUR NATION, DIVIDED RACIALLY, ETHNICALLY, RELIGIOUSLY AND BY OTHER FACTORS, THRIVE WHEN THE DIVISION IS ENGENDERED BY POLITICAL LEADERS?

Steve Bannon told the 2017 CPAC, the Conservative Political Action Conference,

that a major goal of #45 was "Deconstruction of the Administrative State." He added, "...these cabinet appointees, they were selected for...deconstruction." We see a Secretary of Education who has designs to eliminate public education. The EPA Director has relaxed rules on dumping toxic waste and air and water quality. The Attorney General has abandoned Civil and Voting Rights enforcement. Every White House press conference challenges us to believe or not believe what we see with our eyes and hear with our ears. #45 constantly condemns intelligence and law enforcement agencies that are not in lock-step with him. And, #45 has engendered a resurgence of overt racism not seen in the last fifty years.

If nothing else, we must keep these questions in the forefront of our collective consciousness. We mustn't let our need for rest lull us into inactivity. Our Struggle continues and we will only succeed through action.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!  
*Dr. E. Faye Williams, National President of the National Congress of Black Women, Inc.*



**“If the lions do not write their own history, then the hunters will get all the credit.”**  
**—AN AFRICAN PROVERB**

## New Hanover County

Class of 1973 of JT Hoggard and New Hanover High will meet on Friday, January 12, 2018 at 6:00 pm at 1205 N. 5th Street, New Taylor Homes Recreation Center. Asking all classmates to come out so we can start preparing for our 45th Class Reunion. For more information contact: Celeste Chadwick, 910-616-1493.

## Community Briefs

The City of Wilmington is pleased to offer the Home Ownership Pool. This loan program is available for low to moderate income households looking to achieve the benefit of home ownership. If you are looking to purchase a home within the city limits of Wilmington and meet the program requirements, HOP may be the loan program for you. Take the first step by attending the FREE home buyer education seminar on Friday, January 19, 2018, 9 am – 3 pm. Location: 115 N. 3rd Street, 5th Floor Conference Room, Wilmington, NC. For more information or to register, please call 910-341-7836.

The New Hanover NAACP monthly meeting is Thursday, January 25, 7 pm at St. Stephen AME Church, 501 Red Cross Street, Wilmington. Aquinetta Beatty, Director of Coastal Women's Ventures, part of the Carolina Small Business Development Fund, will be the featured speaker. There will also be information on and the opportunity to sign-up for the Historic Thousands on Jones Street People's Assembly Coalition 2018 Moral March on Raleigh, Saturday, February 10: "Taking the Resistance to the Ballot Box". A seat on the New Hanover NAACP bus is available with a donation cost of \$20. 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.

## Brunswick County

The Brunswick County Democratic Party meetings are on the second Thursday of the month. Please join us January 11th at the Democratic Party headquarters, 1420 Old Ocean Hwy, Bolivia, NC. The Democratic Women meet at 5:30 pm. The evening's speaker, Elizabeth Fournier, a Professor of Political Science at Duke University will provide insight into voting tendencies. Professor Fournier will also lead attendees through interactive small group discussion activities to provide an engaging and educational evening for all. The general membership meets at 7 pm. Brunswick County resident Don Flattery will present "The Opioid Addiction Epidemic: A Public Health Emergency Affecting Communities Across the Country." Mr. Flattery is a former appointed member of the Virginia Governor's Task Force on Prescription Drug and Heroin Abuse. He is the Policy Chair for the FED UP Coalition, a national addiction fighting advocacy group. He also serves as the honorary co-chair of the Brunswick County Opioid Addiction Task Force. The discussion will include origins of the opioid crisis, impacts on North Carolina and in Brunswick County, and strategies to address the crisis nationally, statewide and within our local communities.

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

## HOMETOWN NEWS FROM BRUNSWICK COUNTY

## A new year and a new Neck Road

A new year (2018) is here, and a new Neck Road is being completed. It is interesting to watch the construction workers working on the road. It is interesting to watch them using the modern machinery, which makes the work go much easier. Our parents used to tell us many stories about the old Neck Road many years ago. They old us about the old Indian trails



Verniece Stanley

were discovered in the vicinity and led down to the lake. Many told us stories of the fact that the lake was a source of fresh water fish.

