

MISSING



EBONEE SPEARS

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

OUTside Looking IN

COMMENTARY



REV. DR. SUSAN SMITH

"White supremacists: Spoiled and scared"

BY

REV. DR. SUSAN SMITH PAGE 5



ATTY. BENJAMIN CRUMP

"Why are Florida legislators siding with predatory payday lenders?"

BY

ATTY. BENJAMIN CRUMP PAGE 4

BRUNSWICK COUNTY UPDATE



BERNEST HEWETT

Address the issues

BY BERNEST HEWETT CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In our communities we find our lives and daily living confronted with many things. For instance, drugs (legal and illegal), uncontrolled guns, educa-

Please see BRUNSWICK Page 2

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

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FIFTY CENTS

ADAMS OPPOSES, BUT TRUMP BACKS ARMING TEACHERS

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

12th District Congresswoman Alma Adams is four square against arming teachers in the classroom.

"As an educator of over forty years, I know that a 'well-armed teacher' should have new text books, a decent salary, and access to technology for every student in the classroom, not a weapon," the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Democrat said recently.

"Arming teachers increases the likelihood of fatal accidents in classrooms and more loss of life during crisis situations."

Adams' North Carolina congressional colleague, Rep. G. K. Butterfield, has called for congressional hearings on gun violence and

definite action from a GOP-led Congress.

"The refusal of the Republican majority to act on gun violence prevention legislation is disturbing," Butterfield said.

However, the Trump White House isn't listening to either Rep. Butterfield or Rep. Adams.

Sunday, it was reported that the Trump Administration released a plan that "...vowed to help provide 'rigorous firearms training' to some school teachers..." reported The Washington Post. "...[S]pecially qualified" teachers and staff were later indicated in the proposal. This was in response to last month's high school gun massacre in Parkland, Fla., which saw 17 killed by a gunman with an AR-15 semi-automatic rifle.

Arming teachers was among "...a series of policy proposals that focus largely on mental health and school safety." The Post report continued. Thus far, the National Education Association, among other teachers' groups, has opposed the Trump plan.

The report also indicated that President Trump is establishing a Federal Commission of School Safety, chaired by Betsy DeVos, Secretary of the U.S. Dept. of Education.

Reportedly, the zeal behind the President's wish to arm teachers, among other measures, is to "harden our schools against attack," according to the plan.

According to NBC News, 18 states



CONGRESSWOMAN ALMA ADAMS

Please see ADAMS/Page 2

RICH HERITAGE



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

BLACK HISTORY MONTH DISPLAY AT RACHEL FREEMAN SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

Rachel Freeman School of Engineering celebrates Black History Month

SPECIAL TO THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

For the entire month of February, Rachel Freeman School of Engineering celebrated Black History Month thanks to the efforts of In-School Suspension Coordinator, Ernie Faison. Rachel Freeman School of Engineering is a STEM school, which is an acronym for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. As a STEM school, innovation, design and ingenuity are encouraged. So, with the support of the school's administration, Faison

decided to highlight the great inventions of great black inventors. So every morning, after morning announcements, Faison recruited students, on different days, to tell about a great invention by a great black inventor over the school's intercom. It was an incredible way for students and staff alike to learn about the many incredible inventions that were invented by black inventors. The students were especially amazed to learn how black



Melissa Freeman Cromartie, daughter of Rachel Freeman speaks to participants.

Please see FREEMAN/Page 3



U.S. CONGRESS CANDIDATE LINDA COLEMAN

Coleman campaign alleges Russians involved in Lt. Gov. race

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

First, there was evidence of Russian meddling in the 2016 presidential election in North Carolina, when a Russian-backed "Black" group attempted to exploit a fatal police shooting in Charlotte to suppress the Black youth vote.

Now, the "Linda Coleman for Congress" campaign for the Second Congressional District is alleging that there was Russian meddling again, this time targeting her 2016

Please see COLEMAN/Page 2

Gun control historically has meant prohibiting Blacks from owning one

BY FREDERICK H. LOWE

SPECIAL TO THE TRICE EDNEY NEWS WIRE FROM NORTHSTARNEWS.COM

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - Since the massacre of students at a Parkland, Florida, high school, the airways have been buzzing with talk about gun control-making it

tougher through state and local laws for individuals to own a gun.

In today's world, gun control may mean the same thing to blacks and whites, but that hasn't always been the case. Differences in thinking about who should own a gun and

Please see GUNS/Page 2



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BRUNSWICK

Continued from Page 1

tion of our children, help for the elderly, and many more that need to be addressed as soon as possible. So, as we can live a life of somewhat normal status, we need to get ourselves some kind of knowledge of what this issue, or these issues, will take so that we can deal with them.

ADAMS

Continued from Page 1

currently allow teachers to carry weapons on school property.

Here in North Carolina, State House Speaker Tim Moore recently announced that he was forming a new legislative study committee to

COLEMAN

Continued from Page 1

campaign for lieutenant governor.

"...[S]taffers for the Linda Coleman for Congress campaign discovered that the domain name for Ms. Coleman's Lieutenant Governor campaign website, LindaforNC.com, was recently purchased by a Russian citizen," the campaign said in a March 7 press release.

recommend how to improve safety in North Carolina schools. Moore confirmed that arming NC teachers may be one of the proposals on the table for consideration.

"We want to hear what the local school districts want to do on that," Moore said during a Feb. 20th press conference. "What does law enforcement believe is appropriate

democracy."

On Friday, Ms. Coleman, a former NC House member and chair of the Wake County Commissioners, who lost the 2016 race for Lt. governor by a slim margin, held a press conference to make clear that her campaign has already been in touch with the FBI, State Board of Elections and the NC Attorney General's Office.

"Underhanded and deceptive strategies like this one only thrive when people choose not to speak out about what they see before them," she said.

The NC Democratic Party says it's not aware of any other campaign in the Carolina that may have been

on that because right now it's the law enforcement officers who are stationed in schools right now who are the front line of defense..."

Various polls have been taken across North Carolina of citizens, and teachers in particular, and in every case, the majority has leaned against arming teachers.

However, at least one con-

servative Republican lawmaker is all for arming teachers. In fact, he feels that it's long past due.

"We have to get over this useless hysteria about guns and allow school personnel to have a chance to defend their lives and those of their students," Rep. Larry Pittman [R-Cabarrus], told the Joint Legislative Emergency

In the Democratic primary, Coleman faces Gregory Chessner, Kenneth Romley, Japeth Matem, and Wendy May.

The winner of that primary will face Republican incumbent George Holding in November.

Last month, Derrick Johnson, pres./CEO of the national NAACP, in a Feb. 20th statement, called for "...a complete investigation" into allegations of Russian meddling in the 2016 presidential elections.

"It's just as important that we also call for a thorough assessment of our election system to determine any potential weaknesses that

Management Oversight Committee recently.

Congresswoman Adams, however, believes differently.

"As lawmakers, we must seek greater protections for our students and commit to passing real common sense gun reform, not absurd propaganda from politicians more concerned about campaign contributions than public safety."

could allow for the suppression or interference of votes during the upcoming midterm elections."

Johnson continued, "The midterm elections have the potential to shift the entire balance of power in Congress, and it remains critical that the integrity of the voting process cannot be questioned," later adding, "It is clear that the Black vote has been targeted by both internal and external forces, and the NAACP is committed to challenging any attempt to reduce or diminish the political power of the African-American community, communities of color and the nation as a whole."

GUNS

Continued from Page 1

who shouldn't emerged shortly after the country's founding as a slave-holding Republic.

Before the Civil War, states, mostly in the South, enacted "Slave Codes," prohibiting blacks from owning guns. Adam Winkler, a UCLA law professor, said during slavery, blacks were prohibited from owning guns because whites feared they would rise up and abolish slavery through a civil war.

In 1865, after the Civil War ended, states renamed the "Slave Codes" "Black Codes" with the same purpose of prohibiting African Americans from owning

guns.

Preventing gun ownership among blacks began at the beginning of the nation's history. Virginia was founded in 1624 but by 1640, blacks were prohibited from owning guns.

Virginia enacted a statute that led to a total gun ban for free Mulattos, Negroes and Indians. In 1712, the statute was revised, calling for a total gun ban for Negroes to prevent insurrections, according to "Laws Designed to Disarm Slaves Freedmen, and African Americans," a research paper.

