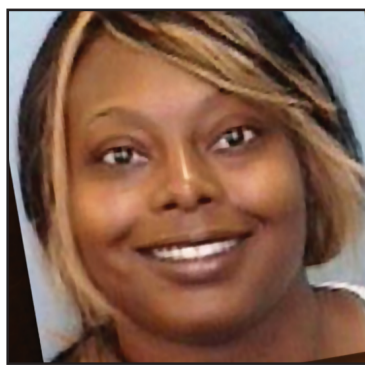


MISSING



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



NATE BOWLING

"Students of color need to see more people of color. That shouldn't be controversial" PAGE 4

COMMUNITY

Wilmington Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. PRESENTS 68th Annual Jabberwock PAGE 8

BRUNSWICK COUNTY UPDATE



BERNEST HEWETT

A lack of respect

BY BERNEST HEWETT CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I find it hard to believe that people have no respect for the house of God. This has nothing to do with whether you believe in God or not. It is a

Please see BRUNSWICK Page 2

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

News from the African American perspective without fear or favor

VOLUME 91/No. 12

MARCH 22, 2018 - MARCH 28, 2018

FIFTY CENTS

NC PUBLIC SCHOOLS RESEGREGATING AT AN ALARMING RATE

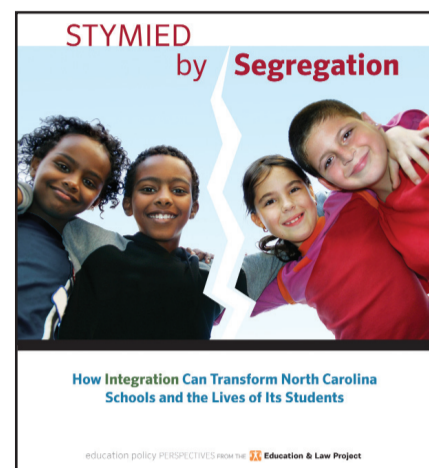
BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

There are more high poverty schools, containing more poor children of color, across North Carolina now, resulting in an alarming resegregation. That is the contention in a new report, "Stymied by Segregation: How Integration Can Transform North Carolina Schools and the Lives of Its Students" by Kris Nordstrom, a policy analyst with the NC Justice Center, a non-partisan progressive policy group. The report analyzes the past ten years on trends in public school segregation in North Carolina and notes that the number of racially and economically isolated schools

has increased; economic segregation is on the rise, even though the racial distribution in various school districts is mixed; larger school districts aren't doing enough to integrate their schools; school district boundaries are still used to maintain segregated school systems; and charter schools tend to "exacerbate" segregation. The report then states that the NC General Assembly "...increasingly considers bills that would further exacerbate school segregation." One of those prospective measures, House Bill 704, is already being discussed by the Joint Legislative Study Committee on the Division of Local School Administrative Units. That committee held its first meeting March 13th to discuss the consequences of

breaking up large school districts like Wake and Charlotte-Mecklenburg and turning them into smaller ones. While mostly Republican North Carolina's lawmakers tried to make the case that smaller school districts would be better for North Carolina's students, Sen. Joyce Waddell (D-Mecklenburg) weighed in to ask the obvious question that none of the Republicans broached. "What measures do you have in place that would prevent [students of color from being harmed], that discriminatory factors would not be the major factors in North Carolina as we move forward to breaking up large school systems?"

Please see RESEGREGATING/Page 3



"Stymied by Segregation" reveals that the NC General Assembly increasingly considers bills that would further exacerbate school segregation.



A FIRST IN WILMINGTON



FRONT ENTRANCE OF VIRGO PREPARATORY ACADEMY (PHOTO TAKEN IN LATE EVENING)

UNCW on Track to Open Wilmington's First Year-Round K-8 Public School in July

SPECIAL TO THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

UNCW, working alongside New Hanover County Schools, has finalized an agreement to open Wilmington's first K-8 year-round public school at D.C. Virgo Preparatory Academy this summer. Approved by the New Hanover County Board of Education on March 6, the agreement paves the way for UNCW to enroll students and hire teachers for the 2018-19 school year.

"We have enjoyed a great partnership between the Watson College of Education and the New Hanover County School System for decades," said Dean Van Dempsey. "This collaborative initiative with D.C. Virgo is a shared commitment to creating great learning experiences for children, the community and professional educators." Beginning in July, D.C. Virgo will offer a family-engaged learning environment designed to support the academic, social and emotional growth of students from kindergarten through the eighth grade. Curriculum will focus on literacy to

help students develop strong reading, writing and public speaking skills, and personalized, exploratory learning options called "Quests" will also be introduced to extend experiences beyond the classroom and into the community. The school will also provide wrap-around services including social and emotional support, medical services for children and families and access to opportunities and resources at UNCW.

Please see VIRGO/Page 3

Economic barriers remain for NC Blacks

BY CASH MICHAELS OF THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

In 2016, the U.S. Census found that 23.4 percent of Black North Carolinians lived in poverty, while only 12 percent of White North Carolina residents were struggling in the same condition, according to a recent report by the Economic Policy Institute. That is one of the latest entries in the NC Budget and Tax Center's "Prosperity Watch" series, which frequently gauges the economic progress, or lack thereof, of North Carolinians. According to that Economic Policy Institute report, African-Americans have made progress "...in absolute terms..." over the past fifty years, but that progress is "...limited in removing [historic] barriers that maintain persistently high differences in outcomes for African-Americans relative to Whites." For instance, using the same measure for North Carolina, 38.7 percent of Black families in 1970 lived in poverty compared to 11.1 percent of White families. Again, in 2016, it was 23.4 percent Black, compared to 12 percent White living in poverty. So there definitely has been progress in the State since 1970. EPI researchers maintain that the racial barriers in employment, education and housing still exist to a certain degree. Nationally, researchers found, 21.4 percent of African-Americans lived

Please see BARRIERS/Page 3

Donna Brazile keynotes the State of the Black Press Says Black Press is at the forefront of change

BY STACY M. BROWN NNPA NEWSWIRE CONTRIBUTOR

Political analyst and author Donna Brazile delivered a stirring address about the "State of the Black Press in 2018" at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., capping off the National Newspaper Publishers Association's (NNPA) annual Black

Press Week. The NNPA is a trade group that represents more than 200 Black-owned media companies operating in the United States. NNPA member publications reach more than 20 million readers in print and online every week.

Please see BRAZILE/Page 3



NNPA PHOTO

Political analyst Donna Brazile delivered the keynote address on "The State of the Black Press in 2018" at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., during the NNPA's annual Black Press Week.



THE WILMINGTON
JOURNAL

ISSN 0049-7649 - AN
INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
Dedicated to R.S. Jervay,
Founder of R.S. Jervay Printers,
1901

and T.C. Jervay, Sr., Founder of
The Wilmington Journal,
An offspring of the Cape Fear
Journal, 1927

Published 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: wilmjourn@aol.com

Website:
www.wilmingtonjournal.com

Single Copy 50 Cents

Subscription Rates

All Subscriptions \$32 Yearly,
Except Foreign, \$37 Yearly,
Payable in Advance. (Taxes
Included for NC Residents)

Address all communications and
make all checks and money
orders payable to:
The Wilmington Journal,
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Wilmington, NC 28402

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Community and religious briefs are
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Black Publishers Association

BRUNSWICK

Continued from Page 1

deliberate attempt at
destroying the very founda-
tion of God's word when
one attacks the church
house. It is sign of hatred and
malice.

When I heard of the dam-
age done to Blackwell
Chapel AMEZ Church and
Providence Missionary
Baptist Church, two Black
churches less than a mile
apart, as a Black person, my
first thought is that it was
racially motivated. Is there
so much hatred that a per-
son would become this low?