The Indians generally had many skillful ways of getting food, fishing being one of them.

they were healthy people, in general, and would travel from place to place to find better living places. Roads were, in many cases, narrow and muddy, and traveling on them was difficult. This was especially true when folks were traveling by mule and cart. The old black asphalt roads, many times, had many cracks in them didn't make traveling much easier.

It's amazing how precious memories of bygone days remain with us. We cherish those memories and look with fondness on the best ways of life taught to us in hopes that coming generations would have a better life.

It's interesting to see how some people who live on Neck Road go for walks and take their pets with them. While walking along this road, one enjoys the view of the attractive residences along this road. The best time to go for walks is

in the early morning, particularly in warmer weather. It is good to walk with a partner or with several partners. Walking is a good exercise, and it is a blessing to be able to "go walking," even with we are walking with a cane. It is good that roads are being improved for better traveling, whether it be for driving, cycling, or walking. Building better roads helps increase opportunities for jobs while making traveling safer and more enjoyable.

This is the land of big dreamers and high hopes. As we dream and hope, may we, in this new year, reach out to build better relationships with one another and help each other through all kinds of misfortunes, floods, fires, power outages, snowstorms, extreme cold, mud slides, etc. We must attend meetings in the community which keep us abreast of how we can help and how we can be helped by available

resources.

In times like these, as we welcome a brand new year, we can consider ourselves blessed, in spite of everything, and have peace within our hearts and within our homes!

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.

## SOC Emancipation Day Program

BY WILLIAM FLYTHE  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Save Our Community (SOC) Organization of Southport held its twenty-sixth Emancipation Day Program at Friendship Baptist Church on December 29. Norman Jones, master of ceremonies, opened the program by asking the audience to sing "Lift Every Voice and Sing". Jose Reyna (First Baptist) read the Scripture (Exodus 3:7-12), De'Anna Simpson (Brown's Chapel AMEZ) prayed, and William Brown (Friendship Baptist) gave the welcome. Tyana Swain reviewed the objectives of the organization. She noted that SOC has concentrated in recent years on sponsoring the Emancipation Proclamation Program in January, the Student Recognition Program in June, and a Bible Quiz Bowl in September. Youth representatives from five local churches-

Davina Daley (Friendship), Aniyah Ray (Brown's Chapel), Bryan Hankins (Mt. Carmel), Jaxson Francis (St. James), and Samantha Niler (First Baptist)-shared information on Bob Marley (reggae singer), Ruby Bridgers (civil rights activist), Frederick Douglas (civil rights), Emancipation Proclamation, and Mary Mahoney (first African-American nurse).

The introduction of the inspirational speaker, Sis. Yasmine Bines-Bennett, was made by Sis. Regina Alexander. Sis. Bines-Bennett spoke about the motivation of three famous African-Americans-C.J. Walker (hair products), Garrett Morgan (traffic signal), and Mark Dean (computer). Then, she told the youth how her faith motivated her to obtain two bachelor degrees (Mt. Olive) and a master degree (UNCW).

Musical selections were presented throughout the



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The speaker and family members pose for a picture: (L-R Front Row) - Aniyah Ray, Tyler Maxim, Aviana Ray, and Mary White; (Back Row) - Rosa Bessant, Dennis Bessant, Yasmine Bines-Bennett, and Regina Alexander.

program by the SOC Youth Choir under the direction of Sis. Beatrice Flythe and Bro. Corbett Hankins. Deacon William Flythe, SOC

President, appealed to parents and other adults to support youth in STEM activities. Rev. Erica Pollock gave the grace and benediction.

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**Hugh Jones**

Hugh Jones died December 30, 2017. Funeral services were held on Friday, January 5, 2018 at St. Mark Episcopal Church. Burial followed in the Calvary Memorial Cemetery. With less than two months before his 90th Birthday, Hugh Jimmy Jones, Jr., made the final ascension home.

