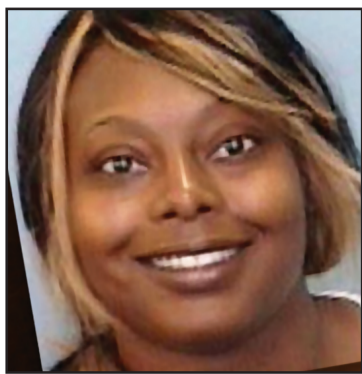


MISSING



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 NEWS

**AN ANALYSIS
GOP DESIGNS ON
2018
ELECTIONS TESTED**

BY CASH MICHAELS
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

IN COURTS

First there were congressional and legislative redistricting maps by the Republican-led NC General Assembly that have been successfully challenged in court. Then there is the law passed last year by the legislature eliminating judicial primaries in an attempt to either redistrict judicial elections or establish a legislative merit selection process for judges. Prior to all of that, a voter ID law was struck down by a federal court as a tool of voter suppression.

And just last week, while Democrats were in federal court challenging the judicial redistricting law, the State Supreme Court sided with Gov. Roy Cooper, agreeing that the legislature overstepped its bounds and usurped his power when it passed a law right after he took office last year, merging the State Elections Board and the State Ethics Commission into one bipartisan governmental entity.

"This was a pre-emptive response to Cooper's promise to roll back existing voter suppression measures that had passed when the Republicans had control of the whole State government," wrote Charles P. Pierce for an article titled, "North Carolina's Voter Suppression Is a Lesson for the Rest of the Nation" in this week's Esquire Magazine.

"The new policies almost guaranteed a permanent partisan gridlock which would maintain the status quo."

What the GOP is ultimately hoping for, political observers say, is for the federal courts (at least one of the redistricting cases has now gone to the US Supreme Court) to agree with them that their maps are constitutional, and reflect the will of "most" North Carolinians because, after all, Republicans were voted, and then re-elected, into the majority in

Please see **GOP/** Page 2

BRUNSWICK COUNTY UPDATE



BERNEST HEWETT

WILL RETURN SOON

Bernest Hewett is President Emeritus of the Brunswick County Branch of the NAACP.

THE WILMINGTON
JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

VOLUME 91/No. 5

FEBRUARY 1, 2018 - FEBRUARY 7, 2018

FIFTY CENTS

CBC chair offers stinging rebuttal to Pres. Trump's SOTU address

BY FREDDIE ALLEN, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
NNPA NEWSWIRE

—Members of the Congressional Black Caucus wore Kente cloth-inspired prints to the State of the Union address standing in solidarity with Americans, Haitians and the African nations smeared by President Trump's racist rhetoric.

—Janelle Jones, an analyst with the Economic Policy Institute, told Vox that, "The recovery of employment was happening long before Trump got into office."

—The Black unemployment rate is almost double the White unemployment rate, a trend that has endured for decades.

Rep. Cedric Richmond, the chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus railed against President Donald Trump's boasts about the economy, especially his claims about the Black community, in a blistering response to the president's State of the Union (SOTU) address.

CBC members also wore Kente cloth-inspired



RICHMOND

Please see **CBC/** Page 2



(PHOTO BY LAUREN VICTORIA BURKE/NNPA)
MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS WEAR KENTE CLOTH-INSPIRED PRINTS, DURING THE STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS ON JANUARY 30. THE CBC MEMBERS STOOD IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE AMERICANS, HAITIANS AND THE AFRICAN NATIONS SMEARED BY PRESIDENT TRUMP'S COMMENTS DURING A BIPARTISAN MEETING ABOUT IMMIGRATION AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

WORKING TOGETHER



(PHOTO BY FREDDIE ALLEN/AMG/NNPA)

(From left-right) Derrick Johnson, the president and CEO of the NAACP; Leon Russell, the chairman of the NAACP; Dorothy Leavell, the chairman of the NNPA, and Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., the president and CEO of the NNPA sign a strategic partnership agreement to join forces in focusing on key issues that affect the Black community, during the 2018 NNPA Mid-Winter Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The Black Press and the NAACP join forces to address issues affecting the Black community

BY STACY M. BROWN
(NNPA NEWSWIRE CONTRIBUTOR)

The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), a trade group representing more than 200 Black-owned media companies, signed a historic, strategic partnership with the NAACP, one of the most influential civil rights group in the world, during the NNPA's Mid-

Winter Conference in Las Vegas.

"Sometimes you have to take a step back and reconnect in order to move forward," said NAACP Chairman Leon W. Russell. "Signing this agreement is taking that step back and it says it's time for us to recommit to each other and work together to move our people forward."

NNPA President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., who once served as president of the NAACP, called the

Please see **FORCES/** Page 2

New judicial redistricting maps still target Black district court judges

BY CASH MICHAELS
OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

Yet a third set of proposed judicial redistricting maps were made public last week during the Jan. 25 meeting of the Joint House and Senate Committee on Judicial Reform and Redistricting, and from the start, it was made clear that they would not be the last.

However, one thing was made clear - when it came to Black district court judges, they are indeed targeted to be lessened in number across the State as the Republican-led legislature passes its judicial redistricting plan.

The joint committee has issued what it calls "Option A" on how district and superior court judges would be elected or re-elected under their proposed redistricting scheme, and that would involve "double bunking," or creating a smaller number of district court seats in a particular judicial district than are there now and forcing incumbent judges to effectively run against each other to stay in office.

Some judges could even lose their seats once their term in office expires.

According to an analysis by NC Policy Watch, a nonprofit progressive advocacy news site, there would be 64 district court judges "double bunked" in 15 counties across North Carolina in the latest judicial redistricting "Option A" plan.

Those judges must live where they would run for election.

In several counties, there would be only two open district court seats, for example, but three sitting judges vying for re-election. That would mean at least one of them would be stranded.

Forty-seven are registered Democrats,

Please see **JUDGES/** Page 2

At 'Real State of Our Union' Trump derided for 'White Nationalist' conduct

BY BARRINGTON M. SALMON

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - In stirring comments that were more sermon than speech, the Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II derided the Trump administration Tuesday night during an "Alternate State of the Union" gathering.

As Trump delivered his first State of the Union Address at the U. S. Capital, Barber described him as the end-product of more than 100 years of attempts by White extremists to blunt any progress made by African-Americans and progressives in the U. S.

"We're witnessing a fundamental changing of our demographics around the world," said Barber, a national activist, former president of the North

Carolina NAACP and president and senior lecturer of Repairers of the Breach. "We see extremist policies in America today and it's driven by the growing blackening and browning of America and a fusion of every creed, color and class."

He continued, "Those who embrace the Make America Great Again slogan are willing to work hard and cheat to undermine what is evolving in America. This is White hegemony and White nationalism strengthened by enormous wealth."

Rev. Barber's analysis of Trump's cynical attacks on non-whites, Barber's

Please see **'REAL' SOTU/** Page 2



PHOTO BY PAULETTE SINGLETON/TRICE EDNEY NEWS WIRE
REV. DR. WILLIAM J. BARBER LOCKS ARMS WITH ACTIVISTS AND AUDIENCE MEMBERS AT THE "REAL STATE OF OUR UNION".



THE WILMINGTON
JOURNALISSN 0049-7649 - AN
INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
Dedicated to R.S. Jervay,
Founder of R.S. Jervay Printers,
1901and T.C. Jervay, Sr., Founder of
The Wilmington Journal,
An offspring of the Cape Fear
Journal, 1927Published Weekly At
412 South Seventh Street,
Wilmington, NC 28401
By Black Press SENC, LLC
P.O. Box 1020,
Wilmington, NC 28402
Periodical Postage Paid At
Wilmington, NC 28402
(910) 762-5502,
Fax: (910) 343-1334,
Email: wilmjournal@aol.comWebsite:
www.wilmingtonjournal.com
Single Copy 50 Cents
Subscription Rates
All Subscriptions \$32 Yearly,
Except Foreign, \$37 Yearly,
Payable in Advance. (Taxes
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Address all communications and
make all checks and money
orders payable to:
The Wilmington Journal,
P.O. Box 1020,
Wilmington, NC 28402

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Black Publishers Association

FORCES

Continued from Page 1

partnership historic.

"This [signing] consum-
mates a working relationship of
two of the world's largest
organizations focused on the
empowerment of Black peo-
ple," said Chavis.NNPA National Chairman
Dorothy Leavell added that
she's very pleased with the new
partnership."I attempted to do something
similar in the nineties and I'm
very determined now," said
Leavell. "We are going to set a
precedent and I hope we will be
able to repeat this with many
other national organizations,
because if we solidify our
strength, things will be differ-
ent for all of us in the United
States of America."Derrick Johnson, the presi-
dent and CEO of the NAACP,
said one of the things he and
Russell share in common is the
rich tradition of the NAACP."Anytime we move away
from that [tradition], we lose
our way," he said. "The NAACP
would not be here, if not for
William Monroe Trotter, a civil
rights activist, newspaper edi-
tor and real estate businessman
based in Boston, Massa-
chusetts; the NAACP would not
be here today, if not for Ida B.
Wells, a newspaper writer...the
NAACP would not be here
today, if not for W.E.B. DuBois
and his 'Crisis' magazine. I
commit today, that we will be
joining the NNPA."Johnson added that the
NAACP is as strong as its volun-
teers and the Black Press is as
strong as its readers, many of
whom are NAACP members.The signing, which took
place on Friday, January 26 was
attended by a number of NNPA

CBC

Continued from Page 1

prints to the State of the Union
address.Richmond said that every
action taken by President
Trump, since his election, has
been destructive for poor, work-
ing-class, and middle-class
communities throughout the
country, as well as communi-
ties of color.Richmond said that nothing
that the president said during
his speech wiped that slate
clean.