I have had the privilege to
do service for both of these
church families and find
these people to be God fear-
ing people. The Blackwell
Chapel congregation has
fought a long battle to get
back into their new church
because it was burned
down some years back.
This is a great disappoint-
ment to have this church
vandalized. It is a black eye
to the community and its
people.

I hope whoever did this
is caught and prosecuted to
the full extent of the law.

I feel that the way our
elected officials are trying
to enact bills and laws has
a lot to do with how people
respect each other. The tar-
geting of Black churches
for attack, as in the past,
has to stop. It will not stop
Blacks from praying. God
knows and God will make a
way.

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

THE BLACK COMMUNITY AND AMERICAN ENERGY POLICY

Experts: "Black consumers, businesses must lead American energy policy"

BY FREDDIE ALLEN
EDITOR IN CHIEF
OF NNPA NEWSWIRE

--Due to shifting demo-
graphics in the U.S., it's
increasingly important for
Blacks to take the lead in
shaping America's energy
policies.

--The American Associa-
tion of Blacks in Energy is a
Black think tank focused on
energy policies, emerging
technologies, and environ-
mental issues.

--President Donald Trump
and the Senate Democrats
released infrastructure plans
that include more than \$1
trillion in spending.

As the debate continues
over the future of energy in
the U.S. and around the
world, industry insiders say
that now is the time for
African American consum-
ers and businesses to
step up and help shape
America's energy policy.

The country's demograph-
ics are changing. According
to the Census Bureau, the
U.S. population, as a whole,
is expected to become majori-
tarian in 2044.

"The minority population
is projected to rise to 56 per-
cent of the total in 2060, com-
pared with 38 percent in
2014," the Census Bureau
reported.

Forward-thinking industry
leaders have taken notice and
are working to recruit and
train an increasingly diverse
labor force.

According to the American
Petroleum Institute's "State
of American Energy 2018"
report, as the baby boomers
retire and the oil and natural
gas industry expands, job
opportunities in the industry
will continue to grow over
the next couple of decades,
requiring more workers.
Researchers project that
nearly 1.9 million new job
opportunities will be avail-
able in the industry by 2035.

"According to an IHS study,
women and minorities will
account for hundreds of
thousands of those openings--
more than 700,000 African
Americans and Hispanics and
290,000 women through
2035," the report said.

During an interview with
the NNPA Newswire, Jack
Gerard, the president and
CEO of the American
Petroleum Institute, said that
the oil and natural gas indus-
try is working to broaden its
base in the Black community
and increase awareness
about the high-paying job
opportunities in the industry.

Tracey Woods, the vice
president of operations at the
American Association of
Blacks in Energy (AABE), a
Black think tank focused on
energy policies, regulations,
emerging technologies, and
environmental issues, said
that it's important for poten-
tial employees and entrepre-
neurs, that are interested in
getting into the oil and natu-
ral gas industry, to under-
stand policy.

AABE's founder, Clarke
Watson, understood how crit-
ical it was for Blacks to not
only understand energy pol-
icy, but to also be involved in
the planning and implemen-
tation of America's policies.

According to Watson's
biography on AABE's web-
site, "Watson worked in the
energy industry for decades,
eventually starting his own
consulting firm. He founded
the American Association of
Blacks in Energy in 1977 after
hearing of a meeting of en-
ergy policymakers that had
been called by then President
Jimmy Carter. No minorities
were on the original guest
list."

The group's mission con-
tinues today, because energy
policies set today can have
lasting socioeconomic effects
for generations.

And when it comes to pol-
icies about access to STEM
education and investment
capital, those economic
effects could mean higher
wages in the oil and natural
gas industry for Black work-
ers and increased business
opportunities for entrepre-
neurs.

Woods said that Black
energy experts and industry
leaders have to talk to people



PHOTO COURTESY OF PIXABAY

Energy experts and groups like the American Association of Blacks in Energy are encouraging the Black community to get involved with American energy policy.

about President Donald
Trump's infrastructure plan
and what it means for the
Black community.

Trump's infrastructure
plan commits "\$200 billion in
federal funding over 10 years
to stimulate state and local
spending and private invest-

ment," NPR reported. "Half
of the funding, \$100 billion,
would be used as incentives
to entice cities, counties and
states to raise at least 80 per-
cent of the infrastructure
costs themselves."

The article continued:
"That's a departure from the

way many projects are fund-
ed now. Funding for federal-
aid highways, including
interstates, is usually allocat-
ed in an 80-20 federal-state
split. So, President Trump's
plan would flip that funding
burden."

Shortly before the presi-
dent's infrastructure plan
went public, the Senate
Democrats released a "Jobs
and Infrastructure Plan" that
promised a "historic \$1 tril-
lion federal investment to
modernize our crumbling
infrastructure and create
more than 15 million good-
paying jobs that American
families desperately need."

The Senate Democrats'
plan would also hit President
Trump's tax law signed late
last year.

The Senate Democrats'
plan would raise the corpo-
rate tax rate to 25 percent,
which Republicans cut from
35 percent to 21 percent,
according to CNN Money.
The Democrats' proposal also
"undoes parts of the new tax
law in order to fund
increased infrastructure

spending."

Woods said that when the
Black Press informs the com-
munity, Black voters can hold
legislators and policymakers
accountable.

Woods said that with feder-
al, state, and local funding,
more than one trillion dollars
will be spent on fixing
bridges, highways and roads,
building pipelines and
upgrading the country's en-
ergy grid. The Democrats' plan
also promised cheaper fuel
and greater access to high-
speed Internet in rural areas.

"That's about one trillion
dollars that you're going to
pay for," said Woods, refer-
ring to taxpayers. "We need to
ensure that we're participat-
ing."

Woods continued: "Our
communities are, very often,
not at the table and not repre-
sented and miss the moment
to impact the legislation. So,
when you look at the Black
Press and the opportunity to
get that message out about
the importance of policy-
making in the energy indus-
try-that's huge."

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ingredients on hand.



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flyer or recipe ingredients.

HOW  REFRESHING



STATE BRIEFS

COMPILED BY CASH MICHAELS

ST. AUG STUDENT REMAINS IN CRITICAL CONDITION AFTER SHOOTING

[COLUMBIA, S.C.] A St. Augustine's University student remains in critical con-

dition with a serious spinal injury in a Columbia hospital after he was one of three innocent bystanders shot Saturday evening in the Five Points section of the city.

Howard Boone, Jr., 23, is said to be under sedation after undergoing surgery to the back of his neck where he was shot. Boone, a member of the campus ROTC, and a criminal justice major. His mother says he has been in the US Army Reserves since

2013, and plans to seek a commission as a US Army officer after he graduates in 2019.

The alleged shooter, Arthur Jones, Jr., 22, has been charged with three counts of attempted murder. One of the other three victims was shot in the face.

FOUR-YEAR-OLD RECOVERING AFTER POLICE DOG ATTACKS HER

[SHELBY] A four-year-old

child remains in the hospital after being attacked by a police dog over the weekend while Shelby police were chasing a suspect. Little Karmen Wilson happened to be in a car when the fleeing suspect opened the door, the K-9 dog to attack her, biting into her body. Karmen was in surgery Monday for reconstructive surgery. Shelby police justify the use of the K-9, saying that the suspect had multiple felony

warrants. But community leaders counter that a police dog should not have been used. Little Karmen's family is expected to file a lawsuit.

NO MORE IN-TOWN ALLIGATOR HUNTING IN BELVILLE

[BELVILLE] No more alligator hunting in the Brunswick County town of Belville, by order of the town commissioners. Why?

Town leaders were concerned that the hunting of female alligators would hurt the overall gator population. Alligator hunting in the state is by permit only. The NC Wildlife Resources Commission has approved an alligator management plan, establishing a one month hunting season from September 1 to October 1. Alligator hunters are allowed to kill only one alligator per season.