Hugh was born to parents Hugh, Sr., and Hattie B. Jones, in Charleston, Mississippi, on February 24, 1928. Hugh met and married Constance Fulton, while stationed at Fort Bragg Army Base, in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Hugh spent twelve years, as a paratrooper for the 82nd Airborne Division. Hugh was a Longshoreman for many years before he retired from ILA Local 1426. He is preceded in death by his parents, a brother and sister, and his two daughters, Sheryl J. Sampson and Victoria "Vicky" Jones. His memory will forever be cherished by: his wife, Constance Fulton Jones; children: Hugh James Jones, III (Evelyn), Pamela Jones, Terry N. Jones (Leonia), Grayouski Jones (Linda), Vandester J. Jenkins (Tommie) and Cammay Williams (Clarence); many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren; other relatives and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

**Esther Mae Troy**

Esther Mae Troy died December 30, 2017. Funeral services were held on Saturday, January 6, 2018 at Perkinsville Missionary Baptist Church.

Esther, was the seventh child of eight children born on June 26, 1936 to the late George Douglas Perkins, Sr. and Sallie Caple Perkins. She accepted Christ at an early age and joined Crystal Spring Missionary Baptist Church. She later moved her membership to Perkinsville Missionary Baptist Church. Esther received her early education in the Brunswick County School System. She attended North Carolina Agriculture and Technical State University where she received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Music and her Master of Science degree in History. After completing her education, she became an educator in the Bladen and Brunswick County School Systems for a total of 35 years. At an early age, Esther met and married the late Walter Troy, Sr. who preceded her in death. To that union, four children were born. Son - Walter Troy, Jr. (deceased), Daughters - Sandra McIntyre, Wilmington, NC, Monica Bellamy (Billy) Castle Hayne, NC, and Tymekia Askew

(Cornelius), Wilmington, NC. Other survivors include: grandchildren - Byron McIntyre (B obbi), Alexis McIntyre, Emori Bellamy, Savannah Bellamy, Joey Lamb, Mekiah Lamb, Marsharee Troy (MaShonda), Zongio Troy and Miquell McKoy; great-grandchildren, Bryttani McIntyre, Bryanna McIntyre and Jordan Walter Troy; brother-in-law, Carnell Troy (Marilyn); sister-in-law, Seretha Troy and Neva Lloyd; special daughters; a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

**Jamell J. Sellars**

Jamell J. Sellars died December 30, 2017. Funeral services were held on Sunday, January 7, 2018 at Willie L. Shaw Jr. Memorial Chapel. Burial followed in Greenlawn Memorial Park, on Monday, January 8, 2018.

Jamell was born on April 17, 2017 to C. "Ve-Ann" Sellars and Albert "Bubba" Rush. "Mel" as he was fondly known to his family and friends, never met a stranger.

Jemell leaves to cherish his memories: mother, C. "Ve-Ann" Sellars; father, Albert "Bubba" Rush; sisters, Nakeasha, Taneasha and Nadia Sellars and Toni Gibbs; brothers, Mark Gibbs and Terri Mears; aunt, Janie Maynor; Lillian Lewis, Mamie Polk and Carolyn Gregg; uncles, Eddie "PeeWee" Sellars, Rev. Thomas Jackson and Jerome Rush; godfather, James Southerland; other relatives and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

**Regina Carlos**

Regina Carlos died December 29, 2018. Memorial services were held on Saturday, January 6, 2018 at Willie L. Shaw Jr. Memorial Chapel. Regina was born August 26, 1963. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

**Vincent Hale Jamison**

Vincent Hale Jamison died January 3, 2018. Memorial services were held on Sunday, January 7, 2018 at Hope Baptist Church for all Nations.

Vincent was born June 28, 1954 in Stamford, Connecticut. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps on July 7, 1974. After an injury he received an honorable discharge in March 1980. Later he was employed as a mail carrier for the US Post Office in Connecticut. He later moved to California with his brother Danny and met and married his lovely Philippine bride, Elaine. Together they raised four

children: Cristina, Elgin, Robyn (Lamont) and David, along with several grandchildren. He holds dear his niece, Janel and nephew, Gerald who supported him in the worse time of his life. VJ departed from us to meet his father, James Sr.; brother, Danny and sister, Linda. He leaves behind: his loving wife, Elaine; four children and Nate; 8 granddaughters; 6 grandsons; 6 great-grandchildren; sisters, Laurette, Lola (Robert) Roxanne; brothers, James (Jewanta), Keith (Jackie), Anthony (Tanisha), Tyrone (Anna); and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

**Robert "Jimmie Lewis" Burns**

Robert "Jimmie Lewis" Burns died January 2, 2018. Funeral services were held Monday, January 8, 2018 at Mt. Olive AME Church. Burial followed in the Pine Forest Cemetery.