In 1792, blacks were excluded from joining the militia, which was created under the 2nd Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The militia was limited to able-bodied white men between

18 and 45.

Other states enacted similar laws. In Florida, homes of slaves and free blacks were searched for guns. If a gun was found, it was confiscated.

In 1828, Florida said free blacks could carry guns if they had court permission. It wasn't until the Civil War that black men who fought for the Union Army were free to carrying guns.

Prohibitions against blacks owning guns continue to crop up.

In 1968, Congress passed the Gun Control Act. Robert Sherrill, a supporter, said the legislation was passed not to control guns but to control blacks.

In 1994, the Clinton Administration introduced H.R. 3838 to ban guns in fed-

eral public housing, which would have affected 3 million individuals. The House Banking Committee rejected the legislation.

Gun buyback programs also are seen as a way to keep guns out of black hands.

Southern states imposed high taxes or banned inexpensive guns to price blacks out of the market, according to the paper "Gun Control and Racism."

Today, blacks own guns but their ownership is much lower compared with whites.

Twenty-four percent of blacks own a gun compared to 15 percent of Hispanics and 36 percent of whites, according to a study released Thursday by the Pew Research Center.

About 48 percent of white

men are likely to be gun owners compared to 25 percent of white women, 24 percent of nonwhite men and 16 percent of nonwhite women.

Pew released its data on gun ownership one week after the massacre 17 students at a Florida high school.

During a meeting with high school students and legislators on Thursday, President Donald Trump endorsed the National Rifle Association. Trump said teachers should receive extra pay to carry guns in the classroom to fight gunmen

He also said he would push for comprehensive background checks with an emphasis on mental health for people who want to buy guns.

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STATE BRIEFS

COMPILED BY CASH MICHAELS

TWO BLACK CHURCHES VANDALIZED IN BRUNSWICK COUNTY

BELVILLE - - Two African American churches were vandalized over the weekend, Brunswick County authorities say, but there was no sign of entry, and nothing reported stolen. The Brunswick County Sheriff's Dept. says

the vandalism - smashed glass windows and doors - was done between 5:30 p.m. Saturday, and 8 a.m. Sunday morning. The churches - Blackwell Chapel AME Zion Church and Providence Missionary Baptist Church - are at least a half-mile apart from each other, leading investigators to believe that the vandalism is the work of the same person. Authorities are still investigating.

RACIAL BIAS IN NC COURTS: STATE SUPREME COURT WILL WEIGH IN

RALEIGH - In the ongoing

saga of North Carolina's capital punishment system, the state Supreme Court will hear a case that will decide whether three defendants of color will stay on death row.

All three - Marcus Robinson, Quintel Augustine and Christina Walters - had their sentences converted to life in prison without the possibility of parole in 2012 under the Racial Justice Act. That act was repealed in 2013 and lower court judges placed the three back on death row.

Cassandra Stubbs, director of the ACLU Capital Punishment Project, says

dismissing the findings of racial bias and leaving the three on death row isn't in line with their rights.

"The bigger questions that we've raised, whether they can create a mechanism that says, 'We want you to go investigate racial bias, find racial bias,' and then say, 'Actually, we're not going to give you any forum to present that evidence,'" she says. "That can't be square with the Constitution."

Stubbs and other legal experts say the court's decision to hear this case marks a significant civil-rights victory. The justices will hear

oral arguments from both sides and receive briefs on the cases involved.

In 2012, researchers at Michigan State University College of Law found evidence of racial bias in the jury selection, charging and sentencing of inmates of color in North Carolina.

Stubbs says the case also affects the rights of jurors of color wishing to serve their community. She recalls her conversation with one African-American man, whom she suspects wasn't selected because of his race.

"When we talked with that prospective juror, he

said, 'You know, I served my country, I really value civic participation,'" she adds. "I can't tell you how upsetting this is to think that I'm being denied the right to participate in a jury because of my race."

Currently, the three inmates sit on death row. North Carolina has not executed a person on death row since 2006.

According to a 2009 Duke University study, in North Carolina death-penalty prosecution would save \$11 million a year if capital punishment were ended. (SOURCE: Stephanie Carson of NCNS)

FREEMAN

Continued from Page 1

people had created so many wonderful inventions. Some of the inventions highlighted were the golf tee, the fire extinguisher, the ice-cream scoop, the folding chair, the blue mailbox, the traffic light, the fountain pen, the air conditioner unit, the hairbrush, the pencil sharpener and the straightening comb.

In front of Freeman's front office are two display cases. In one of the display cases, were the innovative model designs of Freeman students. In the other display case, Faison displayed his personal collection of famous historical black figurines, assorted dolls and action figures.

Faison concluded Black History Month with celebratory assemblies that featured an original song arrangement called, "Movement to Song." This song paid tribute to Black History and notable black historical figures, Rosa Parks, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X and instilling pride in Freeman school. Faison wrote, sang

and performed with Freeman Instructional Assistant, Mr. Tarence Williams, guitarist, Mr. Freddy Cooper and brother and sister dancers who are also students of Freeman school. Other notable performers included a cover of the popular song, "Rise Up," which was sung by Mrs. Ruth Pitstick's 2nd grade class, a spoken word performance by Ms. Dee Dee Parker, Support the Port founder, Mr. Cecil C. Harrison, the Buffalo Soldiers, the Wilmington Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and special guest speaker, Ms. Melissa Freeman Cromartie, daughter of the late Mae Rachel Freeman who honored her mother. Also in attendance, were Mrs. Mae Freeman's husband Mr. William Freeman, her daughter, Mrs. Elise Muhammad and her grandchildren.

Mr. Faison said he received many compliments, but the one that meant the most to him was a comment that came from a 5th grade student, who said she really enjoyed the assembly and wished we could do more.



DELTAS TAKE THE STAGE



FAMILY OF RACHEL FREEMAN



ERNIE FAISON AND TARENCE WILLIAMS



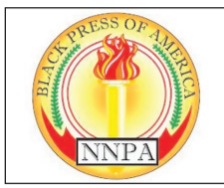
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THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

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

DeVos abandons student loan borrowers while coddling companies

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

For the 44 million American consumers who struggle with a still-growing student loan debt of \$1.4 trillion, the problems wrought by debt collectors and loan servicers is a nagging problem. Servicer changes and errors, unexplained fees that worsen the debt and difficulty in securing income-based repayment plans are all painfully familiar to these consumers.

These debts are particularly onerous for Black Americans who utilize federal student loans more than other races or ethnicities: 87 percent. By comparison, Latinos borrow 65 percent of the time and Whites even lower at 60 percent, according to data from the Center for American Progress.

So, one must wonder why Betsy DeVos, the Secretary of Education, would draft a plan that would once again favor these companies instead of consumers. These are the same companies that receive \$1 billion in taxpayer dollars to service and collect loan debts.

In recent days, multiple news outlets have reported an Education plan that proposes to preempt state laws that allow state attorneys general (AGs) to hold debt collectors and loan servicers accountable.

Just last October, a bipartisan group of 26 AGs wrote Secretary DeVos and advised against giving these businesses immunity from state-level oversight and enforcement. Citing fraud and abusive practices, the AGs spoke directly to the harms that would be caused to students and borrowers. They also urged that state and federal officials work together to end the harmful practices of bad actors in the student loan industry.

"[E]very state has well-established laws prohibiting companies - many of which are also regulated federally - from engaging in unfair and deceptive practices targeting state residents," wrote the AGs on October 23. "The Industry Requests, however, seek to enlist the Department in an industry gambit to evade state policing. There is no principled reason for this result, especially in the middle of a crisis demanding cooperation across government."

In addition to the AGs, other federal offices have respectively found problems with these companies as well.

For two consecutive years, 2015 and 2016, the federal Government Accountability Office found failures by student loan servicers that include not providing information to borrowers about their payment options and difficulty reaching servicers. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) has worked with states and the Department of Justice to hold accountable the nation's largest servicer of federal student loans, Navient. In early 2017, CFPB sued the company for steering student loan borrowers into costly forbearance agreements that pad interest costs instead of enrolling borrowers in income-based repayments.