'REAL' SOTU

Continued from Page 1

deconstruction of America's
racial malady and his exhorta-
tion for African-Americans,
progressives and other allies to
join the movement against
extremism, wrapped up a more
than two-hour panel discussion
involving leading political and
Civil Rights activists, organiz-
ers educators, and thinkers in
the black and Latino communi-
ties.The event, arranged and
moderated by former News One
anchor and news personality
Rolph Martin, was co-spon-
sored by the NAACP and titled,
"The Real State of Our Union." It
was one of dozens of progres-
sive alternatives arranged
around the country to counter
Trump's first State of the Union
before a joint session of
Congress.Rev Barber, well known as an
unapologetic voice of resist-
ance to this administration's
hard move to the right, told an
audience of several hundred
people at Shiloh Baptist Church
in Washington, DC that

GOP

Continued from Page 1

both the Congress and NC
General Assembly."Prohibiting the State from
using the duly enacted district-
ing map that governed its last
election cycle is not just practi-
cally disruptive, but represents
a grave and irreparable sover-
eign injury," Republican
Attorney Phil Strach argued in

JUDGES

Continued from Page 1

while just seventeen are
Republicans.Thirty-two percent, accord-
ing to NC Policywatch, of the
double-bunked district court
judges affected are African-
American. That's down from the
43% that was displayed in the
previous Option A plan.

According to a Jan. 10, 2018

members, staffers from both
organizations and Gary,
Indiana Mayor Karen Freeman
Wilson, the first African
American woman to hold the
office of mayor in the state of
Indiana."We have to take the
resources that we have in our
collective communities and we
have to use these resources in a
way that educates our children
and benefits our people,"
Wilson said. "We also have to
support [Black] businesses."Wilson added that Black con-
sumers have to let go of the
stereotype that Black business-
es are inferior to White busi-
nesses.Wilson also noted that
African Americans aren't
receiving a fair shake from the
federal government and, in her
city, finances are a challenge
she's trying to meet head-on."Many of the answers
depended on the state, but last
night, a light bulb went on and
it was that we can't wait on the
Republican governor to save
Gary," she said. "So, I said to my
team that whatever the govern-
or does or doesn't do, we are
going into the war room and we
will stay there and not come out
until we have a plan."Wilson joined Russell,
Johnson, Chavis and Leavell in
advocating for a strong rela-
tionship between the NAACP
and the Black Press."If Black newspapers didn't
tell our stories, no one ever
would have," said Russell, echo-
ing the founders of the Black
Press, Samuel E. Cornish and
John B. Russwurm who stated
191 years ago: "We wish to
plead our own cause. Too long
have others spoken for us. Too
long has the public been
deceived by misrepresenta-
tions, in things which concern
us dearly."The CBC chairman also lev-
eled the charge made by law-
makers and economists alike
that Trump is just riding the
economic wave that began dur-
ing President Barack Obama's
tenure."He boasts about a booming
economy, but it is not some-
thing he can take credit for,"
said Richmond. "Much like the
money he inherited from his
father to start his business,
President Trump inherited a
growing economy from
President Obama."Richmond continued: "The
low Black unemploymentrate he boasted about has
been falling for eight years
and has only changed by one
percent since he took office.
In addition, while the Black
unemployment rate is at an
historic low, it is still double
the rate of White unemploy-
ment and doesn't take into
account the fact that African
Americans are disproportio-
nately underemployed and
underpaid."Janelle Jones, an analyst
working on a variety of labor
market topics within EPI's
Program on Race, Ethnicity,
and the Economy (PRE) toldVox that, "The recovery of
employment was happening
long before Trump got into
office."Richmond also said that
even though the president's
infrastructure proposal sound-
ed good, he doubted that the
proposals would live up to their
promise."We know that it will be
more of the same: toll roads,
reduced federal cost-share, and
giveaways to his wealthy
friends in the construction
industry," said Richmond. "It is
important to note that he said
nothing about contracting with

minority firms."

Richmond said that the CBC
can now answer the question
that Trump posed to the Black
community in 2016, "with 100
percent certainty."Richmond continued:
"African Americans have a
lot to lose under the Trump
Administration and we have
lost a lot already, especially
when it comes to his justice,
voting rights, education,
housing, and healthcare poli-
cies. President Trump is still
who we thought he was and
we won't be fooled by this
speech."America is in the midst of a
Third Reconstruction."Our discussion aims to put a
spotlight on a variety of issues
that are vital to our community,
and that we are sure will be
overlooked in his State of the
Union address on Tuesday," said
Martin in a statement released to
the press.Hot topics ranged from
attaining economic self-suffi-
ciency, voter mobilization, the
rightward tilt of judicial
appointments, political and
election strategy, organizing
and the administration's at-
tacks against immigrants, the
LGBTQ community and anyone
not White, heterosexual and
male."His words, actions and
appointments and all we've seen
is a policy of division," said
Kristen Clarke, president and
executive director of the
Lawyers' Committee for Civil
Rights Under Law. "He has
taken us back decades. We've
seen a spike in hate crimes,
Charlottesville, and his inabil-
ity to condemn Neo-Nazis ... it's
hard not to trace ugly hate and
animus to this White House."

Clarke, Melanie Campbell of

the Black Women's
Roundtable, NAACP President
Derrick Johnson and other
panelists warned about the
danger posed to African-
Americans, other people of
color, the poor and the most
vulnerable by Trump's judicial
appointments. In his first year,
Trump, Senate Majority
Leader Mitch McConnell and
the Republican leadership
have rammed through nomina-
tions to federal, district and
circuit courts after eight years
of holding up or blocking for-
mer President Barack Obama's
nominees."This is a huge issue," Clarke
explained. There are 140 vacan-
cies in federal courts. The judi-
ciary has always mattered to
Black people because it is a
place of last resort. Ninety-nine
percent of cases are heard in
federal and district courts.
Ninety-one percent of those
Trump is putting forward are
White and male and they are
the fringe. He's turning back the
clock to the Jim Crow era."A panel of millennials spoke
with great passion about the
failings of the two-party sys-
tem, their general disdain forAnd as for so-called "majori-
ty-minority" Black voting dis-
tricts, all Republican legislative
leaders did, they've said, is
"comply" with the 1965 Voting
Rights Act, ensuring that
African-American voters were
able to elect representation of
their choice to Congress and the
legislature.The federal courts saw it dif-
ferently, ruling those districts
"unconstitutional" because they
"stacked and packed" Black vot-ers into a handful of voting dis-
tricts to lessen their influence in
races across the State.A favorable resolution for the
GOP of these issues points
towards the 2018 election and
Republican hopes to build on
the legislative power they've
amassed since taking over the
NC General Assembly in 2011.
Before Republican Gov. Pat
McCrorry lost his re-election bid
in 2016, the only outlier in the
GOP scheme for virtually com-plete control of State govern-
ment was the judiciary, even
though, prior to the 2016 elec-
tions, they had a majority of the
State Supreme Court.Thus the moves to limit
Gov. Cooper's power, gain con-
trol of the State judiciary, and
now, a desperate battle not to
lose their advantage per the
redistricting maps.The courts hold the fate of
NC GOP future power in their
hands.

EVERY MONDAY IN FEBRUARY
IN UNCW LUMINA THEATER

"Daughters of the Dust"
Feb. 5 - 5:45 p.m.

The story of three generations of Gullah women on Saint Helena Island as they prepare to the North on mainland

"Bin Yah"
Feb. 12 - 5:45 p.m.

Explores the potential loss of important historic African American communities in Mt. Pleasant, SC, due to growth and development.

"Black Beach/White Beach"
Feb. 19 - 5:45 p.m.

Explores opposing viewpoints on segregation and integration, mutual love of motorcycle culture and racial tensions that reach a boiling point every spring in Myrtle Beach.

"Wilmington On Fire"
Feb. 26 - 5:45 p.m.

Film chronicles the attack on Wilmington's African American community by a heavily armed white mob on Nov. 10, 1898.

Screenings are free and open to the public.

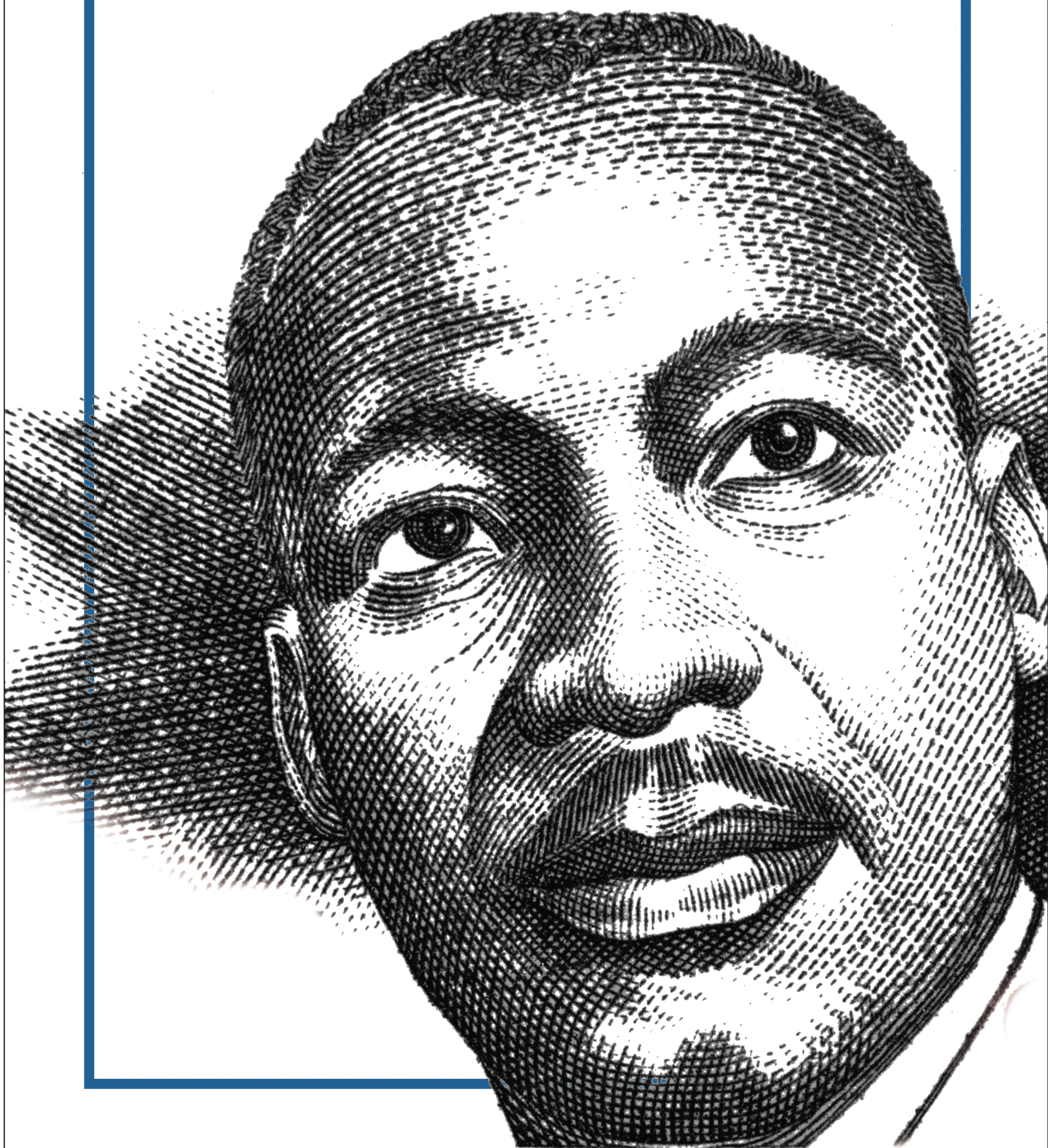
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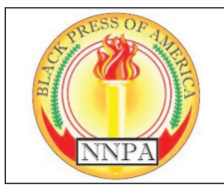
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BLACK HISTORY MONTH