Mr. Robert Lewis Burns was born on October 2, 1944 to the union of the late Mary Elizabeth Brown Burns. Affectionately known as "Jimmie Lewis."

Leaving to cherish his memories are: his loving wife, Mittie J. Burns of the home; one son, Reginald R. Fennell of Wilmington, NC; two daughters, Nicole Green (Kirt) of Raleigh, NC and Jasmine Fennell of Winston-Salem, NC; grandchildren: Six; loving sister, Bettye Heyer; aunt, Evelyn Smith; sisters-in-law, Edith W. Stokes and Laurine Robinson; brother-in-law, Joseph Fennell; special people, George (Annette) Hawes, Robert "Bob" Johnson; Bashir (Janet) El-Amin, Ron (Joann) Stokes and Mrs. Louise; other relatives and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

**Lucy Wilson**

Lucy Wilson died January 6, 2018. Funeral services will be 2:00 pm Sunday, January 14, 2018 at Myrtle Grove First Born Holiness Church. Burial will follow in the Oak Grove Cemetery. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

**Ernestine Durant**

Ernestine Durant died January 7, 2018. Funeral services will be held 2:00 pm on Saturday, January 13, 2018 at St. Stephen AME Church. Burial will follow in Calvary Memorial Cemetery. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

**Henrietta Bowe**

Henrietta Bowe died

January 7, 2018. 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.*

**Reaves Junious "RJ" Corbett**

Reaves Junious "RJ" Corbett Funeral services will be held 12 Noon on Saturday, January 13, 2018 at St. Paul Baptist Church; 1401 North Allen Street, Charlotte, NC 28205. The visitation will be 11:00 am (one hour prior to the service). A Courtesy of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

**Carl E. Smith**

Carl E. Smith, age 78, of Southport (St. James Community) passed away Friday, December 15, 2017. A Celebration of Life Service was held on Thursday, January 4, 2018 (Smith's birthday) at The Clubs at St. James.

Carl Edward Murphy Smith, oldest great grandson of AFRO founder, John H. Murphy Sr., died Dec. 15 after a long illness. The Baltimore native and Morgan State University graduate spent most of his career with Bell Atlantic and Verizon, and was an active member of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity. Over the years Smith served as a member of the Prince George's Chamber of Commerce Board, Chairman of the Mayor's Advisory Commission on Drug Abuse, Vice Chairman of the

Baltimore City Planning Commission, The Baltimore City Social Services Commission and the Governor's Commission on Physical Fitness. Smith also coached basketball in the Project Survival Youth Program.

He was much more than a mere cousin, it was said of Smith who had the distinction of having been among the oldest of the Murphy cousins. "He was the big cousin we all looked up to," said the Rev. Dr. Frances "Toni" Draper, pastor of Freedom Temple AME Zion Church. "He was a faithful friend who cherished our family."

Another cousin, Robert Murphy Matthews Sr. called him, "our go-to guy for Murphy family history," also remembering Smith as "all our babysitter."

The brother of AME Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie, Smith also is the father of, Qiana Jehan Murphy Smith, Jonee' Murphy Coates Brown, Michelle Denise Howard and Blair Carl Murphy Smith. He is a former member of the AFRO American Newspapers board of directors. *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.*

**Dale B. Flaverney**

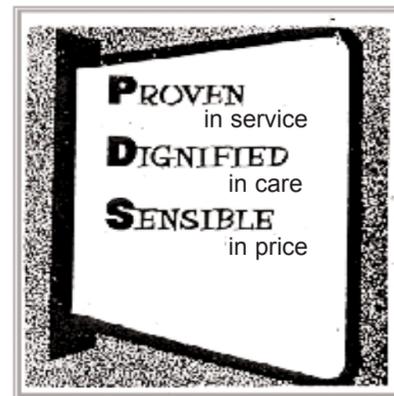
Dale B. Flaverney, age 64, of Wilmington passed away Thursday, December 28, 2017. Friends are cordially invited to a visitation with the family from 6:00 - 8:00 pm on Friday,