Similarly, Massachusetts sued the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency and the National Collegiate Student Loan Trust for overcharging student borrowers. That lawsuit alleged that although PHEAA was aware of the payment problems, it failed to rectify related borrower harms.

"Given the Education Department's utterly lackluster record of oversight," said Persis Yu, an attorney with the National Consumer Law Center and director of its Student Loan Borrower Assistance Project, "it should be doing more to work with states to protect the interests of student loan borrowers...Congress envisioned a role for states to play in protecting student loan borrowers. And given the Education Department's record of siding with servicers over borrowers, the state role is more critical now than ever."

A CFPB report, also released in October 2017, analyzed student loan complaints on a state-by-state basis. With more than 50,000 complaints filed with the Bureau, poor student loan servicing and servicing errors were frequently reported. The number of complaints were markedly rising in California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, New York, Ohio, Texas and Pennsylvania.

"This kind of caving to special interests abandons the Department's duty to be a thrifty steward of the public purse," said Whitney Barkley-Denney, a senior policy counsel with the Center for Responsible Lending. "Consumers are entitled to support and response from all levels of government. Hence, states must preserve their ability to protect borrowers residing in their respective jurisdictions."

"There is simply no precedent or provision for such a federal fiat," concluded Barkley-Denney.

Charlene Crowell is the Center for Responsible Lending's Deputy Communications Director. She can be reached at Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org.

VOICE YOUR OPINION!!



WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR, TODAY!

Visual Voice



MATTERS OF OPINION

Why are Florida legislators siding with predatory payday lenders?

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

In the 1980's we saw crack cocaine dealers on every corner in low-income Black neighborhoods. For too long, we've seen payday lenders in many cases occupying the very same corners in the very same neighborhoods. Yet, today, as we speak, our Florida legislators are busy doing the bidding of payday lenders rather than standing up for the people who are ensnared in their trap. We must ask the question: Why do our elected officials think that 200 percent interest rate loans should be peddled in our communities?

Payday lending puts the burden of extremely high interest rates on people of extremely low means. And these loans offer no value, but instead serve to systematically redistribute wealth from low-wealth communities to large, corporatized predatory lenders. And as with so many other issues, this is one that has a devastating impact on the fabric of Black and Latino communities.

A study of Florida payday

lending documented the same phenomenon here as has been found in states like California, Colorado, and others. More payday loan stores are located in communities of color than in White neighborhoods, even when comparing neighborhoods with similar income levels. In Florida, that means \$311 million per year is extracted from the pockets of Floridians and deposited into the pockets of payday lender executives; this transfer of wealth disproportionately affects those very same communities whose residents struggle every day to meet basic needs, let alone rise up and overcome the many and varied obstacles that keep them from narrowing that wealth gap and joining America's middle class.

Florida lawmakers first legalized these dangerous products to come to our state back in 2001. Since that time, payday lenders have siphoned away over \$1.3 billion from consumers who earn on average about \$25,000 a year. With bills sailing throughout the legislature, greased by the more generous contributions by payday lenders on both sides of the aisles and to community groups purporting to serve their communities interest, the payday lenders are asking your legislators'

permission for another path to the pocketbooks of the poor. Their bills, SB920 and HB 857, would be an additional predatory product, carrying interest rates over 200 percent, to come in to our neighborhoods.

There is no excuse for this. It is a matter of principle, and all lawmakers need to do is look to the facts demonstrating the widespread harm payday lenders do to their customer base rather than looking to the false claims put out by the companies who profit from this predation. Payday lenders, nationally, make 75 percent of their revenue from people caught in more than 10 loans per year. The same type of analysis shows that, in our state, over 83 percent of loans go to people with seven or more loans per year. Borrowers are more likely to go into bankruptcy, and have trouble keeping up with their bills and keeping their bank accounts in good standing. Knowing these facts, letting this corrupt business model go unchecked is simply wrong.

My own home state of North Carolina experimented with payday loans years ago. After just three years in the state, the damage was done and was clear. Payday lenders had sold us a false bill of goods, marketing the

product as a financial help, when in reality it caused financial destruction. Due to this overwhelming harm, North Carolina enacted an usury cap with bipartisan support and it's thankfully been that way for more than a decade.

Money matters. Black and Brown families working to get on their financial feet—their lives matter, too. Fairness in lending matters. We cannot, in good conscience, let a sophisticated means of exploitation, especially one that can be resolved with such a simple solution, continue to destroy good and decent people. Florida lawmakers should reject this new product and instead pass a usury cap on payday loans—just as people across this state are asking them to do.

Benjamin Lloyd Crump is the principal and owner of Ben Crump Law, with offices in Tallahassee, Fla., Atlanta, Ga., Jackson, Miss., and Memphis, Tenn. His role in the Trayvon Martin, Martin Lee Anderson Boot Camp, Jannie Ligon's (State of Oklahoma vs. Daniel Holtzclaw) and Robbie Tolan cases shows a legacy built around the idea that the Constitution applies to everyone, at every level of society. Follow Ben on Twitter @AttorneyCrump.

Lifting up new leaders: The future of Black women's history

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

All too often, our "history" month turns into a tribute to the past. And while the past is an important place to lift up it is, indeed, a tributary, a stream that flows into the larger stream of an unbounded future. The future must always be greater than the present, or there has been no progress. And, in the words of Frederick Douglass, "progress concedes nothing without a demand."

I spend much of Women's History Month thinking of those who have come before me, the shoulders on whose I stand. I claim Women's History Month for Black Women and love to call our roll of luminaries that, for me, includes Dr. Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander, the first Black woman to get a Ph.D. in economics, Dr. Phyllis Ann Wallace, the first Black woman to get a Ph.D. in economics from Yale, and the first to attain tenure at MIT. And there are more, but I also want to speculate about the future role of luminaries and reflect on that fact that many Black women have made it possible for us to bask in a new generation of leadership. The past has laid a founda-

tion, but the future is far more important than the past.

Thus, Leah Daughtry (who managed the 2016 Democratic convention), Minyon Moore (who had a key role in the Clinton campaign), and Yolanda Caraway (an amazing political operative who has worked for Rev. Jesse Jackson, President Bill Clinton, and candidate Hillary Clinton), put a footprint in the sand for future leadership with their Power Rising conference in Atlanta last month. They gathered more than a thousand Black women from around the country to develop a "Black Women's Agenda", deliberately mixing up the seasoned with the sassy, established leaders with those who are eager to make their mark.

Symone Sanders, the CNN commentator who made her mark supporting Bernie Sanders, and who does not back down from a fight around principle and issues, led a panel of young women who spoke of the challenges in their work. Amanda Brown-Lierman, a new mom and the Political Director of the Democratic National Committee, was among those on another panel about life in politics. Others on that panel included LaDavia Drane, who led Black outreach for Hillary Clinton and is now chief of staff for Congresswoman Yvette Clark (D-NY) and Boston City Councilor Ayanna Pressley, who is now running for Congress. These

young women aren't playing! They are calling out their elders, but also calling out the rules. They aren't trying to toe a line, they are trying to make a difference.

Ayanna Pressley, as an example, is challenging an incumbent Democrat in a Congressional primary. Tired of being told to "wait her turn", she has decided that now is her time. Even though she has always garnered support from Emily's List, the fact that she is challenging a pro-choice Democratic man in Boston has not won her support from the political establishment. Yet the 42-year-old sister says she will not be constrained by rules. The Power Rising conference represented an example of that unfettered and passionate energy.

One of the most promising young leaders is Tamika Mallory, one of the four co-leaders of the Women's March. Tamika is a protégée of Rev. Al Sharpton (her parents were among the founders of the National Action Network, and she served as its executive director for several years). Because of her amazing work, Mallory earned a Phoenix Award from the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation in 2017. With appropriate humility, she accepted her award "for the people", and the most important thing that one gets from Tamika Mallory is that she loves humanity, loves Black people, and especially Black

women. She, like the others mentioned, is a leader for our future. She is the future of Black Women's History. Because she is a leader, she will attract negative energy. And still, she rises, walking through life with her shoulders back, head held high, an unapologetic lover of her people.