RESEGREGATING
Continued from Page 1

Indeed, many critics of the GOP efforts to even consider breaking up large school districts across North Carolina suggest it's a thinly disguised attempt at resegregation. "What measures do you have in place that would prevent that from happen-

ing, that discriminatory factors would not be the major factors in North Carolina as we move forward to breaking up large school systems," asked outgoing State Sen. Angela Bryant (D-Nash).

According to the National Equity Atlas (NEA), "...one of every three students of color in North Carolina attends a high poverty school," defined as

"...schools in which 75 percent or more of the student body qualifies for federal free or reduced price lunch." NEA goes on to state that "...concentrated high poverty schools are often the result of economic and racial segregation."

The expanding achievement gap between Black and White students in North Carolina is seen as a direct

result of increasing segregation in the public schools.

"If we do not address the proliferation of high-poverty schools," writes NEA author, Brian Kennedy, "...many of our students will leave high school unprepared for post secondary education and underqualified to participate in the workforce."

According to the "Stymied

by Segregation" report, school districts in New Hanover, Guilford, Mecklenburg and Wake counties, among others, have the largest increase in income based segregation.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg has the most racially segregated school district in North Carolina. Guilford and Forsyth counties are among the ten most segre-

gated school districts in the State.

In closing, the report, in promoting school integration, says, "The State's public schools are becoming increasingly segregated by income, and while the trends in racial school segregation in North Carolina are mixed, the overall level of racial segregation remains far too high."

VIRGO

Continued from Page 1

"This partnership with a university means children will be able to participate in UNCW's MarineQuest and Engineering Expectations

campus, experience Randall Library and attend athletic and cultural events on a college campus," said Donyell Roseboro, associate dean of Teacher Education and Outreach at the Watson College. "Partnerships in the community will help stu-

dents connect what they're learning in the classroom to experiences in the real world. The experiences will help students grow, and set the foundation for students' future success."

Children currently attending or districted to attend

Alderman Elementary, D.C. Virgo Preparatory Academy, Forest Hills Global Elementary, the International School at Gregory, Rachel Freeman School of Engineering, Snipes Academy of Arts and Design, Sunset Park Elementary, Williston Middle

School or Wrightsboro Elementary will receive priority consideration for enrollment at the new D.C. Virgo Preparatory Academy; however, an application is required.

Eligibility criteria for children attending other schools

in New Hanover County can be found on the Virgo website at www.uncw.edu/virgo.

Eligible students will be accepted on a first-come first-served basis until the school reaches capacity of 270 students for the 2018-19 school year.

BARRIERS

Continued from Page 1

in poverty in 2016, compared to just 8.8 percent of Whites.

However, when it comes to unemployment, the gap between Blacks and Whites has actually widened over the past 50 years, EPI researchers found. Whereas the unemployment rate gap between Blacks and Whites

was 4 percent 50 years ago (6.40% to 2.70%), in 2016, it was 5 percentage points (9.79% to 5.02%).

"African-Americans in North Carolina must still confront large economic barriers," confirms Rob Schofield, of NC Policy Watch.

Indeed earlier this year, the NC Budget and Tax Center reported that nationally, while the unemployment rate for Black workers dropped to its

lowest level on record (6.7 percent), "...[in North Carolina] the unemployment rate for Black workers is still 2.3 times higher than that for White workers...according to the latest available data from the third quarter of 2017 on unemployment rates by race and ethnicity in North Carolina.

The January 15, 2018 report continued, "The unemployment rate, a measure of those out of work and look-

ing for work, was 7 percent for Black people in the third quarter of 2017. The last time the State's overall unemployment rate was at 7 percent was in 2013. The persistence of such an elevated unemployment rate has declined from such levels signals the barriers that have remained in place for Black people in particular."

The NCBTC report continued, "The failure of job growth to reach evenly across geographies, the persistence of barriers to employment like the lack of affordable retraining for new careers, and the concentrations of Black workers in the public sector are particular factors explaining unemployment differences in the recent period."

And what about the much hailed economic recovery

that the Trump Administration has touted for the past several months?

"...the supposed recovery has done little to unmake economic systems that disproportionately benefit White people in North Carolina, the NC Budget and Tax Center reported last December, noting that "Recovery has not addressed racial barriers to economic opportunity and prosperity."

BRAZILE

Continued from Page 1

"I've known Donna Brazile for about 40 years and, in 2016, the Democrats couldn't have selected a better person to lead them," said Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., the president and CEO of the NNPA.

Brazile, the veteran political strategist and former chair of the Democratic National Committee, said that the Black Press is the "pulse of the community."

"You are carving out stories that the mainstream [media] won't. You've been at the forefront of change, even

before change was in vogue," Brazile said. "That's why I've always supported the Black Press."

Brazile said she's walked in and out of many campaign headquarters with a simple, yet critical question for those seeking political office: "Have you engaged the Black Press?"

She recalled working for Michael Dukakis during his failed 1988 presidential campaign against George H.W. Bush.

When she realized the former Massachusetts governor had not spoken with or taking out any advertisements in the Black Press,

she stopped working for him.

"I went on strike," said Brazile, adding that Dukakis told her that he was advised that "it was a waste of money to advertise in the Black Press."

"I said, 'Oh, you've won this race? You don't need the Congressional Black Caucus, you don't need the Black Press?'" said Brazile; she convinced Dukakis of the importance of engaging African American-owned media.

"They wound up spending \$10,000 with the Black Press...a pittance," she said. Bush handily defeated Dukakis and Brazile said

that the 2016 election proved a repeat of Dukakis' error: "It's the same type of thinking that cost Hillary Clinton the election. Had they invested [in advertising in the Black Press]-out of the billions they spent-we would be in this room celebrating."

Chavis said that if the Democratic Party had listened to Brazile, they could have won.

This year, Chavis said that the NNPA will lead a massive voter registration drive to add 5 million, new Black voters to the rolls.

"This is our payback year!" Chavis said.

Dorothy Leavell, the chairman of the NNPA, said that

Brazile spent her career advocating for the Black Press and working to help people understand the value of the Black Press.

"[Donna] has run some of the most influential campaigns, including Reverend Jesse Jackson's historical presidential campaign and we could never really repay her for the services she's given to the Black Press," Leavell said.

The best-selling author of "Hacks: The Inside Story of the Break-Ins and Breakdowns that Put Donald Trump in the White House," Brazile has devoted her life to working for progressive change, responsible gover-

nance, and the advancement of all people in a society that's fair and equitable, according to her biography.

"This is another moment in our journey for equality for all," Brazile said. "[The Black Press] should not be marginalized. You've been instrumental and vital, and you understand what's at stake."

Brazile continued: "You're making sure untold stories find themselves in your newspapers and this is a moment when our story needs to be told. We've come a long way and we need your coverage. We especially need the Black Press, now during this crisis."

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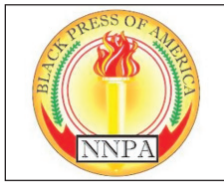
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Register to Vote

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



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

Students of color need to see more people of color That shouldn't be controversial

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

I spent most of my first year of grad school sitting in the back row of class with my hood up. There were nearly 40 of us in the cohort. Two were Black.

My hoodie was an act of silent dissent. Today, I completely understand when my students want to do the same, even with me in front of the room. Academia and public schools are spaces where people of color often feel underrepresented, unwelcome and unheard.

From third grade through high school, I was a student in a series of neighborhood public schools. Afterward, I went to community college and then on to a public liberal arts college where I earned my bachelor's and eventually my master's degree. Each phase in my educational journey shared two characteristics:

The further I progressed, the fewer Black and Brown classmates I had. As I progressed, regardless of the demographics of the student population, the faculty and administrators were uniformly nearly all White.

That needs to change.

