

The Whittemore

COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

July 2020

In the Aftermath of Major Flooding The Bucksport Community Paused to Recognize and Celebrate Some Future Scholars it Nurtured.



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SEE PAGES 14 & 15 FOR DETAILS

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Circulation

Print and Email



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coverage of happenings of the
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The Northeastern African American Alliance of Chesterfield MB Church and Local Law Enforcement Join Up To Be Proactive

July 2020

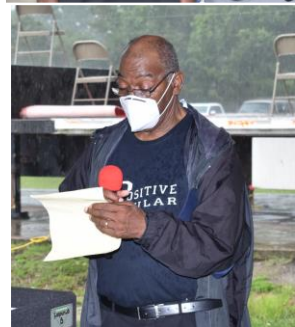
Approximately two hundred people from the Longs, SC and surrounding area heard the call for a rally to solidify and promote strategies for which to be proactive in addressing issues with police brutality and other community relationships with local law enforcement. Most impressive was the number of youth that showed up in spite of the hard rain to be endured.

The rally consisted of representatives from community organizations, politicians, churches and other entities.

County Councilman Orton Bellamy reminded the crowd that they were standing on sacred ground because this is where the first public was built in Little River called Poplar Junior High and Poplar High School in 1926. It was one of the schools built for Black Americans funded by Julius Rosenwald Foundation and matching funds from the Black Community.

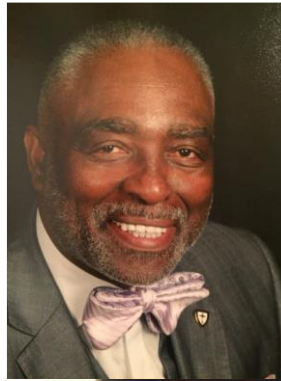
According to Rev. J.R. Matthews, Pastor of Chesterfield MB Church, "Rev. Wallace Evans, Sr. Community Ecumenical Liaison of the Northeastern African American Alliance (NAAA) met with Horry County Chief of Police, Joseph Hill and some of his officers. We also met with Lt. Tommy Dennis of the North Myrtle Beach Police department. We are about being proactive and telling the truth. We are not about bashing anybody. We want to talk about facing the truth with the problems in the African American Community, Police brutality especially with African American men. It is important that we meet the problem face to face. We have to face it to fix it. We must go to the police officers that are patrolling our community and talk with them so we can be on the same team. 99 % of the police officers are good people and they put their lives on the line every day. So we are not here to bash them. We are here to get rid of the bad ones and promote the good ones. It is all about being proactive. So **Teona Grant** came to the NAAA to ask if we could have a peaceful rally. We said yes gladly. We have here today young people from Poplar, St. Paul and all of the area churches. It is all about coming together to deal with this systemic race problem.

Our next steps are many, including meeting with the Police quarterly to continue developing strategies for being proactive."





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California Weighs Overturning 24-Year Ban On AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

A California Senate Bill comes amid fresh discussion about whether institutions should consider race in admissions and hiring. A proposal to repeal California's 24-year-old ban on affirmative action will go before voters in November after it passed the state senate recently.



A proposal to repeal California's 24-year-old ban on affirmative action will go before voters in November after it passed the state senate recently.

The bill would remove rules in California's constitution, passed in 1996, which bar universities and government agencies from giving preferential treatment on the basis of race or sex.

The proposed amendment, known as ACA 5, comes amid a national reckoning on racial injustice, triggered by the killing of George Floyd and other publicized cases of racist violence, and rejuvenates a decades-long conversation about the degree to which colleges and government employers can consider race in admission and hiring decisions.

In an emotional session on the senate floor, in which numerous lawmakers of color recounted personal experiences of discrimination, Steven Bradford, a Democrat from Los Angeles who is black, challenged his white counterparts to count the times they've entered a room in which they were the only members of their race. "I know about discrimination. I live it every day. We live it in this building," Bradford said. "Quit lying to yourselves and saying race is not a factor," he added. "The bedrock of who we are in this country is based on race."

"We are living in a moment when so many are finally opening their eyes to the structural and institutional racism that has burdened the black and brown communities for generations," Lorena Gonzales, the co-author of the bill, said in advance of Wednesday's vote.

Under the governorship of Pete Wilson, who made opposition to affirmative action a centerpiece of his bid for the presidency, California became the first of eight states to ban affirmative action in college admissions. A study published by the Brookings Institution found the states that implemented the ban saw their share of underrepresented students go down in the years that followed.

In California, admissions rates for black and Latino students have dropped since the ban on affirmative action, according to data from the California department of education.