The Akan (Ghanaian) word SANKOFA translates as "go back and get it". It is associated with the proverb "Se wo were fi na wosankofa a yenkyi", which means that "it is not wrong to go back for that which you have forgotten". The Adinkra symbol for Sankofa is either that of a bird with its head turned backward carrying a precious egg in its mouth, or a stylized heart shape.

The precious egg is the history of our leadership, the women like Mary McLeod Bethune and Dorothy Height and Sadie Alexander and Phyllis Wallace. Even while looking backward, though, the Sankofa bird is moving forward. Like Tamika Mallory, LaDavia Drane, Amanda Brown Lierman, and so many others. In the paraphrased words of the poet Mari Evans, "Look on them and be renewed."

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.julian-nemalveaux.com.

Budgeting in the Bayou and beyond

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

Early in life, I was taught the importance of saving by a man named Jesse Hill from Atlanta, Georgia. His is a piece of advice I've some point in my life appreciated all my life. No matter how little money I made at times, I set aside a few dollars regularly. In these days of uncertainty saving seems to be more important than ever.

Dr. E. Faye Williams

Being a daughter of Louisiana, I often read about what's going on in my state. I came across the advice of a student who talked about how she saves. She explained how saving impacts college students in reducing debt. I found that her advice is good for all of us no matter where we are and in what stage of life. She interns for a program called Louisiana Saves which is affiliated with America Saves.

In her college classes, students study saving, wealth building and debt reduction. That hit a positive note with me because I've heard so many horror stories about students having to borrow money for their education and the massive debts owed by the time they graduate. Many spend years paying off the debt, while trying to become independent and start their own lives, paying their own bills. Many of her fellow students joined Louisiana Saves where they learn to save.

Once joining this saving plan there are life-changing experiences. Students then have access to daily tweets about finances, tax tips, savings and staying out of debt. Their success doesn't rely on a requirement to save large amounts of money, but on consistency.

In the National Congress of Black Women, we have a program called College for Kids and many of our chapters around the country teach young children financial literacy by having bankers come in to teach them. It's often the most exciting part of the pro-

gram for many. They often teach their parents what they learn in College for Kids. I've never seen a more excited group of children than when they're taught the concept of compounding!

It's important to learn saving and managing money at an early age so that we stay out of debt and build our wealth. Take a look at some of the savings tips the student offered.

- Buy used textbooks or rent them.
- Save money on your new laptop by checking for discounts and tax-free days before you buy your next computer.
- Watch it with credit cards; use them as little as possible, but when you do, pay them off quickly.
- Be sure to get your application for scholarships in on time.
- Limit eating out. The costs add up quickly.
- Choose housing carefully. It's usually less expensive to live in the dorms.
- Stay focused on classes so you don't have to extend your time in college.
- Use campus amenities like movies and exercise places; they're less costly.

- *Get a coffee maker instead of paying high prices for a cup.
- Buy nonperishable items in bulk.
- Monitor cell phone usage so you don't go over your monthly usage.
- Forego a car. Paying for parking, gas, repairs and insurance can add up a lot.
- Start paying off interest while still in school.
- Visit a local bank to inquire about lower fees and no minimum balance or AT charges. Avoid overdrafts.
- Check labels and buy clothes that can be machine washed to avoid costly dry-cleaning bills.
- Say goodbye to cable. There are tons of shows online for free.
- Shop wisely. Ask for student discounts wherever you go.

There're many more ways to save and pay off debt. For more information on this important subject, contact Dr. Suzanne Mayo at drsuzannemayo@gmail.com. I did.

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

CRAZY FAITH MINISTRIES

White supremacists: Spoiled and scared

There is something about white supremacists, white males in particular; that is quite obvious: these people are spoiled and they are afraid and insecure.

When the administration said that arming teachers in schools should be an offshoot of the recent, I groaned because the last thing this country needs is white people, again, especially the men, being given more power to shoot people.

Historically, white men have been deputized and authorized to shoot black people. Bus drivers in the South were notorious for using force against black people. White men were deputized after the Civil War to catch runaway slaves; they were given license to carry guns and to shoot to kill black people - which they did.

White police officers are trained to "shoot to kill" when they feel that their lives are in danger - which is almost always when it comes to dealing with African Americans. It is quite interesting that known armed shooters, like Nikolas Cruz, the shooter in the recent Florida school shooting and, of course, Dylann Roof, who massacred people while they sat in a prayer meeting at church, were apprehended and taken into custody without serious injury being done to their bodies.

White criminals, even and including known mass murderers, apparently do not make white officers fear for their lives.

But it is a fact that white people are more often than not afraid of black people - or so they say - and thus, they are free to shoot and kill. Because so many white people are afraid of black people, including black students, it is highly likely that if teachers are given license to carry guns in schools, more black children than white will be victims. As it is, black students are more likely to be suspended or expelled for behavior that only gets white students a warning. (<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2016/06/07/black-students-nearly-4x-likely-suspended/85526458/>)

There seems to be a spirit of justification in hunting down and injuring or killing black people; we are seen as being amoral and disruptive in general. Law enforcement officers are not worried, frankly, about being held to accountability for shooting and killing black people. (<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/jun/19/philando-castille-police-violence-black-americans>), and while they almost always say they were "in fear for their lives," the underlying reason seems more to be a sense of entitlement that they can shoot black people and get away with it - because black people deserve such treatment.

The outcry against the open and legal sale of assault weapons seems to reveal yet another part of the white supremacist psyche: they have been spoiled, allowed to rest in their sense of privilege and feel entitled to have everything they want. Their reaction to the desire to get these weapons of war off the streets seems to be immature and infantile; they feel they are entitled to have whatever they want. Acting like spoiled children, they stomp and pout at the thought of not being able to have everything they want and circulate the lie that gun control means the government wants to "take away" all of their guns.

Nothing could be farther from the truth, but these people who have been spoiled, pampered and coddled by too many for too long will not listen to reason. They are acting like spoiled children who because they cannot have the toy they want, begin to smash up the toys they have. Their behavior is childishly manipulative.

White supremacy has done a job on the capacity of too many white law enforcement officers to protect all people, including black people, and I am afraid that if teachers carry guns, at the end of the day we will see more innocent (unarmed) black children being shot to death with society not saying a word.

If it is a fact that diverse races, religions and ethnicities have upset some whites who yearn for America to be a country for white people, this petulant and dangerous behavior of white people authorized to carry and use guns is going to result in more deaths of African American children and youth, and more pain for parents who will not only have to mourn the murders of their children and also the refusal of the American justice system to make those who shoot black people suffer and go to jail.

We cannot afford more deaths of black children who are killed by people who kill them just because they can. Enough is enough. Arming teachers is a bad, bad idea.

Rev. Susan K Smith is available for lectures, workshops and preaching. Contact her at revsuekim@sbglobal.net, or visit her page at www.crazyfaithministries.org.

EDELMAN

Continued from this page

before he was assassinated: "There is nothing new about poverty. What is new is that we now have the techniques and the resources to get rid of poverty. The real question is whether we have the will." Fifty years later the answer to that question is clear: We have never found the will to fully respond to the Kerner Commission's urgent call, certainly heard again in the new report Healing Our Divided Society, for "massive and sustained" action.

Children have only one childhood, and it is right now for today's children. We know much more today about what works, making it deeply shameful that we continue to tolerate political leaders in any party who choose not to invest

adequately in critical services and just policies for all children and who refuse to end child poverty in order to give massive tax breaks to millionaires, billionaires and powerful corporations. Healing Our Divided Society is both a warning and a guide. We must finally find the will to ease the indefensible burdens of poverty and racism and fling open the doors of opportunity and hope to assure every child an equal chance to reach his or her God-given potential.

Marian Wright Edelman is President of the Children's Defense Fund whose *Leave No Child Behind*® mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities. For more information go to www.childrens-defense.org.

The Black Press:

USE It

or LOSE It!

EDELMAN

Continued on this page

TO BE EQUAL

Lights, camera, inclusion riders: reflecting reality on and off screen

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

"I think that the greatest thing our art does and our industry does is to erase the lines in the sand. We should continue doing that when the world tells us to make them deeper." - Guillermo Del Toro, Best Director Oscar Winner, "Shape of Water," 2018 Academy Awards

If the 90th Academy Awards are any indication, Hollywood appears determined to flip the proverbial script and rewrite longstanding, cinematic wrongs. From historic firsts to concrete calls to action, the Oscars reflected how far the institution has come and how much further it has to go.