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

The state of our union is strong: The resistance to Donald Trump's agenda proves it

The president's transgressions have done more to unify our country than any policy the administration has championed.

This evening, as I sat in the well of the House of Representatives during President Donald Trump's first State of the Union address, I listened to him boast about his administration's "incredible progress" and "extraordinary success."

"The state of our union is strong because our people are strong," said the president.

He's right. The state of our union is indeed strong, as are the people who call it home. And despite what my Democratic colleagues might think, I do believe President Trump deserves credit as well - just not for the reasons he thinks.

The president's first year in office has been tumultuous to say the least. Most of his administration's legislative goals have been mired by self-sabotage; his mental fitness and moral clarity have been questioned by both parties; special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation haunts the White House at every turn; and President Trump's vulgar anti-immigrant comments have sent shockwaves across the globe. However, these shameful transgressions have done more to unify our country than any policy the Trump administration claims to have championed during its short tenure.

Take, for example, the president's efforts to end Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals: After making clear his intention to scrap protections for approximately 800,000 undocumented immigrants who came to our country as children, faith communities across America stood up to take action. Recently, dozens of rabbis and Jewish clergy members staged a sit-in under the Russell Senate Office Building rotunda to protest the president's efforts. They called for the passage of the DREAM Act, a bipartisan bill that would provide a path to citizenship for those with DACA or Temporary Protected Status.

A total of 82 people were arrested and escorted off the premises in handcuffs.

"Welcoming the stranger is an important part of our identity," said Barbra Weinstein, Associate Director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, one of the groups that organized the protest. "We are all descendants of immigrants. It's on all of us to support these DREAMers. They grew up here, this is the only country they've ever known, many of them serve in the military, this is their home."

Even conservatives deep in the heart of Trump country have made the decision to rise above the president's anti-immigrant agenda. Residents of Volusia, Fla., where President Trump received 54 percent of the vote in 2016, recently elected Michael Chitwood - a progressive reformer with a strong pro-immigrant outlook - to serve as county sheriff. Sheriff Chitwood isn't your typical red-state law enforcement official: He's ordered his deputies to reject the racial-profiling tactics supported by the Trump Justice Department and has even lobbied Congress to find a solution to protect our DREAMers.

During tonight's speech, the president echoed Sheriff Chitwood's sentiments, taking a break from his usual caustic, anti-immigrant rhetoric to express optimism in finding a bipartisan compromise on DACA. "It is time to reform these outdated immigration rules, and finally bring our immigration system into the 21st century," said the president.

As lovely as that sounds, the validity of such a sentiment quickly degrades against the backdrop of reality. Let's not forget that just weeks ago, in the vilest of manners, the president turned his back on a proposed bipartisan senate immigration compromise. "Why do we want all these people from shithole countries coming here?" President Trump asked a group of senators in the Oval Office.

Ignorant viewpoints like that and the president's corresponding policies have helped spur a surge of opposition at the ballot box, from support for candidates like state Delegate Danica Roem, D-Va., and Senator Doug Jones, D-Ala., to ordinary Americans running for office and taking matters into their own hands. And I'm proud to report that women are at the very tip of the spear.

Women across the country have united in an unprecedented wave of first-time candidates taking to the campaign trail. In the last year, more than 26,000 women have contacted Emily's List - the largest national resource for women in politics - about getting involved in public service. (I also turned to Emily's List during my first bid for congress in 2004, and I continue to work with them today.)

The administration's intolerance, however, isn't the only factor that has inspired everyday Americans to take a stand. In fact, many of the country's most vulnerable joined forces against the president to oppose what is now considered his administration's only major legislative achievement to speak of - the Republican tax plan.

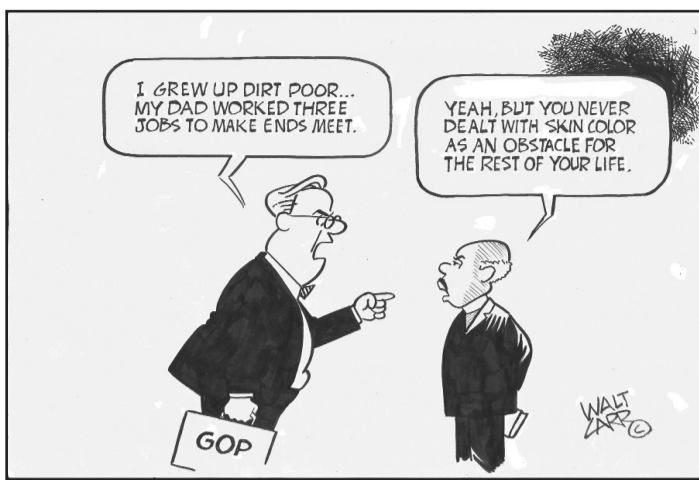
Last December, as members of Congress debated the plan, those representing America's disabled converged on the capitol in droves to sound the alarm over the dangerous impact the Republican proposal would have on Medicaid. With a clear understanding that the tax plan would add \$1.5 trillion to the national debt, disability rights activist knew Republicans would target programs like Medicaid, Medicare, and Social Security, as a means to offset the price tag.

Devastating cuts to these vital programs - \$1 trillion from Medicaid and \$500 billion from Medicare - is nothing short of a death sentence for Americans with disabilities. It was with this in

OUR VOICE

Continued on page 5

Visual Voice



MATTERS OF OPINION

RAINBOW COALITION

Trump rides economic momentum from Obama

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

As he delivers his first State of the Union address tonight, President Donald Trump is looking for approval. He'll brag on the economy with a likely focus on his Twitter claim that "because of my policies," Black unemployment is at its "lowest rate ever recorded."

He made that claim while responding to Jay-Z's criticisms and also has declared to African-Americans that "Dems did nothing for you but get your vote."

Trump is like a man who jumps on a moving train and takes credit for its speed. He claims he inherited a "mess" and transformed it. In fact, Obama inherited the mess - an economy in free fall, losing 700,000 jobs a month. He turned it around. Trump inherited an economy enjoying a record stretch of months with private sector jobs growth.

Black unemployment fell under Obama. In fact, Trump

created slightly fewer new jobs in his first year than Obama did in his last. Trump is riding the economic momentum created under Obama. His policies haven't really taken hold yet. He's not passed a budget. His posturing on trade hasn't resulted in new policies yet or reduced our trade deficits.

In touting the unemployment figure, Trump also simply ignores the stark reality facing many African-Americans - and other working people. Too many are working without a living wage, without affordable health care, without affordable mass transit, without overtime, paid vacations, paid family leave and more.

Black unemployment remains virtually twice that of White unemployment - and the headline unemployment figure doesn't count those who have given up looking for jobs, those who can only find part-time work, those whose wages can't support a family. In Chicago and other cities, there are neighborhoods with unemployment at 20 percent, poverty at 40 percent and conditions far worse for young African-American men.

That hasn't changed under Trump. What African-Americans see is a president who is rousing racial divisions, fears and hatreds, from

Charlottesville, Virginia, to the slur on Haiti and s-hole countries to the demonizing of immigrants, particularly people of color. What we see is an administration that is systematically rolling back civil rights protections.

It has decimated civil rights offices in the Department of Education, the Department of Labor and elsewhere. The Department of Justice has reversed position on voting rights cases, standing with those in Texas and elsewhere who would suppress the vote.

It has virtually abandoned consent decrees in civil rights cases, weakening its ability to enforce remedies to violations. Trump is packing the courts with right-wing justices who stand with corporations and against the rights of minorities and women. We see an administration that has systematically favored the rich and the corporations over working and poor people. It opposes lifting the minimum wage.

It has slashed enforcement of worker rights, worker safety laws and prosecution of wage theft. It has reversed a long overdue expansion of overtime rights, costing working people literally billions in overtime pay. Most recently, it has

proposed allowing restaurant and hotel owners to take over the allocation of tips, a change that would cost some of the lowest paid workers earnings they need to survive.

We see an administration that seeks to slash virtually every program that supports the vulnerable - of all colors and races. Its efforts to repeal Obamacare, rollback Medicaid, cut investment in schools, Pell grants, student loans, training, low-cost housing and more will disproportionately hit people of color. We see an administration that has pushed to expand mass incarceration, instructing prosecutors to seek maximum sentences, ending efforts to reform racist police practices. Trump inherited a justice system that systematically discriminates against people of color. He and his Justice Department will make it worse.

Trump's long promised and yet unsewn plan to rebuild America's infrastructure offers a true opportunity for good jobs. A major effort will be made to have any legislation that emerges target areas of high unemployment - both

JACKSON

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Now is the time for heroes

Two popular movies currently are being screened in cinemas across the nation. Both deal with struggle, courage and hope.

The first, "The Darkest Hour," dramatizes Winston Churchill's first days as Britain's prime minister in the spring of 1940.