Since 1995, a smaller percentage of all applicants to UC schools have been admitted, as universities didn't expand to keep pace with demand. ***But the number of black and Latino students admitted to UCLA and UC Berkeley dropped by 70% to 75%*** at the two universities, compared to just 35% and 40% for Asian and white applicants. "Race and income overlap, but they're not synonymous", said **Smith Arrillaga**.

"If we were allowed to consider race, we could target funds to black and brown students who need the most support. We could invest in resources like summer bridge programs, which help colleges recruit and retain students of color. Right now we don't have the tools to do that".

It would also help to recruit a more diverse pool of teachers, she said. According to data from the California Department of Education and California Credentialing Commission, more than 250,000 students in California attend schools without a teacher of the same race and more than half of all schools don't have a single black teacher.

"A lot of the pushback to repealing affirmative action has been 'racism doesn't exist.' But recent events surrounding the killing of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor and so many others has made clear that we can no longer pretend racism doesn't exist, and if we want to fight it, we have to use race-conscious policies. That's what ACA 5 does", said Smith Arrillaga.

Now that members of the state senate have ratified ACA 5, it will go before voters as a state ballot measure in November. If approved at the ballot box, colleges and institutions will determine how race will be considered in applications.

Americans have had enough ...

... and are marching for justice in unprecedented numbers. They are responding to generations of police brutality and systemic racism, a desperation fueled by a pandemic and an economic crisis that have hit black Americans disproportionately. A mass movement has come together to say: we've had enough.

It's not just Americans. All over the world, citizens are protesting the marginalization of communities of color. Still, virtually nothing has been done to address racial and economic inequality in decades. Words, yes; action, not so much. Those who have the power to effect meaningful change have failed to do so.

Source: Courtesy of The Guardian

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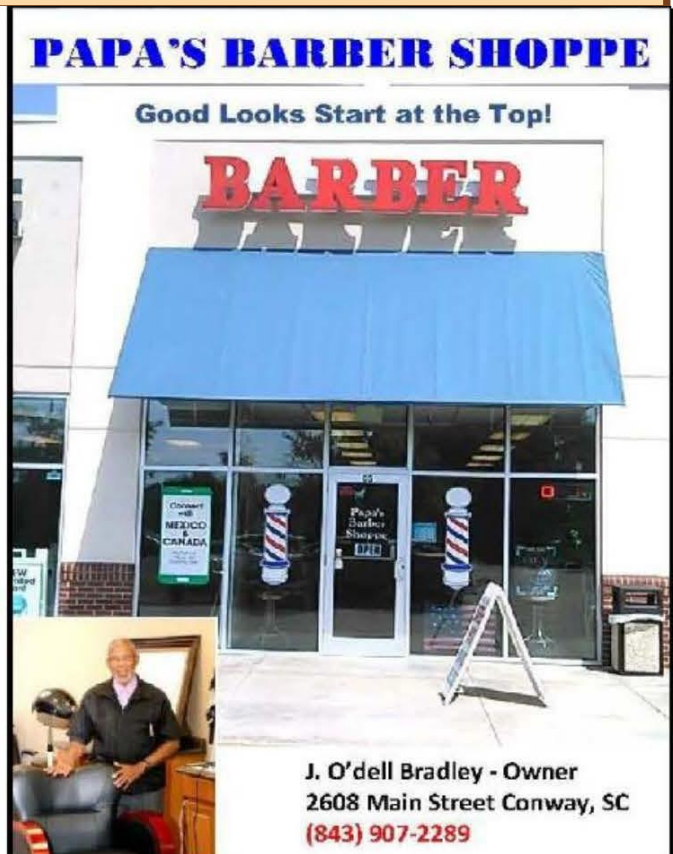
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- Improve public schools
- End systemic racism
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- Strengthen SNAP
- Preserve Social Security
- Strengthen Medicare
- Improve the VA
- Preserve the environment

Republicans

- Whose Lives Matter?
- Lock them up
- "Fine people on both sides"
- Fund private schools
- Ignoring systemic racism
- Refuse to expand Medicaid
- De-fund SNAP
- Slash to fund Trump's debt
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- Deny climate change