The night was filled with a predictable mix of glitz, glamour and movie industry self-congratulation, but in the age of #OscarsSoWhite, a viral hashtag inspired by the 2016 Oscars shut out of people of color from all acting and directing categories; and #MeToo, a rallying cry that has become closely associated with the work of the Time's Up movement, diamonds, gowns and tuxedos mingled carefully with the critical

issues of diversity, inclusion and representation. It took two words from Best Actress winner Frances McDormand's acceptance speech to bridge the gap between the storied institution and the intersectional, multi-cultural reality in which it makes movies, "I have two words to leave you with tonight, ladies and gentlemen: inclusion rider."

Coined in 2014 by Stacy Smith, director of USC Annenberg's Media, Diversity & Social Change Initiative, an inclusion rider is a clause A-list actors can have added to their contracts that require producers to hire a diverse cast and crew in order to retain the actor. The rider allows major players in Hollywood to do more than wish away the dearth of diversity or pay lip service to inclusive representation in the movie making industry. It is a concrete call to action with real world ramifications. In a 2014 guest column for the Hollywood reporter, Ms. Smith noted that in 2013, if every A-list actor put equity in the contract, "the proportion of balanced films (about half-female) would have jumped from 16 percent to 41 percent."

These issues, and attempts to tackle them with contractual solutions, are not limited to Hollywood or the Oscars. From the NFL to the boardrooms of major tech companies, diversity and inclusion

are in the spotlight. The National Urban League has taken part in ensuring that communities of color are neither neglected, ignored nor poorly served in the aftermath of corporate acquisitions and mergers.

In 2016, we joined a host of civic and civil rights organizations that signed onto a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Charter Communications before its acquisition of Time Warner. The MOU outlined concrete steps Charter would take to build on existing diversity efforts, including gender and racial diversification of its board of directors and taking steps to diversify its workforce. In response to concerns our organization, among others, relayed to Comcast after it announced its intention to acquire a majority stake in NBC Universal, an MOU was reached that affirmed the combined company's commitment to be an industry leader in diversity. Through the MOU, a \$20 million investment fund was established for minority media and tech entrepreneurs, among other initiatives.

Since the well-earned outcry over the white washing of the acting and directing categories in 2016, change, however glacial, has come. The Academy has expanded its voting pool to be more inclusive across race, gender and age. This year, we watched as

Jordan Peele, the director of "Get Out," won for Best Original Screenplay-the first African American to win this honor. Rachel Morrison, who worked on "Mudbound," became the first woman nominated for Best Cinematography. Dee Rees, who directed "Mudbound," became the first Black woman nominated for Best Original Screenplay. When you recognize that this ceremony has been in existence for nine decades and we are still touting firsts in a nation as diverse as ours-you must then recognize that there is much work left to be done on set and behind the cameras.

Actors, like Michael B. Jordan, are already pledging their support and future use of the inclusion rider: I urge all actors who have the power to use their platform for change to commit to equity initiatives like the rider. The red carpet has been rolled away and the tuxes have been tucked back into their closets, but the work remains. The Oscars ceremony does not mark an end, it marks another significant step on the industry's journey towards diverse representation on all fronts, writing in roles for voices and talent that have been historically erased from our screens.

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

CHILDWATCH

A 50 year plea persists

"In 1968, the Kerner Commission concluded that America was heading toward two societies, one black, one white-separate and unequal." Today, America's communities are experiencing increasing racial tensions and inequality, working-class resentment over the unfulfilled American Dream, white supremacy violence, toxic inaction in Washington, and the decline of the nation's example around the world."

This quote is an introduction to Healing Our Divided Society: Investing in America Fifty Years After the Kerner Report, a newly released update on just how far our nation still has to go to fulfill the Kerner Report's goals. The original report was released February 29, 1968 by the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders created by President Lyndon B. Johnson to study the causes of the "racial disorders" that had erupted across the country during the summer of 1967, resulting in weeks of devastating



Marian W. Edelman

rioting, violence, and deaths. The "long, hot summer" of 1967 followed earlier riots during the summers of 1964, 1965, and 1966 and left many Americans terrified that violence would continue to escalate with no end and no solutions. But the Kerner Commission, as the National Advisory Commission came to be called after its Chair Illinois Governor Otto Kerner, Jr., did not believe our country was doomed to a permanent cycle of rioting and racial division. Its report determined that ending the violence needed to start by acknowledging the persistent American truth at its root: we were a divided society, still separate, still unequal.

The 1968 report offered specific recommendations, many focused on creating economic opportunity for Black citizens imprisoned in concentrated segregated poverty. Others addressed the need to hire and train more diverse police forces. An entire section was devoted to education with special concern about the poor reading and math skills and low graduation and employment rates of millions of Black students stuck in predominantly Black, poor, and unequal schools. The 1968 Kerner Report concluded that all of its proposed solutions were not just doable, but essential. "It is

time now to turn with all the purpose at our command to the major unfinished business of this nation. It is time to adopt strategies for action that will produce quick and visible progress. It is time to make good the promises of American democracy to all citizens-urban and rural, white and black, Spanish-surname, American Indian, and every minority group... These programs will require unprecedented levels of funding and performance, but they neither probe deeper nor demand more than the problems which called them forth. There can be no higher priority for national action and no higher claim on the nation's conscience."

But Healing Our Divided Society shows that despite progress in many areas over the last fifty years, we still have not completed the urgent business of making the promises of American democracy good for all and the call for sustained national action must continue. The new report, co-edited by former Oklahoma Senator Fred Harris, the only surviving member of the original Kerner Commission, and Alan Curtis, CEO of the Milton Eisenhower Foundation, includes chapters by scholars and policy experts seeking to chart our nation's course forward.

In a chapter on America's

ongoing struggles to change the odds for all children, I shared my deep disappointment that even as our nation becomes much more racially and ethnically diverse, children of color, especially Black children, remain so far behind their White peers. Growing inequality exacerbates the racial divide as very large disparities in family median income, wages and family wealth stunt opportunity for children. Nearly one in five children is poor and nearly 70 percent of the almost 13.2 million poor children are children of color: The younger children are, the poorer they are, and Black children remain the poorest-most likely to be trapped in what the Kerner Report called the "prison of poverty" in our wealthy nation. Closing this indefensible and curable inequality gap and racial divide remains the major unfinished business of our nation and, I believe, the greatest threat to our national security and economic future.

On March 31, 1968, just a few weeks after the Kerner Commission released its Report and recommendations, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said in his last Sunday sermon

New Hanover County

Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church Ministries, Inc., 3701 princess Place Drive will hold Revival 2018 from Monday, March 12th- Thursday, March 15th at 7:30 p.m. nightly and praise and worship at 7:00 p.m. nightly. Sunday,

March 11th will be the revival kickoff at 4:00 p.m. with The Reverend Derrin Davis, Sr., pastor of the Ephesus Seventh-Day Adventist Church as guest speaker. The Reverend Terry Jones is the revivalist, pastor of Metropolitan AME Zion Church, Hartford CT. Various choirs and praise teams will serve throughout the week.

Religious Briefs

St. Phillip AMEZ Church will celebrate their Annual Family & Friends Day on March 25th at 11:00 a.m. and at 3:30 p.m. will celebrate their Annual Family & Friends Day. Rev. Hardy Ballard and the St. Luke AMEZ Church will be the special guest. Rev. Hardy Ballard will be accompanied by his choir and congregation. Dinner will be served and you are all invited. Bro. Anthony Brown is our 2018 Family & Friends Day Chair. For more information please call 910-899-6605 or 910-200-4953.

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

FREE BAG LUNCH ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 600 GRACE STREET

Saturdays

March 17th	11:30- 1:30
April 14th	11:30- 1:30
May 12th	11:30- 1:30
June 16th	11:30- 1:30
July 14th	11:30- 1:30
August 11th	11:30- 1:30
September 15th	12:00 - 1:30
October 13th	12:00- 1:30

Contact Margie Armstrong at 910-675-9260

or Bernadine Fulton at 910-264-8818

for futher information

OBITUARIES

Continued from page 7

preceded him in death.