An organization I am part of, the National Network of State Teachers of the Year, recently released videos designed to provoke conversations that will lead to this kind of change. Called Courageous Conversations About Race in Schools, the videos provide an effective starting point for real discussions that should be happening in schools-particularly in colleges and universities-across this country.

Research tells us that upwards of 80 percent of U.S. teachers are White. Different research tells us that nearly 80 percent of teachers are female. Obviously, those Venn diagrams overlap in a largely White and female workforce.

At the same time, because of higher birth rates among immigrant populations and the "mysterious phenomenon" of disproportionately high numbers of White children in private schools, the majority of the population of students in public school are students of color, and those numbers are headed even higher, based on enrollment numbers in lower grades.

Schools systems need to do a better job of attracting and retaining effective teachers of color. Students of color need to see more people of color in positions of expertise and authority, and teachers need to be conversant and literate in the cultural traditions that are present in their classrooms. None of these statements should be controversial.

The lack of representation is an equity issue, and to resolve it we can look to lessons elsewhere in our society. During the Vietnam War the Pentagon realized that majority Brown platoons of soldiers and Marines wouldn't take life-or-death orders from a uniformly White officer corps. The Pentagon thus underwent an intentional effort to diversify the officer corps. Since then, the Pentagon has submitted amicus curiae briefs in every major affirmative action case before the U.S. Supreme Court because they understand that representation matters.

TIME FOR A REPRESENTATION DISRUPTION

The word "disruption" gets hurled around frequently in business and increasingly in education. Usually, it's about handing Silicon Valley tech bros a metric-ton of venture capital to sprinkle the #EdTech™ fairy dust of the moment. But I'm going to argue that when it comes to teacher diversity and representation in schools, we actually need disruption.

In my neck of the woods the numbers are especially grim: There are only about 800 Black teachers in all of Washington State. In my 12-year teaching career, I have never worked with another Black male general education teacher.

There's no reason for me to be alone. We see talented students of color all over higher education because universities know how to recruit them. As Jeff Duncan-Andrade says, "Look at any college football or basketball team and tell me colleges don't know how to recruit Black talent. When I was a kid I thought Georgetown was an HBCU."

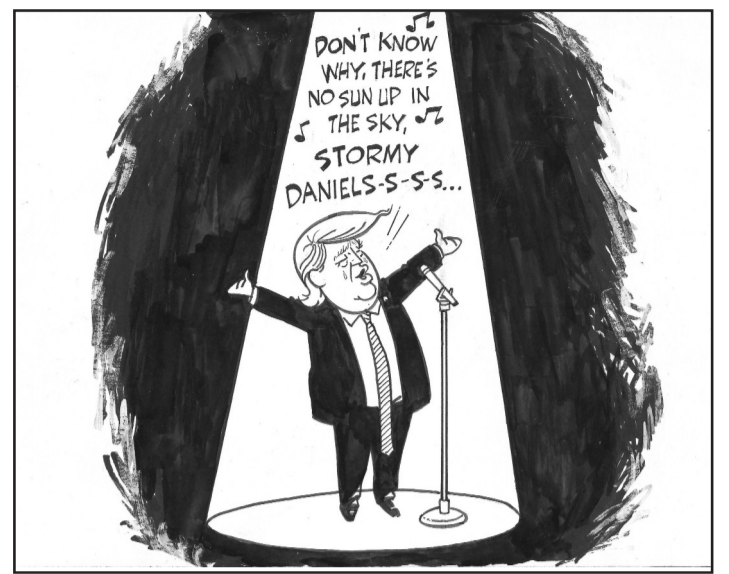
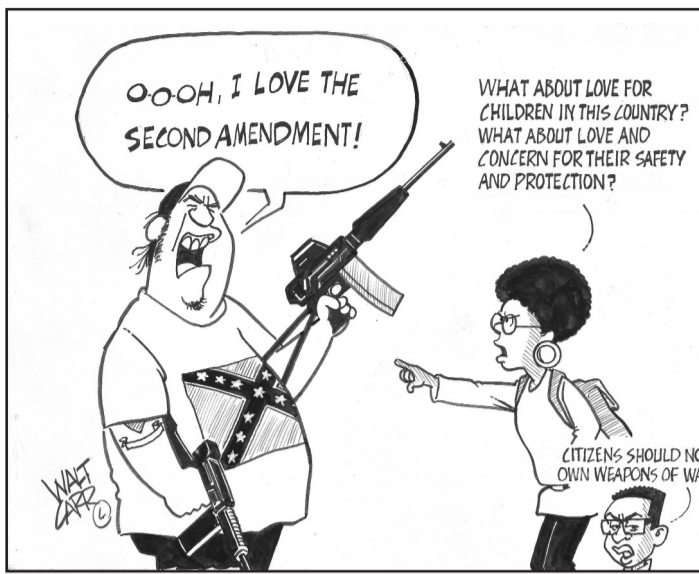
But it can't just be student athletes. We need to bring in students who can increase teacher diversity. It's imperative-and it's well within our power.

Nate Bowling is a high school government teacher in Tacoma, Washington, who was named the 2016 Washington State Teacher of the Year and a finalist for National Teacher of the Year. His blog is called *A Teacher's Evolving Mind*.

VOICE YOUR OPINION!!

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR, TODAY!

Visual Voice



MATTERS OF OPINION

'Scared Negro Disease' remains

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

As another Black History Month has passed, I revisited the relevant speech given by former Atlanta Mayor Maynard Jackson in 2002 while speaking in Portland, Ore., titled, "The Scared Negro Disease."

Mayor Jackson's diagnosis is seemingly cancerous in Black politicians in the Commonwealth of Virginia and in some other areas around the nation, particularly as it relates to the removal of Confederate statues.



Gary Flowers

Mayor Jackson was one of the last "race men" (and women) to be elected mayor of a city. He became the first Black mayor of a city in the American South. He joined the regal ranks of Carl Stokes, Richard Hatcher, Coleman Young, Marion Berry, Harold Washington and Chokwe Lumumba as fearless mayors

who courageously challenged the prevailing powers of their time.

Despite his privileged upbringing, Mr. Jackson was not scared to "call it like it was." Moreover, he used his powers in elective office for all people by enforcing fairness in contracts entered into by the City of Atlanta. Such men and women of courage are needed in Virginia to remove Confederate statues.

The history of the statues is rooted in the "religion" of the Confederacy, which was established to maintain free labor of Africans. The documents of secession from the United States of America by Confederate states are replete with references of "...white supremacy..." of white people and "racial inferiority" asserted for African people.

Initially, after the American Civil War, White southerners were ashamed to identify with the Confederate loss. In the 1880s, the Daughters of the Confederacy began a campaign to insert in school textbooks favorable language of "honor," "nobility" and "courage" ascribed to Confederate soldiers.

In addition, they began to raise money to erect statues of Confederate soldiers and generals. Black leaders, newly elected under federal Reconstruction, were limited in their response to the resurgence of Confederate symbols after the removal of federal troops in Southern states because of the Hayes/Tilden presidential compromise of 1877 (not to mention the ever present threat of death at the hands of the Ku Klux Klan).

Not until Black candidates won a majority on Richmond's City Council in 1977 did Chuck Richardson, Maynard Jackson's brother-in-law, call for the removal of the statues. Some would ask: Why challenge pieces of bronze? Who cares?

If the Confederate statues were merely metal, White nationalists and neo-Nazis would not have armed themselves to protect the statues and, in the process, kill Heather Heyer in Charlottesville last August. Global citizens from Beijing, China, to Budapest, Hungary, to Burundi in East Africa, know the Commonwealth of Virginia because of Charlottesville. The statues are a stain

on our beloved state.

As the Commonwealth of Virginia prepares to commemorate its 400th year, the Confederate statues are a constant reminder that elected officials support "The Commonwealth of the Confederacy" with the tourism motto of "Virginia Is for Haters."