His nation was at war with Nazi Germany and most of Britain's army was surrounded and trapped at Dunkirk, a section of beach along the French coast of the English Channel.

Churchill's opponents and supporters alike urged him to make peace with the Germans and capitulate to Hitler's demand that England withdraw from the war in Europe. But in a show of extraordinary courage, Churchill resisted the temptation to "play it safe." Instead, he found a way to save his army and went on to become a celebrated hero of the war.

"The Post" is the second film currently enjoying acclaim. It follows the publisher of the Washington Post, Katherine Graham, during the days that she stood up to a bullying U.S. President Richard Nixon and published the classified "Pentagon Papers," exposing the government's lies behind the Vietnam War.

The decision to print the secret government documents could have spelled ruin for the paper and Graham herself, but nevertheless, she persisted. When the Pentagon Papers were published, public opinion against the Vietnam War rose to such a pitch that America

ultimately had to withdraw from the conflict.

What makes both these films so popular is that people admire heroes who show courage in the face of daunting odds. But heroes such as these are hard to find today. Corporations and big money interests have bought the hearts and souls of most of our politicians and media executives. America is starved for heroic action. But if we want to see the type of heroism we crave, we must sit in a darkened room and watch it projected onto a screen in a two-hour fictional narrative. "The Darkest Hour" and "The Post" are heroic escape fantasies for Americans today, just as the glittering Hollywood extravaganzas of the 1930s were fantasies that helped Americans escape the dreariness of the Great Depression.

I am not saying that we have no heroes, but we do not have enough. There are too few heroes in our legislative bodies in Washington D.C. and in our state capitals. Too many elected officials spend more time trying to get re-elected than doing right by the people they are sworn to serve. Too many media personalities and executives are more interested in ratings than speaking truth to power.

The everyday working man and woman who struggle to keep their families fed, clothed and properly cared for are real heroes, but they are betrayed by selfish national leaders who refuse to put their shoulders to the wheel to bring about changes for the better.

We should not look for leadership from politicians and media celebrities who do nothing but tout their own non-existent accomplishments. Leaders who have neither the will nor the ability to take heroic action when needed do nothing more

than squander the public trust.

We, the governed, must learn to be critical of our government if we are to improve our lives. We must become "critical thinkers." We must become thoughtful, logical and informed and we must consider the source of our information and disregard that which is not credible or is meant to manipulate us. We should not accept old saws such as "All politicians lie." We must not accept being lied to by those in power, nor should we accept liars as our leaders. Liars must be voted out of office if they are elected in the first place.

As consumers of information, we must learn to be critical of what we are told in print and over the airwaves. We must use our common sense when listening to the news and reading newspapers. During the civil rights era, many major newspapers in the South lied in their reporting on the conduct of demonstrators and marchers. They lied, even more, when they tried to hide violent hateful responses to those demonstrations by local white bigots. Those newspapers lied because it suited their racist agendas to do so. During that time, we had to refute those lies and expose them for what they were.

Today, it suits the agendas of many media outlets to lie in glowing terms about a president who is himself a despicable liar. To make matters worse, there are foreign antagonists flooding American social media with misinformation. We must refute these new lies and not let them poison our nation unchallenged.

To do this, we not only must be critical thinkers, but we must become the heroes that we are looking for.

It will not be easy to bring about change at a time when simply surviving is difficult to

manage. We live under a hostile federal government as well as many hostile state governments. But we have been through worse. As a people, we have survived much worse and we have forged ahead.

To continue to forge ahead, we must always vote. And we must not allow our friends and family members to stay at home on Election Day. We must always vote because there are those who would take our vote from us.

We must also become active. And as activists, we must not allow our friends and family members to be inactive. We must encourage good people to run for office, and we must support them when they do. And we must actively oppose those who govern us unjustly and unwisely.

As activists and critical thinkers, we must not allow our friends and family members to swallow lies. We must make them critical thinkers as well.

Like the children of Israel who wandered in the wilderness for 40 years hoping for a better life, we have wandered in a political wilderness for the past 50 years hoping for another Martin Luther King Jr. or other Messiah to deliver us. And during all this time, too few of us sought to find the heroes within ourselves. Those of us who did not step forward to take on the challenges of leadership failed ourselves. Now is the time to change that. We each must find the strength and courage within ourselves that is needed to create a better world.

Today, so many battles lie before us. Now is the time for each of us to find our inner hero.

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



Rep. Gwen Moore



Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.



Oscar H. Blayton

JACKSON

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rural and urban - and include sums for training so that those left out of the economy can find their way in. By all accounts, Trump wants to spend less and offer private investors big returns. Will he

therefore oppose efforts to make the rebuilding inclusive? We shall see. In his presidential campaign, Trump called on African Americans to vote for him, arguing, "What have you got to lose?"

But African-American voters saw someone who had risen by peddling the racist slur about Obama not being

American, someone who had profited by peddling division and appealing to fears. They are looking for someone who will help them get an equal shot and move to provide equal justice under the law.

Real full employment helps, because African-Americans are too often the last hired. But there was full

employment under slavery. Working Americans - Black, White and brown, of all races and creeds - are looking for a champion. Sorry, Mr. Trump, taking credit for growth that you did not create won't get it done.

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

CRAZY FAITH MINISTRIES

The breadth of White supremacy

As this nation reels from the antics, the lying, and the behavior of this president, it sees that we are being allowed to see white supremacy up front and personal in a way we have not seen before.

This president - and his cronies - appear to be throwing their whiteness - and maleness - and wealth - into the faces of everyone, black people, brown people, immigrants - legal and illegal, Muslims, women, the poor. What we are seeing is arrogance on display, an arrogance which has always been there and which is, frankly, rotting out the core of this country.

As the president works to dismantle democracy, the impotent Congress standing silently by, we can see that those who live in the culture of white supremacy have no regard for anyone but themselves. This president desires to be an autocrat, and the lackeys around him are allowing him to do exactly what he wants.

U.S. Constitution be damned. The mockery this administration is making of our democracy is appalling. Any and all African Americans know that the democracy as it was far from perfect, but what we are seeing is unbridled power - the type of power that dictators have used in their ascendancy to power. Every time the democracy is slapped in the face by an attempt by this president to negate the very government that made it possible for him to be elected, the evidence of white supremacy, with its arrogant sense of privilege, becomes more and more clear.

That the Congress is so impotent is maddening; that Evangelical Christians are giving this president a pass on everything he does and says is making a mockery of their supposed claim to moral religious superiority.

Nothing that has been perceived as "normal" is holding up. Not religion, not democracy, and not an appreciation for the concepts of decency and honor.

Cable news is no help. Having pundits on every day, reporting the same stories over and over with a different set of commentators, is only giving this president the stage he craves. Nothing is gained by speculation and opinion except that people get more and more flustered and upset.

The "maleness" of white supremacy is stark. What we see in these white men throwing their weight around is what we see on the streets with police officers; too many officers do what they do because they know they can do it and get away with it.

White males are being called to task for sexual exploitation of women, but again, they have been doing it for years and getting away with it; they have led with their money and their privilege as white men to do what they have wanted to do, and when they have been challenged - which is not often - they have whined and lied, protesting that they are the real victims.

The "white supremacy club" is not as much about race as it is about power and economics. Wealthy white men have been raping the soul of America (and wealthy white men in other nations do the same) for decades. The Constitution was written by wealthy white Protestant men who wanted the country run by wealthy, white, Protestant men. The white supremacy club has gotten away with denigrating black and brown people, but also women of all races - including their own. They aim to keep their club exclusive and will stop at nothing to destroy those who try to topple or thwart them.

Nobody really knows what is going to happen from day to day - except that the white supremacy club will keep on doing what it can to keep its members in good shape at the expense of everyone else.

America is in for a rough, rough ride.
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 revusuekim@sbcglobal.net.

MORIAL

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leadership can be trusted to maintain commitment to a vote. On the other side are those who believe the bargain - which also included a six-year extension of the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), ultimately will end with the result all players have declared they want: legal status - and eventual citizenship - for Dreamers.

President Trump reiterated his support for Dreamers this week, saying he wants them to be able to become citizens. House Speaker Paul Ryan made a highly-publicized promise to a young Dreamer at a nationally-televised town hall that he did not want to see her deported and wanted to help her "get right with the law." Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell also has said he has sympathy for the Dreamers.

To the extent the general hostility of some Americans toward immigrants is based on wildly inaccurate stereotypes, no group could go further in exploding those false

impressions than the Dreamers. Their employment rate exceeds that of the native-born population, with more than 90 percent of them working. About 65,000 graduate from high school each year; and 10,000 graduate from college. They pay \$2 billion in state and local taxes, and are ineligible for safety net program benefits and most government subsidies. About 900 are currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.

If the Dreamers are deported, the United States will lose more than \$280 billion in economic contribution. Plus, the deportations would cost more than \$60 billion additional tax dollars.

The United States is at a crossroads. Deportation of Dreamers would be a shameful stain on our history, diminishing our standing in the international community. Allowing them to remain in limbo, living with the looming disaster of job loss, discharge from the military or expulsion from school, is cruel, and not in keeping with American

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

OUR VOICE

Continued from this page

mind that activists of all ages from across the political spectrum (some connected to ventilators) literally threw their bodies in front of the president's agenda. They hoisted themselves out of their wheelchairs onto the floor of the Rayburn House Office Building and pleaded with their elected representatives to reverse course. It was a striking display of heroism that I will not soon forget.

Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times

of challenge and controversy." I believe the same could be said for our country.

And in the face of an administration determined to vilify immigrants, ignore women, belittle communities of color, and put the desires of the wealthy before the needs of the vulnerable, courageous acts of defiance have only strengthened our collective resolve. In spite of President Trump and his administration, the state of our union has never been stronger.

Congresswoman Gwen Moore was elected to represent Wisconsin's 4th Congressional District in 2004, making her the first African American elected to Congress from the State of Wisconsin.

TO BE EQUAL

Will Congress keep its promise to the dreamers?