Vander Mc Allister, Jr. leaves to cherish his memories: his wife, Sarah Davis McAllister of Forest Home, AL; one daughter, Vatanya McAllister of Long Island, NY; four grandchildren, Patrick M. Tyrell, Paul M. Tyrell, Kristen McAllister and Alana Roscoe; two great-grandchildren, Talanyah Tyrell and Morgan Tyrell; five sisters, Alice M. Gibbs (Benjamin) and Dollie McAllister all of Westbury, NY, Shirley M. Pope of Hampton, VA, Gwendolyn M. York (Prentice) of Wilmington, NC and Denise M. Mitchell (Warren) of Foley, AL; four brothers, Kenneth McAllister of Portsmouth, VA, Ulysses (Vera) McAllister, and Avery (Linda) McAllister all of Leland, NC and Oliver (Rosa) McAllister of Plymouth, NC; aunt, Eva Mae McAllister Grady; two brothers-in-law, James (Pam) Davis and Jimmy R. (Gwendolyn) Brown; five sisters-in-law, Lillie Bell (Namon) Fanning, Mary (Albert) Peterson., Alice (Harold) Coleman, Brender (Kevin) Mitchell, and Emma (Allen) Bailey; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

James Arthur Merrick

James Arthur Merrick funeral services were held on Thursday, March 8th at Mt. Calvary AME Church, Navassa. Burial followed in Mt. Calvary Church Cemetery. James, son of the late Cass and Mary Balloon Merrick was born September 13, 1934.

James, better known as "Tank" moved to Syracuse, New York in 1953 after leaving Navassa, NC. He was employed by Easywash and Boxcutter for many years. In 1979 he returned to Navassa and began working with the Creosot Plant until retiring in 1996.

He will be remembered and missed by his cousin and caregiver, Willie McKoy; one son, James (Jamie) Merrick of Syracuse, NY; three sisters, Catherine Burns and Margaret (Julius) Lawrence all of Syracuse, NY and Grace Merrick of Sanford, NC; four brothers, Herbert Merrick and Curtis Merrick all of Syracuse, NY, Nathaniel Merrick of the home and David Merrick of Virginia Beach, VA; three grandchildren; two special nephews, Todd and Johnny Merrick; two special caregivers, Veretta Kilgro and Doretha McNeil and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Carolyn Anita Morse

Carolyn Anita Morse memorial services were held on Saturday, March 10, 2018 at Willie L. Shaw Jr. Memorial Chapel. Carolyn was born to the par-

ent of Mamie Louise Maxwell and Daniel Webster Johnson on October 14, 1957. She was preceded in death by her mother, father and one brother, Daniel Johnson. Carolyn graduated from New Hanover High School in 1975, attended CFCC and graduated with degrees in Paralegal, Culinary Arts and Beautician. Carolyn learned from her study of the Bible and her passion was cooking and making sure everyone had something to eat.

Carolyn is survived by two sons, Tony Russell Morse (Tonya Watson) of Greensboro, NC and Corey Morse (Victoria Ranegan) of Orlando, Florida; four grandchildren, Tirik Morse, Amarian Morse, Mackenzie Morse and Tale'ya Morse.; brothers, Ronnie Bernard Johnson (Regina), Sammy Lee Johnson, John Albert Johnson and Rueben Alexander Johnson (Wanda); one sister, Sharon Johnson all of Wilmington, NC; aunts, Roseanna Vereen, Ollie Ettiene and Bernice Dorealean; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends, including her close and dear friends, Dennis Heath and Demetria Kellam and special niece, Tequana Johnson. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Earline Dowe Holliday

Earline Dowe Holliday funeral services were held Wednesday, March 14, 2018 at Mt. Roney Missionary Baptist Church. Burial followed in Greenlawn Memorial Park.

On March 9, 2018, during the early hours of the day, the Lord called Sister Pearlina Dowe Holliday from labor to reward. Sister Pearlina was born on November 17, 1935 to Mrs. Alene Brown and Sidney Dowe, in Wilmington, North Carolina. She was educated in the New Hanover County School System. She held various jobs including Babcock and Wilcox, American Crane and the Bag Factory. Pearlina was married to the late James "Doc" Holliday. Six children were born to this union. However, they raised three additional children. In addition to her parents and husband, Pearlina was preceded in death by one son, Sgt. Jimmy Lee Holliday.

She leaves to cherish fond memories: her children, Elvin (Tomasina) Holliday, Rev. Carl Holliday, Anita Alene Holliday, Charles Holliday and Ralph Holliday; 20 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; three children she raised, Lottie Mae White, Ronald Dowe and George Dowe; one sister, Josephine William; other relatives and friends. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

Eanetta Pierce

Eanetta Pierce funeral services were held Wednesday, March 14th at Mt. Nebo MB Church. Burial in Calvary Memorial Cemetery. *A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.*

SENIOR CITIZENS' FELLOWSHIP

Birthday celebration

BY FANNIE ALLEN
AND SHELIA ROSS
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

A chill was in the air but not in our hearts. The Senior Citizens Fellowship met as usual and at the usual place with glad hearts. Mrs. Eloise Purdie was with us today and she said it is a great day. Mr. George Hill along with the many choir members opened

with, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" followed by a very humbling prayer by Mrs. Mary Martin. Next we sang, "Hold to God's Unchanging Hand". Twice a year the Senior Citizens Fellowship worships at a church. We will worship with Warner Temple in April. We will give our meeting places for next month. Our Shopping Committee, Mrs. Shelia Ross,

Mildred Ellerby, Mrs. Wilmenia Love, and Mrs. Mary Green did an excellent job buying us just what we needed. Seniors like stuff. Thanks to them, now where to put it? There were twenty four people celebrating birthdays for January, February, and March. Happy Birthday to all members who celebrated a birthday. We also had a delicious meal catered by It's

Beautiful. It was very satisfying to our taste buds. Mrs. Purdie thanked everyone for the love that has been showed to her over the last year as members if the Senior Citizens Fellowship. Announcements were given. Mrs. Mary Martin gave smiles that we always look for. To conclude, we sang grace.

There were fifty (50) members present.

TELL SOMEBODY

"If There be No Resurrection"

"But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain." I Corinthians 15: 13, 14

Resurrection -The rising of Christ after his death and burial

Skeptic - A person who doubts the truth of a religion especially Christianity, or the important elements of it
Agnostic - A person who holds that the ultimate existence of God is unknown and that human knowledge is limited to experience

As we approach the Annual celebration of the highly anticipated and beloved Easter holiday, referred by many as "Resurrection Day", we cannot allow the importance of Christ's resurrection to be minimized by skeptics, agnostics, and others who have unsuccessfully attempted to scruti-



Sylvia Hooper

nize (to examine in detail with careful and critical attention) the death, burial, and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

In spite of all the doubters and the haters of God who question the reality of what

happened over 2000 years ago, faith in God and His Son Jesus Christ is alive and well in the hearts of multiplied millions of Believers, all over the world, who know beyond a shadow of a doubt, that God is real! Jesus Christ is Lord of all, or not Lord at all. We choose to believe, to decree and to declare, that Jesus is LORD! That's our story, and we are sticking with it!

John 3:16, 17 says, "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. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."

Apostle Paul spoke on the necessity of having the assurance on the resurrection of Christ as the literal foundation of our faith, our teaching and our preaching. Hebrews 11:1 says, "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." There is an innumerable list of witnesses who are on record, throughout the holy scriptures, that testify of the reality of the God of Relationships, who is Omnipotent, Almighty, Holy, Reverend and True!

Hebrews 11:6 says, "But

without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

Romans 4th. Chapter, talks of the faith of "Father Abraham" as a focal point of reference and inspiration for men and women today. "He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness."

Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him; But for us also to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead: Who was delivered for our offenses, and raised again for our justification." Romans 4:20-25

There is a way that each of us can be sure that there was indeed a resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. If you follow the formula found in Romans 10: 1 - 17. Then, if you agree, and if you believe, you can join in the chorus of singing that old familiar hymn, "You can't make me doubt him, because I

know too much about him. Jesus is real to me!" Now you are free to join in the celebration and rejoice, for he is risen, like he said he would! Yes, I believe there was definitely a resurrection. There is no doubt in my mind. There used to be, but I am a Believer now, Praise the Lord! My faith is not in vain. My living is not in vain, because He lives, I can face tomorrow... 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!