Where are the voices of valor from Black elected officials - and White officials, too? Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was correct with conviction in saying, "No one can ride your back if it is not bent."

I have had the honor of being trained by, of working for and working with fearless men and women who took on - and won - battles of racial respect in their time. With such a background, today's black elected officials at every level of government in Virginia who refuse to take a stand for removal of the Confederate statues, suffer from "The Scared Negro Disease," and it sickens me.

The writer, Gary Flowers, is a former field director for the national Rainbow PUSH Coalition. He is host of "The Gary Flowers Show" on WREJ 990 AM and 101.3 FM.

Natalie Cofield: The living Walker legacy

(Via TriceEdneyWire.com)

Nine years ago, when she was just 26, Natalie Cofield was looking for a mentor. A young woman with entrepreneurship hard-wired into her spirit, she was discouraged

that many did not take her seriously and disheartened that she could not make the connections she needed to further her entrepreneurial mission. So she started reading biographies of businesswomen hoping to read up on the inspiration on the page that she could not find in real life.

Madame C.J. Walker jumped off the page for Natalie, and she found a kindred spirit. Few names are more lauded in Black Women's History than that of Madame C.J. Walker. She was the first African American woman millionaire, it is said. The first to create a multi-level marketing platform. The woman who used herbs, hair knowledge, and a hot comb to create an empire. The woman who funded civil rights activity, and also boldly admonished the men of her era for their exclusionary attitudes.

Because many of her eras dismissed her as a "mere" hairdresser, her business success did not get the attention it deserved. Thus, she disrupted Booker T. Washington's National Negro Business League Convention in 1912 by demanding the microphone. She boldly told the gathered men that she "promoted

myself" from the washtub to the kitchen to manufacturing. "I have built my own factory on my own ground," she told the National Negro Business League. Natalie Cofield could not have found more fitting inspiration.

Natalie Madeira Cofield founded Walker's Legacy (<https://www.walkerslegacy.com>) to fill the gap she found when she looked for mentors and connections. It started as a quarterly lecture series and has evolved to "a digital platform for the professional and entrepreneurial multicultural woman. We exist to inspire, equip, and engage through thought-provoking content, educational programming, and a global community." The for-profit platform is the wave of the future, as imagined by a millennial businesswoman who is committed, in the words of the late Ron Brown, to "doing well and doing good."

gy and her acumen."

She was "a standout" as a Black Chamber exec, Johns recalls. She expects Natalie to be a "transformative leader who will build the infrastructure to provide Black businesswomen with their rightful place in the economy. Like A'lelia Bundles, Marie Johns is an Indianapolis native who grew up appreciating Madame C.J. Walker's legacy. But like Cofield and Bundles, Johns places the legacy in a contemporary context. "Black women open businesses more rapidly than other groups," the Obama appointee shared. "We need the kinds of support that organizations like Walker's Legacy provides."

A quick peek at the Walker's Legacy website makes it clear that Natalie Cofield is building a Black business women's community. The organization, which has grown from a one-person operation to four full-time employees, a number of consultants, and directors in Atlanta, Detroit, Chicago, New York, Houston, and other cities. The website gets around 40,000 unique views each month, and the number is growing. It's networking events sell out.

In addition, Cofield created the Walker's Legacy Foundation, providing entrepreneurial training to young girls, low-income women, and single moms. Last fall, the organization collected business suits for Howard University students to wear for job interviews. Cofield fully expects that the women who work with the Walker's Legacy Foundation will become members or supporters of Walker's Legacy.

"We are a go-to organization for women of color who

are looking for motivation,

connection, education, personal finance and career advice," says Cofield. With a growing membership base of highly educated (48 percent have a master's degree or more) enterprising young women (average age of 32) Cofield has her finger on the future of Black women's entrepreneurship.

If you want to enjoy Madame C.J. Walker's legacy, you can visit the Walker Legacy Center, the national landmark to which the Lily Foundation has just committed \$15 million to renovate the space that was part of the original Walker company office. Or you can peruse the Walker papers, now donated to Indiana Historical Society. Villa Lewaro, the Madame Walker estate, has been restored and is part of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. It is a monument to the spirit and tenacity of Black women's entrepreneurship.

You can also celebrate Madame Walker's life and legacy by simply checking out the Walker's Legacy website and joining the Walker's Legacy community. When asked what she is most proud of about her work, Natalie Cofield says that she is proud that she never gave up on her vision, and that she put her whole heart into the work. She sounds like her mentor, Madame C.J. Walker, who said that steadfastness and persistence are the keys to success.

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

BLACK UNEMPLOYMENT REDUCED

Businesses added 313,000 new jobs in February

BY FREDERICK H. LOWE

SPECIAL TO THE TRICE
EDNEY NEWS WIRE
FROM NORTHSTARNEWS
TODAY.COM

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - The nation's businesses added 313,000 new jobs in February, cutting the unemployment rate for black men and black women.

The overall unemployment rate for blacks was 6.9 percent in February compared to 7.5 percent in January.

Although the jobless rate for African Americans dropped significantly, it was still much higher than the rate for whites, which was 3.7 percent, and for Asians, which was 2.9 percent, and for Hispanics, which was 4.9 percent.

The jobless rate for black men 20 and older dropped to 5.9 percent in February compared with 7.5 percent in January, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

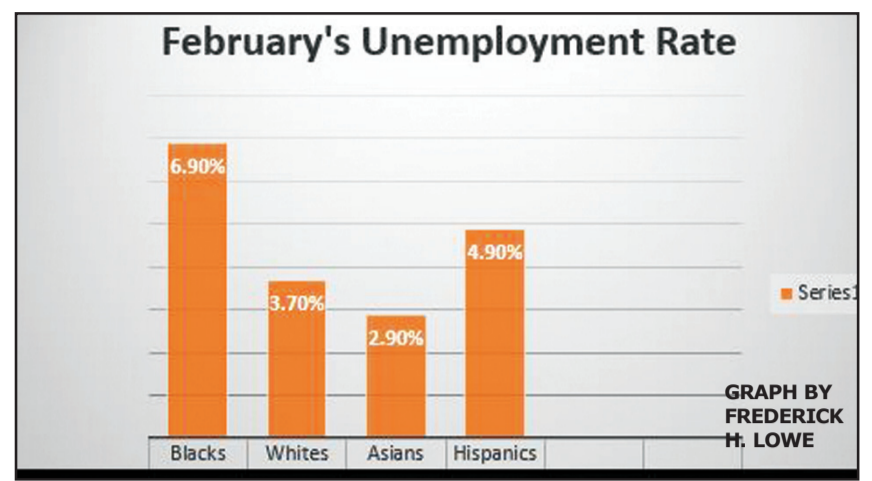
The unemployment rate for African-American women 20 and older fell to 6.2 percent in February

compared with 6.6 percent in January, BLS reported.

In 2016, there were 19.6 million blacks in the labor force, according to BLS. African American's annual growth rates in the population and in the labor force are projected to be slower over the 2016-2026 decade than over the four previous decades.

Employment rose in construction, retail trade, professional and business services, manufacturing, financial activities and mining.

The nation's overall unemployment rate remained at 4.1 percent.



DeVos gets pushback on attempt to preempt state consumer protection

BY CHARLENE CROWELL
OF THE CENTER FOR
RESPONSIBLE LENDING

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - Beginning with a controversial nomination that ended in a tie-breaking Senate confirmation vote and continuing throughout her tenure as Education Secretary, Betsy DeVos has faced unceasing criticism. While Administration officials would be inclined to give her the benefit of the doubt, many across the country would argue that she is not serving the public's interests.