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

"Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) for me was a way of coming up for air after having been underwater all my life in a sea of uncertainty. I was able to catch my breath, but I was not yet on a boat back to land. DACA allowed me to work legally, have a Social Security number, open a bank account, and have something as simple as a state ID. Most importantly, DACA provided me with a license to dream." - Ms. Guzman, a Dreamer writing semi-

anonymously in Fortune Magazine.

While the debate rages daily on op-ed pages and on cable news, the nation won't know until next month whether a Congressional deal to protect Dreamers will be successful. What we know right now is



Marc Morial

that protecting Dreamers is the right thing to do.

The Senate deal to keep the government funded through February 8 includes a commitment to vote on a solution that would address the status of young people brought to the United States by their parents when they were children. The Trump Administration in September announced an end to Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), the program that protected them from deportation and allowed them to attend school

and work.

About 90 percent of Americans believe that those covered under DACA - commonly known as "Dreamers" - should be permitted to remain in the United States - the country that is their home, the only they've ever known. Of those who are committed to legal status for Dreamers, many have criticized the Senate deal because they do not believe Senate

MORIAL

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What could be worse?

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

Political right/Republicans have given nearly every bad excuse possible for their own bad behavior. Truth and objectivity seem to escape their ilk. Since the swearing-in of #45 and his one-year hijacked occupancy of the people's house, strange stories that oppose the truth emerge at every turn. After hearing one bad excuse, it's hard to believe that an even worse excuse could materialize, but it can. Here are my nominees, in order of bad to worse, of recent right-wing idiocy:

Dr. E. Faye Williams

FOUR: Despite owning a majority in both the Senate and House of Representatives and occupying the White House, Republicans blame Democrats for the government shutdown! Blaming Democrats, they have ignored their rejection of the overwhelming will of the American people and the legislative votes of several 'principled' Republicans who joined with Democrats against their



own party.
THREE: Senators Dick Durbin and Lindsey Graham exposed racist and profane statements made by #45 during a White House meeting related to the shutdown vote. Of the others present, one Cabinet Officer could only remember #45 using strong language, but didn't say what that language was. Republican Senators from Arkansas and Georgia originally feigned failure to hear the comments and/or forgetfulness, but, as the fallout of #45's comments became more heated, they remembered that he "absolutely" did not make the statements of which he was accused. Never mind that they were meeting to avoid a government shutdown - between not hearing and not remembering, one wonders why they were there.

TWO: After the Democratic Senate Minority Leader, unbelievably, agreed to give #45 money he'd requested to build his "Mexican Border Wall," #45 reneged on that agreement which led to the shutdown vote. Although claiming he wanted to resolve the DACA crisis, #45 disappeared from public view, but published photographs showing him at his empty Oval Office desk hoping to make us believe he was actively working for resolution. When

Democrats reached agreement with Republicans to re-open the government, #45, and many of his fellow Republicans, rewarded them with disparaging tweets and comments accusing them of "caving" to Republican pressure. Seemingly, Republicans have conveniently forgotten that democratic legislation is a process of give-and-take in order to achieve a plan with which both sides can live - even when that compromise is objectionable or disappointing to supporters.

ONE: Finally, the week's worst rears its ugly head! Pennsylvania Republican Congressman Pat Meehan is the "hands down" winner of my "What Could Be Worse" award. Meehan is accused of sexually harassing a female staffer he obsessively labeled his "soulmate." His infractions include creating a hostile work environment after he learned of the staffer's involvement with a male (outside of work) other than himself and the probability that she would be leaving his office. Disappointed and angry, Meehan engaged in practices that caused his staffer to charge him with sexual harassment.

While admitting that, after learning of her serious relationship with another, he sent

the young woman an emotional letter. Meehan denied that he sexually harassed her. He did, however, offer an excuse for his workplace behavior that flows straight from the right-wing Republican playbook. His excuse was that he blamed President Obama!! He said that he worked so hard to repeal the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare), that his efforts stressed him out, and that he was so stressed that any bad behavior with which he was charged had to be blamed on that Obama person! We never heard from Republicans calling for his resignation or repayment of taxpayer dollars used to pay hush money to the young woman involved. On his own terms, he announced he *won't run for re-election.*

These truths are stranger than fiction. I really worry about what could be worse and when that shoe will drop!

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

Dr. E. Faye Williams, National President of the National Congress of Black Women, Inc. www.nationalcongressbw.org--202/678-6788. E-mail: drefaye.williams@gmail.com.

S*hole countries not a priority**

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

Our 45th President has traipsed over to the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, planning to rub elbows with world leaders, repair some relationships, and possibly shred even more.

He had hardly landed before he started threatening to cut off aid to the Palestinians unless they participate in peace talks with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Palestinian leaders are justifiably angry that 45, without a conversation with them, said he would move the US Embassy to Jerusalem, the city that both Palestinian and Israelis consider their capital.

Dr. Julianne Malveaux

Since 45 has been President, the world has been losing respect for us. According to a November Gallup poll, approval of US leaders among 134 countries has hit a new low of 30 percent, down 18 percent from the 48 percent approval rate in President Obama's last year, and even lower than the previous low of 34 percent in George W. Bush's last year.

Only Liberia, Macedonia, Israel and Belarus increased their approval rating of the US, while Portugal, Norway, Belgium and Canada saw approval ratings plunge by 40 points or more. 45 has been currying Israel's favor, so it is

no wonder that they are more approving of him. But US leadership lags behind support for leadership in both Germany and China. Only Russia has a lower approval rating than we do.

Meanwhile, 45 is ignoring most of the rest of the world. A year into his Presidency, he has not appointed ambassadors for fully half of the world. The Bureau of African Affairs, part of the State Department, has no leader. There is an "acting" Assistant Secretary for African Affairs, Donald Yamamoto, a career foreign policy professional who has worked for both Presidents Bush and Obama. Yamamoto has some responsibility for the Bureau of African Affairs, but it is not his priority.

There is no ambassador to the African Union, which is perhaps a blessing because that person may have had to defend 45's ignorant remark about s***hole countries. But 45 didn't have to make such an ignorant statement in order for us to know how he felt about people of African descent. He illustrates his disdain every time he opens his mouth. He did not have to compare Haiti to Norway, all he had to do was fail to appoint an ambassador to Brazil, which is home to the largest population of Afrodescendants outside the African continent.

There is no US ambassador to Belize, Bolivia, Burkina Faso or Cape Verde. No ambassador to Cote D'Ivoire or Cuba, Guinea or Ghana, Jamaica or Kenya. Neither Madagascar nor Mali, Mozambique nor Nigeria,

South Africa nor Tanzania, Togo nor Trinidad have US Ambassadors. Blessedly, 40 percent of 45's appointees are career foreign policy experts. Some, like Calista Gingrich's appointment as Ambassador to the Vatican, are clearly political plums. But how can 45 justify having no ambassadors to two of the most important countries on the African continent, oil-producing Nigeria, and economically advanced South Africa? I guess he will be forced to pay attention to these s***hole countries if there is an oil crisis and we need some Nigerian oil!

Africa and the Caribbean are not the only parts of the world that have been ignored by this administration. Highly desirable appointments, like those to Canada, France, the United Kingdom, and Germany have been filled. Even as 45 has squabbled with North Korea's Kim Jong-un, he has appointed no ambassador to South Korea.

This could have been completely avoided if 45 had allowed Obama appointees to stay in place until he found people to replace them. Instead, people had to come home in the middle of the school year, hurriedly making arrangements for new schools, new housing (some had rented their homes), and more. Why did 45 demand resignations so abruptly when he had few replacements, breaking precedent and also thumbing his nose at the world?

Our NATO allies look askance at him because of his obnoxious and belligerent behavior. He has made strange remarks about terror-

ism in the UK, taken swipes at France and Germany, and generally behaved like an overgrown child when gathering with other world leaders, pushing the Prime Minister of Montenegro aside so he could get in front of a group photo at a NATO summit in May. Incidentally, there is no US Ambassador to Montenegro.

Actually, staffing the government is not a priority of this administration. When he was elected, he indicated that he thought some agencies were "huuuuge", and there were positions he would not fill. He has been much slower than his predecessors in staffing up every agency, but especially the State Department. By the end of their first calendar year (2001 for Bush, 2009 for Obama), Bush had 139 State Department confirmations, with 14 pending. Obama had 119 confirmed and 18 pending. 45 has 61 confirmed and 28 pending!

We who are connected to s***hole countries can rest assured that foreign policy is not this administration's strong suit. 45's failure to appoint ambassadors to African countries perhaps reflects the disdain he feels for us. But his disdain is yet another reflection of his ignorance.

Julianne Malveaux is an author and economist. Her latest book "Are We Better Off? Race, Obama and Public Policy" is available via www.amazon.com for booking, wholesale inquiries or for more info visit www.julianne-malveaux.com.

New Hanover County

City of Wilmington Community Development will be hosting Home Buyer Education classes on Saturday, February 10, 2018, 9 am – 3 pm and Saturday, March 10, 2018 at 115 N. 3rd Street, 5th Floor Conference Room, Wilmington, NC For more information or to register, please call 910-341-7836.

Community Briefs

New Hanover County Schools will hold its annual Magnet and Choice Schools Fair on Thursday, February 22, 2018, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., at Independence Mall Center Court. The Magnet and Choice Schools Fair is an opportunity for the district to share with parents and the community detailed information about programs and how to register students. The Magnet and Choice Schools Fair will provide information on the following topics: Special Programs, Academic Programs, Gifted Programs, Student Perspectives, Staff Perspectives, Benefits, Lottery Process (where applicable), School Calendars and Application Timeline. All parents living in New Hanover County are welcome to attend. Bilingual families are invited to attend; bilingual liaisons will be available. There is no cost to attend. For more information, contact Sabra Wright, Title I Special Programs Specialist, at 910-251-6011, ext. 107 or Sabra.Wright@nhcs.net.

Port City Playwrights' Project, a community of writers for stage and screen, meets 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 3rd at the Myrtle Grove branch of the New Hanover County Library, 5155 S College Rd, Wilmington. The agenda includes reading and discussing new scripts as well as planning for future productions. Newcomers at any stage of experience are always welcomed. For additional information, email portcityplaywrightsproject@gmail.com or visit <https://portcityplaywrights.wordpress.com>.