January 12, 2018 at Davis Funeral Home. A celebration of Dale's life will be conducted at 1:00 pm, Saturday, January 13, 2018 at Northside Church. Interment will follow in Greenlawn Memorial Park. *Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhomenc.com.*

**Charles C. Smith**

Charles C. Smith, age 61, of Bolivia, passed away Friday, January 5, 2018. Friends are cordially invited to a visitation with the family from 6:00 - 8:00 pm on Friday, January 12, 2018 at Davis Funeral Home. A celebration of Charles' life will be conducted at 11:00 am, Saturday, January 13, 2018 at Davis Funeral Home. Interment will follow in the Randolph Family 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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## TELL SOMEBODY

## 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 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."



Sylvia Hooper

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 faithful 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!

## Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference on Tax Cuts and Jobs Act

The Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference, Inc. (SDPC) representing thousands of African American congregations across this nation, declare that the passage of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act" a travesty of justice and mercy. It has been dishonestly presented to the American people, so many of whom are living paycheck to paycheck. Americans have been led to believe that their taxes will substantially decrease, but reports indicate otherwise. The taxes of most Americans will increase over time and America's underclass will grow larger and the gap between rich and poor widen even further.

This bill will inflict multi-layered suffering upon many Americans. It will necessitate the cutting of funds from pro-

grams which help America's struggling masses: black and brown people, women, children, the elderly, and the disabled. The bill will also result in an additional 13 million people losing health care.

While corporations and the very wealthy will enjoy permanent tax cuts, the middle class and poor will experience a further downward spiral into the welfare state, deprived of opportunities for equitable and just participation in the economy. The safety net from charitable giving has also been undercut by this act. It is projected that the disincentives for small donor, local and community giving will result in a \$4.9 billion decrease.

Quality of life is not, or should not be, a partisan

issue; the lives and needs of American citizens are not Liberal or Conservative, but are, rather, human. This tax "reform" act sets in motion a series of legislative actions that will further rob people - some who are already poor and some close to abject poverty - of the capacity to earn a decent living in this nation.

Historically, the country's wealth has been created by the very people who stand to suffer most from this tax "reform" act. The process and passage of this legislation bears the mark of this history. It too has been accomplished out of a spirit of unGodly callousness and greed. There is something deeply wrong with this narrative which points to the very soul of America. For moments such as this, The

Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference reminds all Americans of the wisdom of Rev. Dr. Martin L. King, Jr.: "He who passively accepts evil is as much involved in it as he who helps to perpetrate it. He who accepts evil without protesting against it is really cooperating with it."

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Contact info: 4533 South Lake Park Avenue o Chicago, Illinois 60653 o 773/548-6675 (Phone) o 773/548-6699 (fax) Email: admin@sdpcconference.info o www.sdpcconference.info.

## SENIOR MOMENTS

## The bank is robbing me

Fellow seniors,

Evidently, my husband had something called overdraft protection before he passed in June of 2016, but I knew nothing about it. At that time, the government stopped my social security check and started sending his to my savings account. Before

I realized this, the checking account was well overdrawn, and the bank was charging me thirty-five dollars extra for each transaction.

My grandson offered to go online and help me figure it

out. So I added his name to my account, but that only made matters worse. Evidently, they gave him a card to swipe, and every time he buys a box of candy, they charge me an extra thirty-five dollars. They must think of him as the person in charge because they send the statement to him each month, and I get nothing. My grandson does not discuss the account with me. He just says, "Don't worry. Everything will be all right." He knows I don't go on line, and I'm not that good at math.

I got a printout from a bank teller, which shows several overdrafts each month, and each one costs me thirty-five dollars. So I decided to drop the overdraft protection. I carried a written request to one branch

and then another, but I got no response. I told them I would rather have my lights turned off, but, evidently, the bank had rather pay the bill for me.

I thought of moving my account to another bank, but they probably could stop me because I owe them so much. I decided to have my grandson's name removed from the account so that they could send all transactions directly to me. He agreed and went to the bank with me. We both signed papers, but I did not receive a copy of what was signed.

I'm beginning to think I need a lawyer; but I can't afford one. Therefore, the bank keeps on robbing me! Any suggestions?