A recent interview on CBS' 60 Minutes, provided an opportunity to address the nonstop criticism before a national audience. Instead, it prompted a new wave of critiques from viewers and news outlets alike. More important than these recent headlines, however, is the Department's attempt to stop states from holding student loan servicers and collectors accountable.

Claiming that state con-

sumer protection laws "undermine" federal regulator requirements, a non-binding memo is yet another assault on the 44 million Americans who together struggle with a still-growing \$1.5 trillion in student debt.

It was about this time last year that Secretary DeVos withdrew three memos that would have required loan servicers, in their renegotiated contracts, to provide more intensive "high touch" servicing for borrowers threatened with default. Then late in the summer of 2017, she withdrew inter-agency working agreements between the Department and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) commonly known as Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs).

Prior to her joining the Education Department, these same MOUs led to a series of major enforcement actions against for-profit colleges like Corinthian and ITT Tech, as well as the nation's largest stu-

dent loan servicer, Navient. With rollbacks in oversight and enforcement, the Education Secretary must think the department is doing a great job serving student loan borrowers that states should just butt out.

A new departmental memo claims as much. In response, Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Healey, who filed a lawsuit earlier this month that alleged overcharges to students by the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency was just as direct as she was quick to speak up. "Secretary DeVos can write as many love letters to the loan servicing industry as she wants, I won't be shutting down my investigations or stand by while these companies rip off students and families," Healey said in a statement to The Intercept. "The last thing we need is to give this industry a free pass while a million students a year are defaulting on federal loans."

Thank goodness for state AGs like Healey. Federal

enforcement of consumer protection is currently at a real low. When Mick Mulvaney was named Acting CFPB Director, a change of direction from consumer enforcement to education and information was promptly announced with a series of more changes. In Mulvaney's view, CFPB would no longer use aggressive enforcement to hold financial service providers accountable. On his watch, consumers have basically been told not to expect much from CFPB, while businesses have been catered to and even asked to advise Mulvaney and company of what appropriate regulation looks like.

So, if the Department of Education is not going to work with CFPB to resolve complaints and CFPB is not interested in consumer enforcement, why try to tie the hands of states who only seek to protect their own residents? Whitney Barkley-Denney, a policy counsel with the Center for Responsible Lending, ad-

ressed the impacts to consumers of color: "Due to racial disparities in income and wealth, the consumers hardest hit by these debts are consumers of color. While the federal government continues to find ways to placate these companies, states are ready and willing to serve the best interests of borrowers and taxpayers."

The National Governors Association (NGA) agrees with Barkley-Denney. In a related statement, the NGA said, "Last week's declaration on student loan servicing from the U.S. Department of Education seeks to preempt bipartisan state laws, regulations and 'borrower bills of rights' currently in place and under consideration in more than 15 states.... States have stepped up to fill the void left, we believe, by the absence of federal protections for student loan borrowers, from potential abusive practices by companies servicing student loans."

Randi Weingarten, President of the American

Federation of Teachers was even more candid. "With this move, she [Secretary DeVos] has castrated any state legislators and attorneys general from providing meaningful oversight of student loan services, yet she continues to fail to do so herself," said Weingarten. In 2017, a CFPB report showed that during the past five years, more than 50,000 student loan complaints were filed. Additionally, more than 10,000 other related debt collection complaints were filed on both private and federal student loans. Where these complaints originate is equally eye-opening. In just one year, from 2016 to 2017, the growth in the number of student loan complaints exceeded 100 percent in 11 states: Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, North Carolina, South Carolina, Pennsylvania, Texas, Washington State and West Virginia. It's enough to make one wonder, "Who is our federal government actually serving?"



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New Hanover County

The New Hanover NAACP monthly meeting is Thursday, March 22nd at 7:00 p.m. at St. Stephens AME Church, 501 Red Cross Street, Wilmington. Information regarding vital community and state issues will be on the agenda, as well as upcoming New Hanover branch events. Members and friends are encouraged to attend. For more information, call 910-765-0102 or email nhcnaacp@gmail.com.

Community Briefs

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

Dottie's Beauty Court Presents their Customers and Family APPRECIATION Week

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HOMETOWN NEWS FROM BRUNSWICK COUNTY

Many dangerous things happening in today's society

Living in today's society, we readily realize that there are far too many dangerous and harmful situations going on. For example, the lack of school safety is out of control. There have been too many instances of the killing of innocent children in the school setting. Most recently, seventeen students and staff were allegedly shot to death by a former student who had been expelled from the same school, Marjory Stoneman High School, in Parkland, Florida. There seem is not enough being done to keep this from happening again. For this reason, many school children still go to school in fear each day, and parents reluctantly send their children to school, all the while fearing for their safety. Parents and students are worried about the students'



Verniece Stanley

safety on the school buses and at school. This should not be true! There has to be a better way! A change needs to be made!

There is a need to spend more money on safety around us, including school safety. Necessary training needs to be provided for all involved in keeping our students and staff safe in the school environment. This needs to be done in all states, and North Carolina should be no exception. We must do all we can to avoid a repeat of the incident in Parkland, Florida.

Even though many schools are closed for the summer, we still need to make every effort to protect our children at all times. We cannot afford to overlook their safety at any time. As many people as possible need to join in the fight to advance the movement toward better gun control and other safety programs for all people across our State and elsewhere. We have the freedom of speech and must speak the truth whenever it is necessary. Much has been

sacrificed! Many lives have been lost that we might have the right to stand for truth and righteousness, and truth and righteousness will stand and win in the end. Such organizations as the NAACP and others have been dedicated to the struggle for equality in civil and human rights for years. By the undying efforts of such groups, all peoples have the freedom to exercise our God given right to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

On a lighter note, I must share a word regarding a situation which was not harmful at all but a happy one. Mr. Lynwood Hagans, of Bolivia, was honored with an eightieth birthday celebration! What an honor and what a blessing! It was held on Saturday, March 10, 2018, at Town Creek Park Community Building, 6420 Ocean Highway E., Winnabow, N. C. 28479.

It was a very happy occasion for him. Many family members and friends came from miles around to share in the celebration. They came

from various states, including, of course, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Texas, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York.

All were happy to be there to join in the joy of the celebration and honor Mr. Hagans and help him celebrate this special milestone in his life! To God be the glory!

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.

GET THAT DEED AND FLIP THOSE KEYS!

First steps to homeownership

When you've finally made up your mind, you need to position yourself not to fall into some of the 1st-time buyer's traps by learning what to and not do. The 3 best steps in doing that and purchasing your home are 1) Homebuyer Education 2) Obtaining Mortgage Loan Approval 3)

Hiring a Realtor. These 3 steps are not necessarily listed in order but they all work together for your good and your best chance of having a

smooth transaction. This week, let me start by sharing insight into the HOMEBUYER EDUCATION. This class best gives the knowledge needed to move from being a tenant to being the responsible party for all needs in the property. As a tenant, you are used to picking up the phone and calling the landlord when something goes wrong. As a homeowner, just pick up the phone and call yourself, lol. You alone will handle what's needed so wisdom is to learn as much as possible about how best to care, protect and gain equity in your property.

In Wilmington, there are several free 1-day classes that happens monthly and

also online class if that better fits your scheduling. You will receive a certificate of completion for either version. This certificate opens up more types of 1st time home loans for you to choose from. These classes are very good in covering every area of the process. From what lenders expect you to have in order when applying for a loan, what to look out for when searching for a home, how to budget and create savings, how to maintain the home, how you can ask sellers to pay some of your home purchasing expenses, how taxes and insurance are collected and so much more.

I'm a huge advocate for the "more you know, the more

you'll know when something isn't right". Too many have fell victim of not knowing what they were doing and unfortunately, everyone does not look out for your best interest, even when they've been hired to do so. Protect yourself and your family by arming yourself with the knowledge to make 1 of the most important business and personal decisions you'll ever make. Contact me for a current list of local organizations that offer the Free 1-day classroom and online homebuyer education classes. Until next week.