RAINBOW COALITION

Trump-Kim Jong-un meeting could make war less likely

(TriceEdneyWire.com) -

Donald Trump is taking a lot of heat for his snap decision to talk face to face with Kim Jong-un of North Korea. His aides caution that the meeting may never take place, that concrete conditions must be met for it to happen.

Conservative pundits and foreign policy pundits fret that Trump has given Kim recognition that North Korean dictators have sought for decades in exchange for a mere promise to pause missile and nuclear tests. Republican Sen. Corey Gardner calls for "concrete, verified steps towards denuclearization before this meeting occurs."



Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.

Even Democratic Sen. Elizabeth Warren describes a face-to-face meeting as "a win for them. It legitimizes, in their view, their dictatorship and legitimizes their nuclear weapons program." Admittedly, President Trump's sudden agreement is a head-spinning reversal of direction from schoolyard taunts and threats of war to an agreement to meet and talk.

But I would rather Trump and Kim talk to each other than threaten each other with war and nuclear weapons. It

may be that Kim craves the recognition and Trump the flattery, but these caricatures are irrelevant. Whether they agree to agree or agree to disagree, their meeting can make war less likely. I have always believed that one can talk without conditions toward an agreement with concrete and verifiable conditions.

The notion that Kim will give up his nuclear weapons program as a precondition to any talk is nonstarter, a recipe for increasing tensions and escalating crisis. It is time to get real. North Korea is a dictatorship and an impoverished country, crippled by a failed economic system and harsh international sanctions. It is also a nuclear power, in possession of 20 to 60 nuclear weapons. It has sustained its nuclear weapons program in the face of immense international pressure.

After George Bush named it part of the "axis of evil" with Iraq and Iran, North Korean leaders had every reason to believe that nuclear weapons - and their ability to destroy South Korea's capital with conventional weapons - were essential to deter any attack on them. Kim no doubt noticed when the U.S. and its allies took out Libya's Muammar Gaddafi after he got rid of his nuclear weapons.

There is no rational military "solution" to North Korea's nuclear arsenal. An attack by the U.S. is unimaginable, with millions of lives

in South Korea at risk. Threats and juvenile taunts about having a bigger nuclear button only ratchet up tensions. Escalating and ever more aggressive military exercises only increase the possibility of a war by miscalculation. This opening comes from the initiative of South Korea's president, Moon Jae-in, who has worked tirelessly to lessen tensions between North and South and to broker a meeting with U.S. and North Korean officials.

He embraced North Korea's participation in the winter Olympics. Kim sent his sister with an invitation to a summit. While Vice President Mike Pence startled Koreans with his lack of manners and hard line at the Olympics, President Moon responded positively, dispatching envoys to North Korea to continue the talks and begin to arrange a summit. At that meeting, Kim stunned the diplomats by saying that he was open to talking with the Americans about his nuclear program, willing to suspend nuclear and missile testing to open the way for talks without insisting that the U.S. and South Korea suspend their joint military exercises that have always been a source of tension.

This caught the U.S. by surprise. We have no ambassador in South Korea. The State Department's top diplomat in charge of North Korea policy, Joseph Yun, recently retired. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson was essentially out of the loop when Trump

made his snap decision to agree to a meeting. Can the talks take us from the edge of co-annihilation to the possibility of co-existence? That's surely unknown. The hermetic kingdom of North Korea is one of the most closed countries in the world. It is separated from the world by a wall, so it lives in the shadows, which allows propaganda, fear, lies and rumor to define reality. It will take more than one summit to resolve this crisis.

South Korea's president will meet with Kim before Trump does. Trump and Moon would be wise to suspend this spring's U.S.-South Korean military exercises unilaterally, as a gesture of good will before the talks. Any agreement will meet formidable obstacles. Could an agreement be verified, given North Korea's fear of outside observers? Will the U.S. and its allies ease sanctions if Kim agrees to discontinue nuclear and missile tests, as a first step toward peaceful relations? What would be necessary to make North Korea confident that they won't be attacked if they disarm?

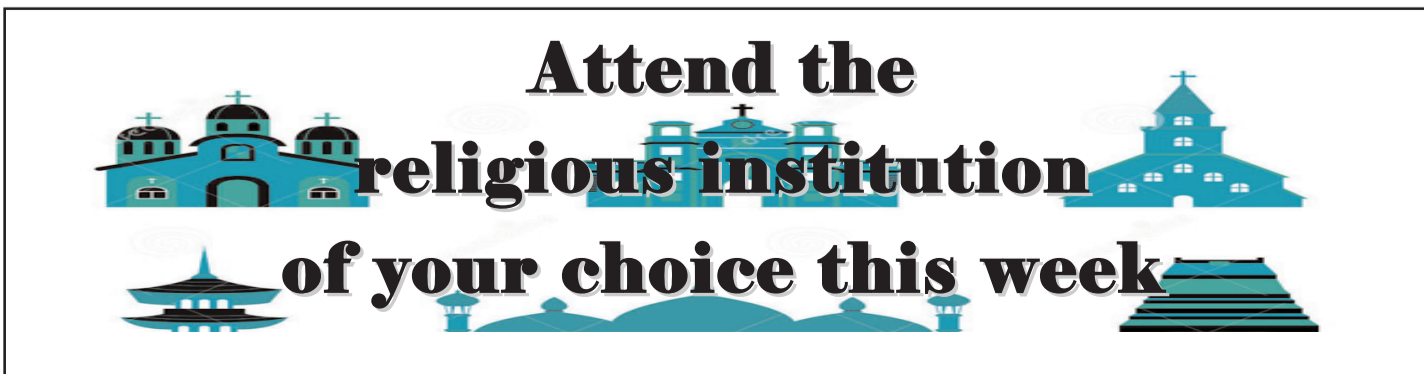
One thing is clear: It is far better that Trump and Kim are moving toward talks rather than escalating threats. Negotiations are preferable to name calling and missile rattling. Trump's decision to accept Kim's offer was characteristically impulsive, abrupt and unbriefed.

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

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LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Sale

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SALE DATE: 03/31/2018
PLACE: ACE WRECKER SERVICE INC.
2012 CASTLE HAYNE RD
WILMINGTON NC 28401
MANAGER: JAMES HOCKADAY
TELEPHONE: 910-343-9508

March 15, 22, 2018

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER IN THE DISTRICT COURT JUVENILE SESSION FILE NO. 17 JT 001

IN THE MATTER OF: L.K.L. (DOB: 12/12/2016) TO: ANY UNKNOWN FATHER

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

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

You are required to make defense to such pleading no later than **APRIL 10, 2018**, said date being forty (40) days following the first date of publication of this Notice. Upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply for the relief sought. You have the right to attend the hearing, and you have the right to be represented by counsel.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT A HEARING ON THE PETITION TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS is scheduled for **MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2018**, at 9:30 A.M., at the Office of Juvenile Justice, 138 N. 4th Street, Wilmington, North Carolina 28401, or upon a date and time set thereafter.

This the 1st day of March, 2018.

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

March 1, 8, 15, 2018

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER IN THE DISTRICT COURT JUVENILE SESSION FILE NO. 16 JT 70

IN THE MATTER OF: K.C.W. (DOB: 07/31/2014) TO: ANY UNKNOWN FATHER

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

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

You are required to make defense to such pleading no later than **APRIL 10, 2018**, said date being forty (40) days following the first date of publication of this Notice. Upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply for the relief sought. You have the right to attend the hearing, and you have the right to be represented by counsel.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT A HEARING ON THE PETITION TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS is scheduled for **MONDAY, MAY 7, 2018**, at 9:30 A.M., at the Office of Juvenile Justice, 138 N. 4th Street, Wilmington, North Carolina 28401, or upon a date and time set thereafter.

This the 1st day of March, 2018.