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



Ruth Johnson

## The National Black Church initiative: "The Black Church must help save our media"

SPECIAL TO THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

Washington, DC - The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI), a faith-based coalition of 34,000 churches comprised of 15 denominations and 15.7 million African Americans, strongly urges the 150,000 Black Churches around the country to triple its spending with the Black press, Black radio, and Black Christian bloggers. As the economy gets stronger we are urging all Black Churches to be intentional in tripling their spending with all Black media properties. Namely: the Black radio, Black press and Christian bloggers. It is critical that the Black Church maintain its decisive role in helping to preserve and strengthen the economic outlook for Black media and Black people.

Rev. Anthony Evans President of the National Black Church Initiative says, "The National Black Church Initiative believes in the Black Press and its power and its right to exist. We plan to set an example. We will commit 5% of our budget over the next three years, working with the Black press, Black radio and Christian bloggers.

Each of our projects will have an advertising media budget associated with it going forward. We hope to set this example for the rest of the Black Church."

It is critical that the Black Church assure this avenue for Black expression, thoughts and opinion by tripling their spending with all Black media over the next three years. NBCI estimates that if 150,000 Black Churches spend an average of \$1,500.00 with Black media for ads, editorials, advertising church activities and anniversaries as well as other important announcements from our denominations, that we can significantly influence the survival of Black media for years to come. We estimate that this will provide Black media with an additional \$250,000,000.00 which would help them to strengthen their online digital platforms, their social media, their brands, their email networks and their ability to continue to produce a physical newspaper so that many of our seniors will continue to have access to critical news articles affecting them and the entire Black community.

Ever since the Pews Foundation study several years ago that downplayed

and diminished the importance of the Black press, it has been difficult for them to project themselves in a media driven, online, golden age in news. It is imperative that the Black voice is heard. This is why the Black Church must step up its spending to ensure that voice.

ABOUT NBCI  
The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) is a coalition of 34,000 African American and Latino churches working to eradicate racial disparities in healthcare, technology, education, housing, and the environment. NBCI's mission is to provide critical wellness information to all of its members, congregants, churches and the public. Our methodology is utilizing faith and sound health science.

NBCI's purpose is to partner with major organizations and officials whose main mission is to reduce racial disparities in the variety of areas cited above. NBCI offers faith-based, out-of-the-box and cutting edge solutions to stubborn economic and social issues. NBCI's programs are governed by credible statistical analysis, science based strategies and techniques, and methods that work. Visit our website at [www.naltblackchurch.com](http://www.naltblackchurch.com).

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH AND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. Commemorative Luncheon**  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2018  
11:30-1:00 P.M.

"If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way."  
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

*Building Upon the Foundation*



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Nixon Minority Male Leaders Director  
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Thekla Spencer, Black Employment Program Manager  
Renita McNeill, Chief-Equal Employment

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Event Location  
PEARSALL MEMORIAL ANNEX  
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Catered by  
Angie's of Chris's Restaurant

Menu

Stuffed Chicken Breast  
Spanakopita  
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Rolls  
Iced Tea

DONATION \$10

Checks may be written to:  
Penny Zortman

USACE, Wilmington District | ATTN: Penny Zortman  
69 Darlington Avenue | Wilmington, NC 28403

- Purchase tickets by Friday, January 19 -

For Tickets, Please Contact

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**LEGAL NOTICES**

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the estate of **Carolyn Reel**, 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 **31st day of March, 2018**, 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 28th day of December, 2017

Evelyn Rowe, Administrator  
5818 Michelle Dr  
Wilmington, NC 28403

December 28, 2017, January 4, 11, 18, 2018

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Administratrix of the estate of **Maggie Bryant**, 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 **31st day of March, 2018**, 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 28th day of December, 2017

Agatha W. Lowe, Administratrix  
6829 Plott Rd.  
Charlotte, NC 28215

December 28, 2017, January 4, 11, 18, 2018

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **Catherine S. Diab**, 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 **11th day of April, 2018**, 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 11th day of January, 2018.

George Stephen Diab, Executor of the Estate of Catherine S. Diab  
7 0 5 Planters Row  
Wilmington, NC 28405  
MURCHISON, TAYLOR & GIBSON, PLLC  
16 North Fifth Avenue  
Wilmington, NC 28401

January 11, 18, 25, February 1, 2018

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF  
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER  
IN THE DISTRICT COURT  
JUVENILE SESSION  
FILE NO. 17 JT 347**

**IN THE MATTER OF:  
N.A.D. (DOB: 07-22-2017)**

**TO: ANY UNKNOWN BIOLOGICAL FATHER OF THE ABOVE CAPTIONED FEMALE CHILD BORN IN BOLIVIA, BRUNSWICK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA.**

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:

Termination of all parental rights you have to the above-captioned minor children.