Brenda Dixon, Dixon Realty Since 1991, 27 yrs F/T expertise. Brenda@getthat-deed.com. 910-262-4836.



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WILMINGTON, NC // APRIL 11-15, 2018

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2018 EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

QUEEN'S CORONATION - FREE
 Riverfront Park | 3:00 PM
 Be a part of the tradition as the Queen is officially crowned the North Carolina Azalea Festival Queen!

FESTIVAL WEEKEND

STREET FAIR PRESENTED BY WELLS FARGO - FREE
 Downtown Wilmington
 Enjoy the sights, sounds, and mouth-watering smells of the 2018 Street Fair along the Cape Fear River in historic downtown Wilmington.

THURSDAY, APRIL 12



BILLY CURRINGTON WITH DRAKE WHITE AND THE BIG FIRE AND KENTON BRYANT
 The Main Stage | 7:00 PM
 Billy Currington's latest album bears the breezy title Summer Forever, but the talented Georgia native has spent more than a decade in the spotlight proving he's truly a man for all seasons.

FRIDAY, APRIL 13



38 SPECIAL
 The Main Stage | 7:00 PM
 After more than three decades together, 38 SPECIAL continue to bring their signature blast of Southern Rock to over 100 cities a year.

SEE ALL EVENTS AT NCAZALEAFESTIVAL.ORG!

SATURDAY, APRIL 14



LUDACRIS WITH CHILDIRISH MAJOR
 The Main Stage | 7:00 PM
 The multitalented CHRIS "LUDACRIS" BRIDGES can best be described as remarkable. Ludacris has sold over 19.5 million units in the United States, and approximately 7 million overseas.

Wilmington Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. presents 68th Annual Jabberwock



LITTLE MISS JABBERWOCK
MADelyn PURDIE
PARENTS:
GARRICK AND
JAMEKA PURDIE



KATERIA PETERS
PARENTS:
WILLIAM AND
DEBRA GIBBS



KE'ARI ALSTON
PARENTS:
HARDIE BALLARD, III
AND KENYETTA ALSTON



BROOKLYN MOORE
PARENTS: ALPHONSO
AND ALLIENE MOORE



KALEAH PETERS
PARENTS: WILLIAM
AND DEBRA GIBBS



KALAIA PETERS
PARENTS: WILLIAM
AND DEBRA GIBBS



KYLIE GALLOWAY
PARENTS:
ISIAH STONEAND
CRYSTEL GALLOWAY



NATALIE LEWIS
PARENTS:
ANTONIO AND
MADELINE LEWIS



MISS JABBERWOCK PRINCESS
SAMANTHA JOHNSON
PARENTS:
CHRISTOPHER AND
SILVEA JOHNSON



AHMANI MAPSON
PARENTS:
WALTER MAPSON, JR.
AND
KAYLA STACKHOUSE



MIKENZIE WALLACE
PARENTS:
MICHAEL AND
KIMBERLY WALLACE



ANAYAH JAMES
PARENTS: FREDDIE
AND
ALYCIA JAMES



GABRIEL BALDWIN



XAVIER BALLARD



CHRISTOPHER BRAXTON



KENNETH BRAXTON



CAMRAUN BROWN



ISIAH MCFADDEN



CLAUDE ROBINSON, IV



NOEL SMITH



JUSTIN SCOTT

BY JOYCE PARKER-HEWETT, PH.D.
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Wilmington Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. will present the 68th Annual Jabberwock at Snipes Academy of Arts and Design on Saturday, March 31, 2018 at 7 p.m. Featured in the pageant are the queens, contestants, and young gentlemen as Jabberwock presents "Enchanted Elegance: The Magic of Diamonds and Pearls."

Mackenzie Nelson, a young talented dancer will play the title of Jabberwocky, the mystical character from Alice in Wonderland from which the pageant name is derived. The guest vocalist, Malik Shaw will serenade the queens and her court; and Sydney Watkins is a featured guest artist. The funds from Jabberwock is used to give



JOSIAH STONE



XAVIER TERRELL

scholarships to high school seniors from Brunswick, New Hanover, and Pender counties. The funds also aid the Wilmington Alumnae to support the Five-Point Thrust of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and community activities and projects.

Highlights of the pageant include the crowning of Little Miss Jabberwock, Madelyn Purdie; Samantha Johnson, Jabberwock Princess; and Miss Jabberwock, Ahmani Mapson. The public is invited to attend.

UNCW **NHCS**

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UNCW-LED SCHOOL WILL OPEN IN JULY! APPLY NOW!

UNCW will open a public school in July in partnership with New Hanover County Schools and the D.C. Virgo Community. The new D.C. Virgo Preparatory Academy will serve students in grades K-8. The school offers a family-engaged environment where the classroom extends beyond the school to include community-based, collaborative learning. Apply now for the 2018-19 school year.

STUDENTS AT THE FOLLOWING SCHOOLS WILL RECEIVE PRIORITY CONSIDERATION FOR ENROLLMENT:

- Alderman Elementary
- D.C. Virgo Preparatory Academy
- Forest Hills Global Elementary
- The International School at Gregory
- Rachel Freeman School of Engineering
- Snipes Academy of Arts and Design
- Sunset Park Elementary
- Williston Middle School
- Wrightsboro Elementary

For more information, visit UNCW.EDU/VIRGO

Application required. Eligibility criteria for children attending other schools in New Hanover County can be found on the Virgo website. Eligible students will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis until the school reaches capacity of 270 students for the 2018-19 school year.

All correspondences/funds directed to the Williston Alumni Association should be sent to WAA, P.O. Box 2, Wilmington, NC, 28402 instead of to Barbara Shannon Lewis at 919 Ann Street. If you need to talk to a member of the organization or drop off checks, please contact Barbara Adger DeVane at (910)395-4616 or Linda Pearce Thomas at (910)232-8310.

New Hanover County

Church Women United will hold their Spring Forum on Friday, April 6, 2018. Coffee and sign in starts at 9:30 a.m. and the forum begins at 10:00 a.m. It will be held at Winter Park Presbyterian Church, 4501 Wrightsville Ave. The guest speaker will be Maria Age, Housing Counselor of Cape Fear Regional Community Development Corporation. If you are someone you know is having mortgage issues this is a forum you do not want to miss. Contact Angel Dualeh at 910-833-0167 for more information.

Religious Briefs

St. Mark Episcopal Church, 600 Grace St., will hold their Holy Week Services as follows: Palm Sunday/Processional on Sunday, March 25th at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, March 28th at 5:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross; Thursday, March 29th at 6:00 p.m. Maundy; Friday, March 30th at 12:00 p.m. Good Friday; Saturday, March 31st at 7:00 p.m. The Great Easter Vigil and Sunday, April 1st at 8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer/Communion and at 11:00 a.m. Easter Eucharist.

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, Bladenboro, NC, 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 910-540-4250. Also Local Missionary President, Sis. Tonya Sprauve & the Officers and Members solicit your support and donations to attend their 2nd Annual Missionary Prayer Breakfast on Saturday April 7th at 9:00 a.m. in the Church Fellowship Hall. A full breakfast will be served. Theme: "Missionaries...Keeping the Unity of the Spirit Together"! Scripture: Ephesians 4:11-21. The special guest speaker will be Apostle Cynthia Powell, of Valour Ministries of Grace, Inc. Wilmington, N.C. For more information for support & donations, please contact our Local President Sis. Tonya Sprauve at 910-538-5543 or 910-540-4406.