The Wilmington Prostate Cancer Support Group will meet at 6:00 p.m., Thursday, February 1, 2018 in Classroom C, New Hanover Regional Medical Center, 2131 South 17th Street, Wilmington. Jonathan I. Epstein, MD, Consulting Prostate Cancer Pathologist, Johns Hopkins Medical Center, Baltimore will present on DVD his approach to prostate cancer biopsy pathology examination and reporting in a talk entitled YOUR PATHOLOGY REPORT: WHAT YOU HAVE TO KNOW. Need directions? Call Rex at 910-799-5952.

Wilmington Precinct 29 will meet Tuesday, February 13th at Williston Middle School, 401 South 10th Street at 6:45 p.m. This will be a reorganizing meeting.

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

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

The Lead Kindergarten Teacher is responsible for planning and implementing a curriculum based on Montessori and inquiry-based practice with the help of a full-time assistant. Duties include creating and overseeing a nurturing, individualized, child-centered, "prepared environment" that enables each child to develop according to his/her needs, interests, and abilities.

The ideal candidate will possess:

- 1) Relevant teaching experience with a deep understanding of the Montessori approach.
- 2) An understanding of FSW's Quaker philosophy and mission.
- 3) Confidence in collaborating with an assistant teacher.
- 4) Ability to communicate warmly and effectively with students, parents, and co-workers.

We offer a competitive salary package, health insurance, a tuition discount, retirement benefits and a friendly and nurturing working environment.

Please send your resume, a statement of educational philosophy, and three references to Head of School Brenda Esch at brenda@fsw.org.

Complete applications received by March 15th will receive priority consideration.

HOMETOWN NEWS FROM BRUNSWICK COUNTY

Visitors from Hampstead, New York

Mrs. Gloria Bryant has been, for many years, a well known Christian leader in the community of Bolivia.



Verniece Stanley

In past years, people used to depend upon her grocery store where they could usually receive credit on their purchases. It was very common to hear, "Next week, I will be able to pay you in full. With good weather, I can work all day all week." Life was hard and many were poor in Bolivia in 1929.

Recently, Mrs. Lillian Hobbs-Bigby and her husband, Lloyd Bigby, to visit

Mrs. Bryant, the aunt of Mrs. Bigby. It was a time when old friends and school mates who grew up with Mrs. Bryant to get together, but many other old friends and classmates have passed away.

The gathering at St. John's Missionary Baptist Church seemed to be at the right time and the right place. We remembered at this time such people as her mother, who passed away at 100 years old and Ms. Katie Johnson, of Payton in Grifton, N. C. This was a religious experience which will be remembered for a long time and those who were in attendance were admonished to stay in touch, make contact information available, and make visits more often.

There were activities which kept the youngsters enter-

tained. For example, it was interesting and uplifting to watch them as they played basketball. It was fun to watch how quickly and nimbly they can pass. This is another way of building and maintaining lasting friendships and helping develop wellness in bodies. When we get together, there is always good conversation about various issues, particularly regarding the history and contributions of our African American forebears. Our conversations have focused on everything from Black American "firsts" to forgotten accomplishments of African Americans to current achievements to injustices committed against our people. We have concluded that we must remain active contributing members of the American citizenry and con-

tinue our strong relationship with positive civil and human rights organizations, such as our NAACP.

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.

New Hanover County Schools celebrates African American History Month

February is African American History Month, and New Hanover County Schools plans to celebrate with a variety of events that are educational, inspirational and fun. Throughout the district, schools are incorporating African American studies into classroom curricula highlighting the important contributions African Americans have made in our nation's history.

To celebrate African American History Month, the following events are just a few examples of planned activities:

Thursday, February 15, 2018, at 1:00 pm, Wrightsboro Elementary School. The school will host the Buffalo Soldiers for a presentation to 1st and 2nd-grade students. The group upholds the legacy of the original Buffalo Soldiers from the 9th and 10th Cavalry Regiment of the United States Army formed in 1866.

Friday, February 16, 2018, at 12:30 pm, Sunset Park Elementary School will hold 7th Annual African American Read-In. Community members have been invited to read works of literature by African American authors to students

at Sunset Park. This is the 28th year for the national event.

Thursday, February 22, 2018, at 3:45 pm, Williston Middle School. The NHCS Public Relations Division will have an exciting Girl POWER! event. The guest speaker is Elizabeth Montgomery, a Star-News reporter. Students will learn about Ms. Montgomery's career and how she became a journalist.

Thursday, February 22, 2018, at 5:30 pm, D.C. Virgo Preparatory Academy. D. C. Virgo is hosting a Steam Night spotlighting and celebrating African American history and culture. The event will feature STEM stations, a museum gallery walk, Blacks in Wax, dance, and music. The event is free and open to the community.

Monday, February 26, 2018, at 12:30 pm and 1:30 pm, Holly Tree Elementary School. There will be an interactive presentation given by Derrick C. Jones, which focuses on "The Life and Legacy of Mr. Jack Roosevelt Robinson." The career of Jackie Robinson will be highlighted along with his life as a little boy, his ele-

mentary school days, high school, college and his baseball career as the first African American to play in the Major Leagues. Students will have an active role in reading and acting out parts of Jackie Robinson's life.

Throughout the month of February:

Diversity Matters – The February segment of Diversity Matters, one of the top-rated programs produced by NHCS-TV, features Mrs. Bertha B. Todd, retired NHCS educator, community strategist, and author; and Dr. Jan Davidson, historian, and Heather Yenco, curator, of the Cape Fear Museum. The topic of this segment is African American History, specifically the impact of 1898, and artifacts from individuals that were a significant part of history in the Wilmington area.

Snipes Academy

Grade levels will incorporate stories about famous African Americans and their achievements throughout the month in their core reading instruction. Some classes will invite community members to talk to their classes.

Schoolwide, each student will be provided with an African Americans of STEM Educational Activity book, and a "fun fact" each day during morning announcements about an African American inventor, leader, or artist. The 3-D printer will be used for students to recreate inventions. The school will have a poster contest with prizes awarded to the top three entries, and there will be a trivia contest each Friday with a student in each grade level having the opportunity to win a prize.

Williston Middle School

Throughout February as well as the 3rd nine-weeks, 7th-grade students will practice reading standards through the lens of African American and Wilmington civil rights history. Williston is collaborating with the Williston Alumni Association and the Cape Fear Museum to provide students with a personal connection to the events that have shaped our city and our nation.

For more information, contact the Public Relations Division at 910-254-4245.

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Ollie M. Lofton

Ollie M. Lofton died January 18, 2018 at UNC Hospital, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 25, 2018, at St. Matthews Church-Phoenix Community. Burial followed in the Williams' Cemetery.

Born July 14, 1939 in Leland, North Carolina, Ollie grew up in Cedar Hill and was the eldest child of the late Etta Mae Robinson Lofton and Alonzo Lofton. She completed her education in the Brunswick County School System and grew up in Summerville AME Zion Church. Ollie united with Charlie Southerland and had six children. She loved praising the Lord. She is survived by her children: Dorothy (Dale) Washington of Southport, NC, Barbara Southerland and Bernadine Southerland of Wilmington, NC, China Robinson and Charlie Southerland of Leland, NC, Teritha (Lawrence) Bunting of Raleigh, NC, Willie (Vanessa) Southerland of Pinehurst, NC and Adriane Southerland of Jacksonville, NC. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Jerome Patterson

Jerome Patterson departed this earthly life on January 14, 2018, in Atlanta, Georgia. Funeral services were held Thursday, January 25, 2018 at the Willie L. Shaw, Jr. Memorial Chapel. Jerome Lee Patterson, affectionately known as "Mann" was born December 28, 1954, to the late Mary Lee and Herbert Bowden. After the passing of his mother, he was raised by the late Janie and Ben Patterson. Jerome educated in the New Hanover County Public School System. He was gainfully employed with General Electric for many years. After retirement, he later obtained his CDL and relocated to Atlanta, Georgia, where he ventured his career as a cross country truck driver. During Jerome's free time, he enjoyed traveling and roller skating. Jerome's efficient skill of skating has even landed him on the big screen. Jerome leaves to cherish his memories with great affection: his son, Jamar Autry; his daughters, Stacia Brown, Stephanie Age (Tim) and Tracey Patterson; his grandchildren, Tyrin McMillan, Daneja Brown-Harris, Amari Autry, Isiah Age, Mikala Age, Nasier Jones, Ian Autry and Royce Autry; brothers, Larry Lee (Evelyn), Anthony Bowden and Oliver Parker; sisters, Mary Smith and Barbara Perry; special friend, Tammy Bagley; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Sidney Graham

Sidney Graham died January 18, 2018. Memorial services were held Saturday, January 27, 2018 at Willie L. Shaw Jr. Memorial Chapel. Sidney A. Graham born to James Graham and Ann Graham (both deceased) was born at Mary Immaculate Hospital in Queens, New York on November 28, 1954.

Sidney went to numerous schools in Queens and worked several jobs throughout his years. Sidney followed most of his family and moved to Brooklyn, New York, where he lived until his early forties. At such time, he wanted a change and moved to North Carolina.

He leaves to mourn: two brothers, Eric and Michael; two sisters, Linda "Darlene" and Leslie; a sis-

ter-in-law, Michelle; a very special cousin, Jerry Roberson and a host of uncles, aunts, cousins, nieces, nephews and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Gwendolyn Hankins Guerrant

Gwendolyn Hankins Guerrant died January 19, 2018 at NHRMC. Funeral services were held 2 PM Saturday, Jan. 27th at Mt. Carmel AME, Southport, NC. Gwendolyn Renetta Hankins Guerrant was born on November 22, 1951. She was the third of five children born to the late Corbett Sr and Liler C. Hankins. She was a graduate of Siverdale Elementary School, Swansboro High and Winston Salem State University. Gwen confessed Christ as her Savior at a young age at St. Paul AME Zion Church, Silverdale, NC. She joined Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. in 1969. Gwen graduated Magna Cum Laude in three years from Winston Salem State University with a B.S. degree in biology and her teaching certificate. At the age of 19 she began her teaching career. She leaves to celebrate her life and mourn her passing: two sons, Gerald (Shalimar) and Jeffrey/Uri, both of Detroit, MI; three brothers, Corbett Jr. (Lenda) of Bolivia, Orlando (Gail) of Wake Forest and Carl (Bernetta) of Detroit; one sister, Jacqueline of Silverdale; aunt, Charlotte Swann of Greensboro; eight grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Elmer Maurice Edge

Elmer Maurice Edge died January 22, 2018 at Lower Cape Fear Hospice. Funeral services were held Sunday, January 28th at Bethlehem Baptist Church, Winnabow, NC. Burial followed in Haw Hill Cemetery. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Veronica Ratley

Veronica Ratley Funeral services were held on Monday, January 29th at Union MB Church. Burial followed in Calvary Memorial Cemetery.