You are required to make defense to such pleading within thirty (30) days following December 28, 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 ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT A HEARING ON THE PETITION TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS IS SCHEDULED FOR February 5, 2018, AT 9:30 A.M. or as soon thereafter as it may be heard, at the Office of Juvenile Justice, 138 N 4th Street, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28401.**

This the 28th day of December, 2017.

LeeAnne Quattrucci  
Attorney for the Petitioner  
401 Chestnut Street, Suite J  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
Tel.#: 910-795-0230  
Fax #: 910-401-1485

December 28, 2017, January 4, 11, 2018

**LEGAL NOTICES**

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the estate of **Barbara Blue**, 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 **4th day of April, 2018**, 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 4th day of January, 2018

Thomas Blue, Administrator  
316 Cypress Grove Dr.  
Wilmington, NC 28401

January 4, 11, 18, 25, 2018

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the estate of **Morgan E. Lewis**, 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 **11th day of April, 2018**, 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 January, 2018

Jean A. Lewis, Executor  
4242 Appleton Way  
Wilmington, NC 28412

January 11, 18, 25, February 1, 2018

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of **Ethel A. Taylor**, 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 **21st day of March, 2018**, 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 21st day of December, 2017.

Katherine Taylor Cammack, Co-Executor of the Estate of Ethel A. Taylor  
115 Old Camp Rd  
Wilmington, NC 28409  
Walker Taylor, IV, Co-Executor of the Estate of Ethel A. Taylor  
313 South Lumina  
Wrightsville Beach, NC 28480  
MURCHISON, TAYLOR & GIBSON, PLLC  
16 North Fifth Avenue  
Wilmington, NC 28401

December 21, 28, 2017 and January 4, 11, 2018

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **Vanessa Alene Patrick**, deceased, of New Hanover County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to present such claims to the undersigned Executor at 1611 Gander Dr., Wilmington, North Carolina 28411 on or before the **9th day of April, 2018**, 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 4th day of January, 2018.

Ricky Wendell Patrick  
1611 Gander Dr.  
Wilmington, NC 28411  
Peter Grear Attorney for the Estate  
PO Box 2279  
Wilmington, NC 28402-2279  
Ph. 910-763-4671  
State Bar Number: 7134

January 4, 11, 18, 25, 2018

**REQUEST FOR  
QUALIFICATIONS NEW FIBER  
OPTIC INFRASTRUCTURE**

Brunswick County Government is seeking professional qualifications from vendors for the purchase and installation of new fiber optic network infrastructure. Sealed proposals must be received on or before 3:00 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, February 28, 2018. Details of the proposal requirements and contact information can be obtained from the Brunswick County website at <http://www.brunswickcountync.gov/info/bid/> or by contacting Adam Clemmons at [adam.clemmons@brunswickcountync.gov](mailto:adam.clemmons@brunswickcountync.gov).

This the 21st day of December, 2017.

Jennifer G. Cooke  
Attorney - New Hanover Co.  
Dept. of Social Services  
1650 Greenfield Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
PO Drawer 1559  
Wilmington, NC 28402-1559  
(910) 798-3612  
(910) 798-3772 \* fax

December 28, 2017, January 4, 11, 2018

**LEGAL NOTICES**

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

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **Carl Marshburn (17-E-1720)**, late of New Hanover County, 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 **March 31, 2018** 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 22nd day of December, 2017

Charlotte Noel Fox, Administrator of the Estate of Carl Marshburn  
Craig & Fox, PLLC  
701 Market Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
910-815-0085

December 28, 2017, January 4, 11, 18, 2018

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

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **Marilyn Feenstra (17-E-1622)**, late of New Hanover County, 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 **March 31, 2018** 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 22nd day of December, 2017

Charlotte Noel Fox, Administrator of the Estate of Marilyn Feenstra  
Craig & Fox, PLLC  
701 Market Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
910-815-0085

December 28, 2017, January 4, 11, 18, 2018

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF  
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER  
IN THE DISTRICT COURT  
JUVENILE SESSION  
FILE NO. 16 JT 319**

**IN THE MATTER OF:  
H.M.A.B.(dob: 09 November 2016)**

**TO: ANY UNKNOWN FATHER**

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:

Termination of all parental rights you have to H.M.A.B.