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

Compiled By Wilmington Journal Staff

OBITUARIES

Continued from page 9

Iris Turner

Iris Turner graveside services will be held 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 24, 2018 at Pine Forest Cemetery. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Virginia McMillian

TLira Burns and her children, TYsin and T'mara Ward; three nieces and nephews who also grew up in the house, LaKeisha, TaCarlos and Calvin Miller; uncle and aunt, James Henry Clay of Philadelphia, PA and Elizabeth Clay-Keeler of Wilmington, NC and a host of other relatives and friends. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Virginia McMillian died Wednesday, March 21, 2018. Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced later by John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home. A Service of John H. Shaw's Son Funeral Home.

Nesbit guest Evangelist

Pastor Eria Nesbit of New Covenant Holiness Church will be the guest Evangelist at 4:00 p.m. Sunday, March 25, 2018 at Faith Temple Church of God In Christ on 1119 South 4th Street, in Wilmington, NC for their "Evening Glory" Service.

The New Covenant Mass Choir will be singing high praises and the glory of the Lord will fill the Temple. If you're looking for a dynamic Sunday afternoon worship Experience, you are invited to share in this exciting hour of fellowship.

Superintendent Lorenzo Edge is the pastor of Faith



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO PASTOR ERIA NESBIT

Temple Church of God In Christ.

SENIOR CITIZENS' FELLOWSHIP

Seasons of the Soul

BY FANNIE ALLEN AND SHEILA ROSS CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

God has smiled on us once again! The sun was bright, and we, the Senior Citizens' group, were bright as usual. Mr. George Hill greeted us. We opened with "There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood." Our prayer was given by Minister Sharon Pollock. Next we sang "The Lord Will Make a Way Somehow." Mrs. Gladys Taylor said how great it was to be here today.

Our speaker for today was Reverend Dr. Cynthia V. Vaughn. She opened with a

prayer. She shared with us that there are four seasons in a year. She said that there are also seasons of the soul. These seasons are dark sometimes. She told us about a conversation between a young boy and an old man who had some things in common. We all go through all the seasons as well. The time of the year does not make a difference. The winter season might bring grief. Every season has its meaning, and each season has its reason. Each season is a time when something changes. Seasons also determine a time to plant. We find ourselves para-

lyzed by our seasons. A winter season is a depressive time, not depression. We should not self medicate. There are losses that are not recognized as a loss. We should enjoy the seasons of joy. Look for the good. We should pay attention to the seasons of the soul that can hit at anytime.

She also gave us information on how important it is to have a living will and the power of attorney. Dr. Vaught was thanked for such a great message and information.

Minutes of the last meeting were read. There were no visitors. Roll call was done

and trip money was collected. Mrs. Ann Haskins gave her sick report and stated that we should continue to pray for them. Announcements were read and the callers' report was given. Mrs. Mary Martin was the winner. Our happy time with smiles was given by Mrs. Mary Martin.

Mr. William Sidberry read the poem by Helen Steiner Rich, "Old Things End So New Things Can Begin." Mrs. Julia Bibbs read us a laughter poem and then we formed our circle sang "Bind Us Together." Prayer was given by Mr. William Sidberry. There were 57 present.

SENIOR MOMENTS

Pick up the phone and call somebody!

My Fellow Citizens:

In this column, I have often said that we need to widen the doors of the church. However, I have now come to realize that the church cannot do it all. We need a gathering place where we can express our concerns about the future of our community and country. The crime rate is growing. The police cannot do it all,



Ruth Johnson

and neither can the parents. However, if we could come together in a community center, we could do great things. So let's get together and establish a Christian Playhouse, one where we could have speakers from all areas, dealing with any subject.

A doctor could speak on anything from AIDS to Alzheimer's and then take questions from the audience. A teacher could talk about problems at school. A police officer could tell us how we can support their efforts to keep the community safe. We should have as much respect

for our police officers as we do for those serving in the military.

Besides public speakers, we need a place that would draw young people in, a place for entertainment. I have several plays on my bookshelf that could be performed in a Christian playhouse. We could bring people together in a way in which the church never could. The people would be more relaxed and might even serve popcorn.

Maybe we could never widen the doors of the church, but the Christian community can come togeth-

er and decide on a building that could be used as a community playhouse on Saturday and still have church on Sunday.

This would give our young people something to do. They might want to sing, dance, recite poetry, or just get acquainted. People of all ages would be coming together as family and friends. When will we ever learn that it does take a village? To get started, just pick up the phone and call somebody!

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

TELL SOMEBODY

The King is Coming

"And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest." St. Matthew 21:9

Hosanna Defined: Save Now We Pray

Psalms Sunday, which is the Sunday before Easter, is one of the most important days in the Christian calendar. It marks the beginning of Holy Week and commemorates the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover. The King is coming!!!



Sylvia Hooper

Psalm Sunday gives the church occasion to reflect on the final week of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ leading up to the crucifixion.. It is a time to prepare our hearts to remember the agony of his Passion and the joy of his resurrection. It is indeed, a time of

rejoicing!! The King is Coming!!!

When Jesus made his entrance into Jerusalem, prophetic fulfillment was taking place. "Tell ye the daughter of Zion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass." Matthew 21:5

These words were witness to the prophetic word spoken by the Prophet Zechariah 9:9, when he spoke the words, "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy king cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass."

"And a very great multitude spread their garments in the way; others cut down branches from the trees, and strawed them in the way. And the multitude that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in

the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest." Matthew 21: 9-10 Hosanna defined, means Save now We Pray!

Psalm 118:25,26 says, "Save now, I beseech thee, O Lord: O Lord, I beseech thee, send now prosperity. Blessed be he that cometh in the name of the Lord: we have blessed you out of the house of the Lord." It's a wonderful thing to know, that people still want to be saved!!!

"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12 "So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." Hebrews 9:28

"For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed." Romans 10:11 "For whosoever shall call upon the name of

the Lord shall be saved." Romans 10:13 Hosanna, Save Now We Pray! Again, I say rejoice, Because The King is Coming! 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!

AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPTIONS & FAIR HOUSING INFORMATION SESSION 04-07-2018 | SATURDAY | NOON - 1 PM PARTICIPATING City of Wilmington AMEZ Housing CDC Cape Fear Habitat for Humanity APRIL IS FAIR HOUSING MONTH Equal access to rental housing and home ownership opportunities is the cornerstone of this nation's federal housing policy. Housing providers who refuse to rent or sell homes to people based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, or disability are violating federal law, and HUD will vigorously pursue enforcement actions against them. SEE YOU THERE! Warner Temple AME Zion Church 620 Nixon Street Wilmington, NC 28401 Call 910.341-7836 for more information!

ON-TIME MINISTRIES, INCORPORATED 416 Crete Drive Wilmington, NC 28403 Phone & Fax: (910) 794-2880 Email: ontimeministries@aol.com A 501(C)3 EVANGELISTIC MINISTRY 2018 ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION GOSPEL MUSIC EXTRAVAGANZA!! Perry Parker & the Jabelairs, Ros'WzC Dancers, New Revival, Sons of God, The Jabelairs, M & K Gospel Singers, Sandhill Men Choir, Mt. Nebo Dance Ministry AND OTHERS WE ARE GONNA HAVE A MIGHTY GOOD TIME CELEBRATING OUR ANNIVERSARY. COME ON OUT AND BE BLESSED WITH THE SOUNDS OF GOOD TOE-TAPPING, FOOT-STOMPING, HAND-CLAPPING, AND SHOUTING GOSPEL MUSIC WITH GROUPS FROM IN AND AROUND THE REGION. SATURDAY APRIL 7, 2018 DOORS OPEN AT 3:30 PM 4:00 PM WHERE: SCOTTISH RITE TEMPLE 1415 SOUTH 17TH STREET WILMINGTON, NC 28401 DOOR PRIZES DONATION: \$15.00 PER TICKET WE THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR SUPPORT! FOR TICKET INFORMATION, CALL 910-232-1811 OR 910-540-3556

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