Born on September 21, 1951, Veronica was the daughter of the late Walter Jr. and Synella Bordeaux. She was also preceded in death by a brother figure, Lacy "Bug" Simpson. "Ronnie," as she was affectionately known was educated in the New Hanover County School System, graduating from New Hanover High School in the Class of 1970. She worked briefly at New Hanover Memorial Hospital. "Ronnie" was a member of Union Missionary Baptist Church. However, Her faith was strong and she wasn't afraid of dying. "Ronnie" was a social person. She loved her church, family, classmates, and community.

Surviving to cherish her memory is: her loving brother, Walter (Kim) Bordeaux of Wilmington, NC; a devoted sister, Elizabeth (James) Hayes of Wilmington, NC and also Valeria (Worth) Jones of Virginia. Veronica had no biological children. However, she played a major role in the upbringing of Darrell, April and Stevie Stuckes, her nephews and niece of Charlotte, NC, who she had a special love for. She also loved and was the aunt of Michael Hasty and Mimi Windham of Wilmington, NC, Shawn Jones of Virginia, Hakim Clark of Maryland and Christopher Bordeaux of

Germany. She also leaves two uncles, Peter Bordeaux of Wilmington, NC and O'Neal Bordeaux of Rocky Point, NC; one aunt, Julia Bordeaux of Rocky Point, NC; goddaughter, Annette Simpson, (who she simply thought the world of); a host of great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins and a super huge host of friends, including special friends, Theola Maxwell, Wilhelmina Greene, Thomas Riley and Boo Green all of Wilmington, NC and a great sister and dear friend of many, many years, Gwen Burnett. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Edith Brown

Edith Brown Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 31, 2018 at Macedonia FBH Church. Visitation is one hr prior to the service. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Jackie Brenda Bradford

Jackie Brenda Bradford died Friday, January 26, 2018, at the home of her son, Jeffery. Memorial services will be held 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 3, 2018 at Willie L. Shaw Jr. Memorial Chapel. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

James P. Herring, Jr. "Steamboat"

James P. Herring, Jr. "Steamboat" died January 29, 2018. Funeral services will be held 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 3, 2018 at Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church. Burial will follow in Calvary Memorial Cemetery. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Theodore Rheddick "Teddy Boo"

Theodore Rheddick "Teddy Boo" died January 29, 2018. Funeral services will be held 1:00 p.m. on Friday, February 2, 2018 at Price Cathedral AME Zion Church. Burial will follow in the Pollock Cemetery. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Arcelia Wicker, Sr.

On Friday, January 19, 2018 Arcelia Wicker, Sr., entered into eternal rest at New Hanover Regional Medical Center. A celebration of Mr. Wicker's life was conducted on Saturday, January 27, 2018 at Saint Luke AME Zion Church. Interment followed in Greenlawn Memorial Park. He was born in Jefferson County, Georgia (Bartow) to the late George Wicker and Ida Jackson Wicker. Arcelia was preceded in death by his siblings Sara, George Jr., Annie Mae and Clarke.

Arcelia's education included graduation from Jefferson County Training School in Louisville, Georgia at the age of 16. His academic skills earned him a scholarship to Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, North Carolina where he earned a BA degree in Economics.

There was a four year gap in his college education while he served in the U. S. Marine Corps from 1960-1964. Later on he continued his education by earning a Masters Degree in City and Regional Planning (MCP) in 1973 from the University of Rhode Island-Kinston, Rhode Island. Still furthering his education, he completed the Municipal Administration Course, Institute of Governments,

UNC-Chapel Hill-Chapel Hill, NC in 1982. Arcelia's City Planning career was from 1979-2009.

Community involvement included Vice President and President of the Community Boys Club Board of Directors; Served on the Board of Directors of Elderhaus, Inc.; Treasurer of the Board of Directors, Wilmington Housing Finance and Development, Inc., (WHFD); Board of Directors of the Downtown Area Revitalization Effort (DARE) and the Wilmington Housing Authority. Arcelia was a member of St. Luke A.M.E.Z Church for many years serving on both Steward Board and Trustee Board, Chairman of the Brotherhood Ministry, President of Senior Usher Board, Director of Youth Council and Co-Director of Youth Ushers.

Arcelia leaves to cherish his memory, a loving wife of 47+ years Ralena Wilson Wicker; son Arcelia (Skipper) Wicker, Jr. (Thomasena) Dumfries, VA; daughter Karen W. Buchanan (Eric) Bogart, GA; four

Please see
OBITUARIES/ Page 8

In Loving Memory Of

Katherine Jervay Tate
Who departed
January 27, 2015
*Loving you always,
The Family*

In Loving Memory Of**Montreal A. Holmes**

Sunrise: December 22, 1988- Sunset: February 5, 2017

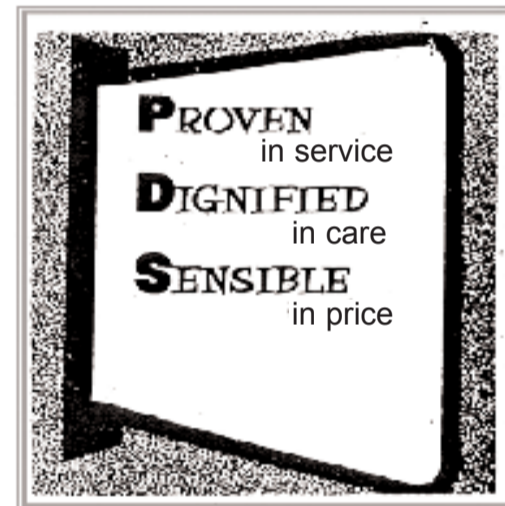
That Feeling

You Ever Get That Feeling You're Missing Something But You Just Don't Know What To Do.
So You Pray To God For Guidance, Hoping And Praying That He Lead You.
Lead You To Answers, Love, And Peace, Anything Along The Way
To Rid Us Of That Displacement We've Been Feeling Almost Every Single Day.
Well Montreal,
We're Missing You More & More, And Sometimes We Just Don't Know What To Do
So We Celebrate Your Name And Shed Millions Of Tears When Someone Even Mentions You
Things Have Not Been The Same, An We Know They Never Will Be.
But We Keep Your Name & Legacy Alive No Matter What, All Throughout The Family
Yes It Still Hurts, But We Hold Each Other Tighter, Making Sure The Love Is Known And It Lasts
Because We Really Know Life Can Be Short And Sometimes Can Move Extremely Too Fast.
Just To Hear Your Voice One More Time Would Be A Blessing In Disguise,
Just To Hear Your Voice Again Would Bring Nothing But Tears Of Joy Im Sure To Everyones Eyes.
We Love You Montreal, We Can't Express That Enough.
We Miss You Montreal, These Times Have Been Rough.
But For You & Your Kids We Will Persevere And Continue To Be Strong,
For We Know You're Watching Over Us With Aunt Dolly, Even Though Not Physically, You've Been With Us All Along.
We Love You Montreal. You Will NEVER Be Forgotten.

Quan Paige and family

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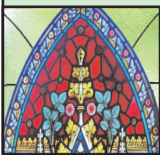


Javoke & Javoke Terrell

DAVIS FUNERAL HOME

New Hanover County

Central Missionary Baptist Church, 702 Red Cross St., will sponsor a Musical Program on Sunday, February 11th at 3:00 p.m. Choirs from in and around the area will appear on program.



Religious Briefs

Church Women United will hold its Human Rights Celebration on February 2, 2018. The guest speaker will be City Councilman Clifford Barnett. The celebration will be held at St. Stephen A.M.E. Church, located at 501 Red Cross St., Wilmington NC. This year Human Rights Award Recipient is Katrina Knight, Executive Director of Good Shepherd Center.

Mt. Nebo Baptist Church, 801 S. 10th St., LF Boone Willing Workers will hold their annual Valentine's Banquet on Saturday, February 10th at 5:00 p.m. Donations will be accepted.

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

OBITUARIES

Continued from page 7

grandchildren Carlesa, Ian, Reese, and Leah; brother-in law Ricky B. Wilson (Mary), Kernersville, North Carolina; sister-in law Rhonda W. Adams, Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Also left to cherish his memory are a host of nieces, great nieces, great-great nieces and nephews, great-nephews and great-great nephews. Memorials may be made to: Johnson C. Smith University, Class of 1967 Endowed Scholarship, 100 Beatties Ford Road, Charlotte, NC 28216 or at https://www.jcsu.edu/giving/give_now. Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhome-nc.com.

Janie B. Shaw

Janie Bell Bowden Shaw, affectionately known as "Janie B", the third of nine siblings, was born on March 14, 1927 in Wilmington, North Carolina to (the late) Robert B. and Maggie E. Bowden. She departed this life on Thursday, January 25, 2018 at New Hanover Regional Medical Center in Wilmington, North Carolina, with her family by her side. A celebration of Janie's life was held on Tuesday, January 30, 2018 at Ephesus Seventh-day Adventist Church. Interment followed in Calvary Memorial Cemetery.

Janie was educated in the New Hanover County Public School System. When her children started school, she found employment at Roland Grise Junior High School, later taking a position at First Presbyterian Church, where she retired in 1984. At that time Janie relocated to Silver Spring, Maryland. She was employed at an early learning center, working with her specialty - children.

Janie was joined in holy matrimony to the late Jesse W. Shaw and they had two children; Richard Shaw and Linda Henley. In addition to her husband, she was predeceased by her sisters: Ruth Hamilton, Etta Mae Thorpe, Margaret Vincent, Curley Williams, Blanche Singleton, and Margaret S. Rogers; her brothers, Robert Bowden, Jr. and Clayton Bradley.