You are required to make defense to such pleading within forty (40) days following **Thursday, December 28, 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 ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT A HEARING ON THE PETITION TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS IS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2018, 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 21st day of December, 2017.

Jennifer G. Cooke  
Attorney - New Hanover Co.  
Dept. of Social Services  
1650 Greenfield Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
PO Drawer 1559  
Wilmington, NC 28402-1559  
(910) 798-3612  
(910) 798-3772 \* fax

December 28, 2017, January 4, 11, 2018

**LEGAL NOTICES**

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

The undersigned, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **Heather Wall**, 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 **21st day of March, 2018**, 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 21st day of December, 2017.

James Wall, Administrator of the Estate of Heather Wall  
5100 Masonboro Loop Rd  
Wilmington, NC 28409  
MURCHISON, TAYLOR & GIBSON, PLLC  
16 North Fifth Avenue  
Wilmington, NC 28401

December 21, 28, 2017 and January 4, 11, 2018

**Bid Request**

RPC Contracting is requesting bids from any interested NCDOT Certified MBE & WBE firms for the SR Drainage Improvements Project in Tyrrell County, NC bidding on 1/23/18. There will be pre-bid conference at 3:00PM on Monday 1/15/18 at the office of RPC Contracting, 934 W. Kitty Hawk Road Kitty Hawk, NC. Plans and specifications are available for review at the same location or may be downloaded from NCDOT's Project Letting website at [https://connect.ncdot.gov/letting/Pages/Letting-List.aspx?let\\_type=1](https://connect.ncdot.gov/letting/Pages/Letting-List.aspx?let_type=1). For more information, please call 252-261-3336, ask for Jay. RPC Contracting is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

January 11, 2018

**INVITATION FOR BIDS  
SOLICITATION NO.:  
WHA17.10  
HOUSING AUTHORITY OF  
THE CITY OF WILMINGTON  
NORTH CAROLINA  
CARPENTRY SERVICES  
AUTHORITY-WIDE**

(One or more contracts might be awarded)

Sealed bids will be accepted at the Housing Authority of the City of Wilmington North Carolina (WHA Central Office), until date and time noted below. Bids will be publicly opened and recorded immediately thereafter at the Central Office, 1524 South 16th Street, Wilmington, NC 28401.

•Pre bid conference/tour: Thursday, January 11th, 2018 at 2:30 p.m., beginning at the •Bid Opening: Thursday, January 25, 2018 at 12:00 noon

•Project Manual along with specifications will be available for pickup beginning 2:00 p.m. on Friday, January 5th at the Central Office.

•Fee; non-refundable charge of \$15.00 or you can Download Project Manual at no cost -- [www.wha.net](http://www.wha.net) (under Business Opportunities/IFB)

•Questions; E-mail to Chauntrell Burns no later than January 19th at 2:00pm to [c.burns@wha.net](mailto:c.burns@wha.net)

Upon written request to the Contracting Officer, bids will be available after contract award. NO BIDS SHALL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE DEADLINE DATE. FAX NEITHER COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.

The WHA does not discriminate based on race, sex, age, color, national origin, religion, or disability in its employment opportunities, programs, services, or activities.

WHA reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

January 4, 11, 2018

**EMPLOYMENT**

**PROCUREMENT COORDINATOR**

The Housing Authority of the City of Wilmington is accepting applications for a Procurement Coordinator. Applicants must submit a letter of interest, current resume and three references to Procurement Coordinator Search, Attention: Human Resources Department, PO Box 899, Wilmington, NC 28402 or email to [jobs@wha.net](mailto:jobs@wha.net). Applications will be accepted until January 19, 2018. For a detailed position description, please visit [www.wha.net](http://www.wha.net)

Friends School of Wilmington (NC) is seeking a dynamic Lead Kindergarten Teacher beginning August, 2018

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**56%** trust newspapers  
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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)  
2015 Nielsen-Natorese Cross-Media Engagement Study (NAA.org, April 16, 2015)

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