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

March 1, 8, 15, 2018

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the estate of **William Arnold Wells, III**, deceased, of the New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **25th day of May, 2018**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 22nd day of February, 2018

Mazell Holmes, Executor
25972 HWY 210
Currie, NC 28435

February 22, March 1, 8, 15, 2018

NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the estate of **Kimberly V. Cave**, deceased, of the New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **25th day of May, 2018**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 22nd day of February, 2018

Cynthia L. Cave, Executor
1203 Fifth Ave.
Farmville, VA 23901-2309

February 22, March 1, 8, 15, 2018

NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the estate of **Frances A. Hicks**, deceased, of the New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **15th day of June, 2018**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 15th day of March, 2018

Charles N. Hicks, Jr., Executor
3429 Chalmers Dr.
Wilmington, NC 28409

March 15, 22, 29, April 5, 2018

NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

The undersigned, having qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of **Richard Vollers Hanson, Sr.**, deceased, of New Hanover County, North Carolina, do hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **1st day of June, 2018**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This 1st day of March, 2018.

Richard Vollers Hanson, Jr. and Nancy Hanson Scheunemann, Co-Executors of the Estate of Richard Vollers Hanson, Sr.
2313 Lynnwood Drive
Wilmington, NC 28403
MURCHISON, TAYLOR & GIBSON, PLLC
16 North Fifth Avenue
Wilmington, NC 28401

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 2018

NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

All persons, firms & corporations having claims against the Estate of **David Price** deceased of New Hanover County NC are notified to present the same to the personal representative listed below on or before **June 1, 2018** or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. All Debtors of the said Estate are asked to make immediate payment

This 1st day of March, 2018.

Kathryn Parish, Executrix of Estate of David Price
709 Robert E Lee Dr
Wilmington, NC 28412

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 2018

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER BEFORE THE CLERK 18 E 201

The undersigned having duly qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **VERNON LEE MONROE, JR.**, late of Wilmington, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at Post Office Box 4, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28402, on or before the **25th day of May, 2018**, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said Estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 22nd day of February, 2018.

Cathy M. Pleasant, Executrix Estate of Vernon Lee Monroe, Jr.
Jeffrey P. Keeter
Block, Crouch, Keeter, Behm & Sayed, L.L.P.
P.O. Box 4
Wilmington, NC 28402

February 22, March 1, 8, 15, 2018

NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the estate of **Nellie E. Harrell**, deceased, of the Davidson County, TN, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **1st day of June, 2018**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This 1st day of March, 2018

Audley Freed, Ancillary Executor, c/o Kirschbaum, Nanney, Keenan & Griffin, P.A.,
P.O. Box 19766,
Raleigh, NC 27619

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 2018

NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **Maxine W. Wall**, deceased, of New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **8th day of June, 2018**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This 8th day of March, 2018.

Robert Lee Wall, Executor of the Estate of Maxine W. Wall
2228 Parham Drive
Wilmington, NC 28403

MURCHISON, TAYLOR & GIBSON, PLLC
16 North Fifth Avenue
Wilmington, NC 28401

March 8, 15, 22, 29, 2018

NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER

The undersigned, having qualified as Administratrix of the estate of **Odell Sidberry**, deceased, of the New Hanover County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the **8th day of June, 2018**, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 8th day of March, 2018

Helen McClammy McCrary, Administratrix
112 Edgewater Club Rd.
Wilmington, NC 28411

March 8, 15, 22, 29, 2018

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA NEW HANOVER COUNTY DISTRICT COURT DIVISION File No. 17 CV 004547

JANAY FOSTER, Plaintiff vs. LEE THOMPSON, Defendant To: LEE THOMPSON

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

You are required to make defense to such pleading no later than 40 days from the date of the first publication of this Notice, and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

This the 1st day of March, 2018.

Janay Foster
1308-A North 4th Street
Wilmington, NC 28401

March 1, 8, 15, 2018

INVITATION FOR BIDS SOLICITATION NO.: WHA17.14 HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON NORTH CAROLINA RE- BID ELECTRICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY-WIDE

(One or more contracts might be awarded)

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

•Pre bid conference/tour: Friday, March 9th, 2018 at 10:00 a.m., beginning at the Central Office.
•Bid Opening: Friday, March 23, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.
•Project Manual along with specifications will be available for pickup beginning 2:00 p.m. on Friday, March 2nd at the Central Office.

•Fee; non-refundable charge of \$15.00 or you can Download Project Manual at no cost -- www.wha.net (under Business Opportunities/IFB)
•Questions; E-mail to Chauntrell Burns no later than March 16th at 2:00pm to c.burns@wha.net

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

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

WHA reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

March 8, 15, 2018

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION Before The Clerk of Superior Court FILE NO.: 17 E 1495 IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JERRY M. EVANS, Deceased

The undersigned, having qualified as the Administrator of the estate of **Jerry M. Evans**, deceased, does hereby notify all persons, firms, or corporations having claims against said decedent to exhibit the same to Gloria McClammy, Administrator, at the address set out to below no later than ninety (90) days from the first publication date of this Notice. This Notice may be pleaded as bar of any payment or recovery of same which is not given prior to the **7th day of June, 2018**. All person indebted to the decedent will please make them to the undersigned at either addresses set out below.

This the 8th day of March, 2018

The Law Office of Erma L. Johnson, P.C.
2803 Market Street
P.O. Box 696
Wilmington, NC 28402

March 8, 15, 22, 29 2018

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF NEW HANOVER In Re Dissolution of MCDUGAL PROPERTIES, LLC Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 57D-6-11

Having submitted Articles of Dissolution to the North Carolina Secretary of State for filing, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, corporations and/or other legal entities having claims against MCDUGAL PROPERTIES, LLC to present them to the undersigned at the address given below on or before March 16, 2023 or same will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Company please make immediate payment.

On this day, March 15, 2018.

Richard T. "Chip" Rodgers, Jr., Attorney for McDougal Properties, LLC
The Rodgers Law Firm, PLLC
1213 Culbreth Drive
Wilmington, NC 28405

March 15, 2018

EMPLOYMENT

PPD Development, L.P. seeks a Senior Clinical Research Associate (Level 1) in Wilmington, NC to perform & coordinate all aspects of the clinical monitoring & site mngmnt process in accordance w/ ICH GCP, FDA guidelines, local regulations & PPD SOPs. Can work remotely. BS +3yrs exp req. 3yrs. exp. of clinical monitoring. Send resumes to global.recruitmentSM@ppdi.com & Job Ref Number 144862.

PPD Development, L.P. seeks a Principal Talent Analyst in Wilmington, NC to analyze and summarize key recruitment metrics/presentations to provide to Senior Leadership Team and C-Suite. BS & 2 yrs. exp. 2 yrs. exp. sourcing, recruiting, and interviewing. Send resumes to global.recruitmentSM@ppdi.com and Job Reference Number 144859.

PPD Development, L.P. seeks a Principal Clinical Research Associate in Wilmington, NC to conduct site visits to assess protocol & regulatory compliance & manage req'd documentation. Can work remotely. 80% travel req'd. BS & 5 yrs. exp. req'd. For full req's & to apply send resume to global.recruitmentSM@ppdi.com & reference Job ID: 144811.

PPD Development, L.P. seeks a Senior Clinical Research Associate (Level 1) in Wilmington, NC to perform and coordinate all aspects of the clinical monitoring and site management process. Can work remotely. 70% domestic travel is required. BS & 2 yrs. exp. 6 yrs. clinical monitoring exp. Send resumes to global.recruitmentSM@ppdi.com and Job Reference Number 144861.

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Every other weekend-day and evening hours. The ideal candidate will be able to fill-in some other hours as needed.

Applications can be found at www.domesticviolence-wilm.org

Mail applications to: Shelter Vacancy, Domestic Violence Shelter and Services, Inc., P.O. Box 1555, Wilmington, NC 28402
Application deadline: March 31, 2018
No phone calls/No walk-ins
EOE

EMPLOYMENT

CERTIFIED HVAC MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN

The Housing Authority of the City of Wilmington is accepting applications for a Certified HVAC Maintenance Technician. Applicants must submit a letter of interest, current resume and three references to CERTIFIED HVAC MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN Search, Attention: Human Resources Department, PO Box 899, Wilmington, NC 28402 or email to jobs@wha.net. Applications will be accepted until March 27, 2018. For a detailed position description, please visit www.wha.net

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 272 N. Front Street, Suite 300
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