Janie accepted Christ as her personal Savior at a very young age. She was a member of Saint Stephen A.M.E. Zion Church in Wilmington, North Carolina where she blended her beautiful soprano with other voices in the choir and was a Girl Scout leader. She was baptized later into the Seventh-day Adventist Church, during a tent effort by Elder E. C. Ward, in the early 1950's. She was an active member for over sixty years, until her health began to decline in 2009. At Ephesus, she was an active member of Adult Sabbath School, serving in several capacities - as a Deaconess, a member of the Senior Choir, and Dorcas Society. During the Christmas holiday season annually, Janie was a soloist in Handel's Messiah with Dr. Roane's choral group.

When Janie was not working or at church, she committed herself to family and community. She often participated in the Meals on Wheels Program. She was known for her molasses candy and candy apples. She was very energetic, often among the youth, jumping rope, roller skating, bobbing for apples, and biking. Her warm, loving, and nurturing spirit impacted many, and children were especially drawn to her. She often cared for children at home, both family and friends. During her retirement she became a Foster Grandparent for the New Hanover County Schools, which she thoroughly enjoyed. She remained a youth at heart to the end.

She leaves to continue her legacy: her son, Richard Shaw (Patricia) of Glenn Dale, MD; her daughter, Linda Henley (Donald) of Wilmington, NC; two grandsons, Patrick Shaw of Philadelphia, PA and Philip Shaw (Deneva) of Silver Spring, MD; one great-granddaughter, Leah Shaw of Silver Spring, MD; two great-grandsons, Nicholas Shaw of Glenarden, MD

and Philip Shaw, Jr. of Silver Spring, MD. She leaves to cherish her memories: several nieces, nephews, cousins, and extended family. Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhome-nc.com.

Homer Hancock

Homer Hancock, age 86, of Maple Hill, NC passed away, Tuesday, January 23, 2018. A private Memorial Service will be held at a later date. Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhome-nc.com.

Moses E. Dyson

Moses Edward Dyson, age 87, of Leland, passed away Sunday, January 28, 2018. A visitation will be held from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 1, 2018 at Davis Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, 2, 2018 at Johnson Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church. Interment will follow in the Church Cemetery. Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhome-nc.com.

Bishop James E. Randolph

Bishop James Edgar Randolph, age 74, of Douglasville, GA, passed away Saturday, January 27, 2018. A celebration of Bishop Randolph's life will be conducted at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, February 3, 2018 at Saint Mark's Freewill Baptist Church, 1801 Castle St., Wilmington, NC 28403. A viewing will be held one (1) hour prior to the service. Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhome-nc.com.

Daniel Bennett, Jr.

Daniel Bennett, Jr., age 67, of Wilmington, passed away, Sunday, January 28, 2018. Friends are cordially invited to a visitation with the family from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. on Friday, February 2, 2018 at Davis Funeral Home. A celebration of Mr. Bennett's life will be conducted at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, February 3, 2018 at Davis Funeral Home. 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.davisfuneralhome-nc.com.

Doris M. Small

Doris M. Small, age 78, of Madison, Alabama passed away Friday, January 26, 2018. Friends are cordially invited to a visitation with the family from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. on Friday, February 2, 2018 at Davis Funeral Home. A celebration of Mrs. Small's life will be conducted at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, February 3, 2018 at Bethel North West A.M.E. Church. Interment will follow in Salvation & Deliverance Church Cemetery. Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhome-nc.com.

Julia M. Summerlin

Julia M. Summerlin, age 81, of New Bern, NC, passed away Tuesday, January 30, 2018. A celebration of Ms. Summerlin's life will be conducted at 2:00 PM, Sunday, February 4, 2018 at Biblical House of God Church, New Bern, NC. A viewing will be held one (1) hour prior to the service. Interment will take place Monday, February 5, 2018 in St. Petersburg, Florida at the Royal Palm South Cemetery. Services entrusted to Davis Funeral Home, 901 S. 5th Ave, Wilmington, NC 28401. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.davisfuneralhome-nc.com.

SENIOR MOMENTS

Embrace the generation

My fellow seniors,

Many times, I have said that the church is carrying too much baggage. The modern world will not accept everything that was said in the Old Testament. I wish some of our church leaders would speak out on the subject, but they usually speak on that which is inspi-



Ruth Johnson
rational and that only. In the Old Testament, we find a thousand statements that end, "as the Lord commanded," but most of them will seem ungodly. So when is the church going to deal with this? When are we going to admit that those military men giving orders could have been expressing their own opinions and giving God the credit? Read Joshua 10-11, and you will see where the Lord cast down great stones from heaven, and more died from hailstones than from the swords of Israel. Read on and you will see that the sun and the

moon stood still for a full day while the Lord fought for Israel. However, let's not tell the children. I only point this out to say that the church is carrying too much baggage. It is weighing us down. The next generation will not accept it. They will not believe all of it is God's Word. I wish I knew how the Jewish people are dealing with this. Maybe they dealt with it long ago. It doesn't matter. We have to think for ourselves. Maybe some of our Christian leaders have already addressed the ques-

tion, "Is all of it God's Word?" I'm sure they have, but not in church. They only point out that which is inspirational. So where does that leave us? Maybe we should start using the New Testament only, as so many publishers have started doing.

However, many people come to church to sing, praise the Lord, and greet old friends. That's okay, but, for the future of the church, we need to embrace the next generation.

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

SENIOR CITIZENS' FELLOWSHIP

Forgiveness

BY FANNIE ALLEN AND SHEILA ROSS
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

After the rain on Monday, the Lord allowed the sun to shine bright today. The Senior Citizens' Fellowship was greeted by our President Eloise Purdie. Mr. George Hill, along with the choir, opened with "Tis So Sweet To Trust in Jesus." Our prayer today was offered by Mrs. Julia Bibbs. Next we sang, "Hold to God's Unchanging Hand." In the absence of Minister Doris

McQuillan, who is in the hospital, Mrs. Eloise Purdie introduced our speaker, Mrs. Marie Stitt. She opened with prayer. From the beginning of the world, man has broken God's law. We have an advocate in Jesus Christ, who will lead and guide us. Forgiveness comes from the heart. In order to forgive, we have to have a conscience. God will forgive us. All we have to do is ask God. God looks at the heart. According to Matthew 6:14-15, if we want God to forgive us, we have to forgive, and Ephesians 4:32

tells us that, if we want forgiveness we have to be forgiving. Our Father knew we needed Jesus. Mrs. Stitt was thanked for a great message.

We then had expressions. Mrs. Gladys Taylor asked Mildred Ellerby to read our minutes, and they were approved. We had one visitor, Mrs. Marion Malone. She was welcomed by the group. Roll call was done and trip money to Savannah was collected. The Callers' Report was done, and the winner was Mrs. Mary Martin, who had 8. The callers

were given a hand. Mrs. Ann Hankins gave the sick report. Deacon Canty is in the hospital. She asked us to keep the sick in prayer, along with her. There are many colds and other sickness. We need to do all we can to protect ourselves. Announcements were read and Smiles were done by Mrs. Mary Martin.

Our circle was formed and we sang, "Bind Us Together." Prayer was given by Minister Henrietta McGlenn, and we were adjourned.

There were 37 present.

TELL SOMEBODY

"For God so loved the World"

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16 "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love." I John 4:7,8



Sylvia Hooper

Discrimination

-Disadvantageous treatment, causing persons to be treated worse than others for arbitrary reasons
Prejudice - An unfavorable opinion or feeling formed beforehand without knowledge, thought, or reason

Hatred, prejudice and discrimination are not the characteristics of a Child of God, or Servant of the Most High! Many people today are walking under the banner of Christianity, but proudly wearing the badges of racism, pride, prejudice, and various forms of discrimination. The bible states that the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God, and those who are angry without a rea-

son do not represent our heavenly Father in a way that gives Him glory and honor. God does not show respect of person and has extended the Plan of Salvation to every man, regardless of his age, race, color, creed or culture.

When the first Gentile was converted to Christianity, The Apostle Peter gave personal witness and testimony to the fact that God was not a respecter of persons. When he saw the Spirit of the Lord fall on the Gentiles and heard them speak in tongues as they were filled with the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues same as the disciples, "Then Peter opened his mouth and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of person: But in every nation whoever fears him and works righteousness is accepted with him." Acts 10:34

Romans 2:11 says, "For there is no respect of persons with God who will render to every man according to his deeds."

James 2:8,9 states, "If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself, ye do well: But if ye have respect of persons, ye commit sin, and are convicted of the law as transgressors. For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all." These are a few forms of discrimination which are prevalent in today's

society, accepted by some, but contrary to the letter and Spirit of the Word of God and the temperament of his Believers.

Racial Discrimination - When a person is treated less favorably than another person in a similar situation because of their race, color, national or ethnic origin or immigrant status.

Age Discrimination - Involves treating an applicant or employee less favorably because of his or her age.

Sexual Discrimination - Unequal or unfavorable treatment of someone based on their sex, or gender identity.

Religious Discrimination - Treating a person or group differently because of what they believe in specifically when adherents of different religion are treated unequally either before the law or in institutional settings such as housing and employment.

Thank God, we are not saved according to the will of flesh or according to the will of man. We were saved according to the will of God, who does not discriminate, because he loves us all. God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, so that anyone, everyone, and whosoever believeth in him, should not perish, but have everlasting life!

The Prophet Isaiah spoke on the promises of God to be fulfilled in the person of

Jesus Christ, by calling men everywhere to faith in God and repentance of sins in the Name of Jesus Christ. Isaiah 55:1, "Ho, everyone that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat;"

Revelations 22:17 confirms God's invitation to anyone and everyone to come to Christ and be saved eternally. "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely!"

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

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

MOUNT OLIVE A.M.E. CHURCH

Pre-Women's Day Breakfast

Saturday, February 10th 9:00AM

MENU

Shrimp & Grits or
Fish & Grits or Sausage & Grits

plus

Eggs, bread & beverage \$9.00

Combination Plate (any two) \$12.00

Tickets available from members or pay at the door.



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INSTITUTION
OF YOUR
CHOICE
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WEEK

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