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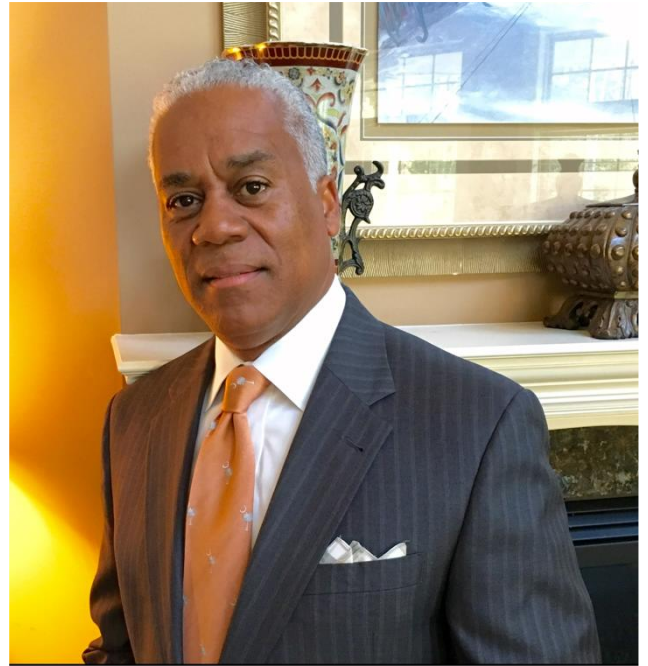
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The Lowcountry's high rate of COVID-19 infections – 325 new confirmed cases were announced today in Charleston County alone, along with 98 in Berkeley County and 63 in Dorchester County – has led to a [new warning level system](#) from the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston.



MUSC President David Cole, M.D., helped lead a Zoom gathering of medical, educational, business and hospitality experts in launching the system. "Our community is now in code orange status, one step away from code red," Cole said during the video news conference. "We're tracking toward a community code red COVID-19 status in late July or early August that would mean significant outbreaks are present and worsening, our testing and contact tracing capacity is strained or exceeded, hospitals are full or almost full and maybe

unable to care for the volume of patients needed. If this happens, businesses would be forced to shut down from a lack of workforce, if not mandated. Children would be unable to safely go back to school this fall. There will be unnecessary death and illness." He's hoping the new Charleston area COVID-19 warning level alert system will help prevent that. It will offer a central source of information that will be updated

every day and shared with the public through newspapers, TV stations and online news sources. The warning levels range from safe green to alarming red. They're based on information from the MUSC COVID-19 Epidemiology Intelligence Project and other public sources such as the [South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control](#).



Henry Taylor, another leader participating in the news conference, made a business case for recognizing the seriousness of COVID in the Low country. He's chairman of the organization [One Region](#), which is offering guidance on how to safely open and run businesses during the pandemic. Taylor's group looks at the virus' impact from a couple of points of view. One involves economic indicators. "As of yesterday, those indicators are heading in the right direction. Whether looking at consumer spending, mobility in our community and unemployment claims. Those numbers are headed in the right direction."

But the group's other point of view involves medical data – and that's a different story. "Those metrics are now flashing, and they're telling us we need to do something. Those indicators are the reason we're here this afternoon," Taylor said.

He and other speakers encouraged people not to waste what the Low country has already gone through financially and socially since the start of the pandemic. If the numbers keep going up, the economic, educational and emotional pain people have endured will be compounded.

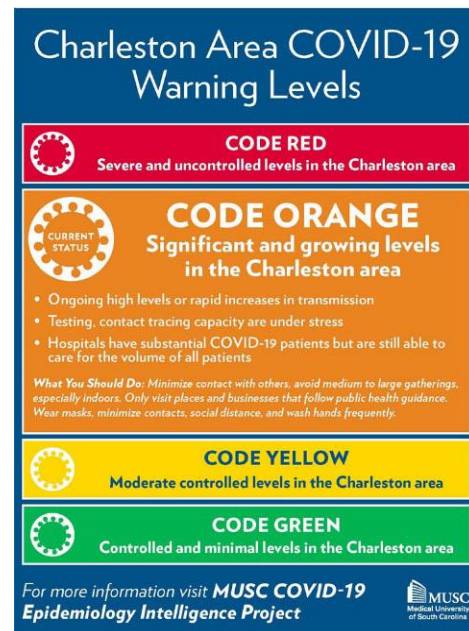
"There are some things we can do as individuals. We've asked our businesspeople to come along, and they have. There are things we can do as individuals to change the course we're on right now when you look at our medical data. Simple things like taking personal responsibility to wear a mask, practicing social distancing, washing our hands frequently and protecting our vulnerable populations," Taylor said.

Representatives from Boeing, South Carolina, and Volvo said the pandemic has already dealt their businesses a substantial blow and encouraged people to listen to what medical experts are saying.

Helen Hill, CEO of the [Charleston Area Convention and Visitors Bureau](#), thanked hospitality and travel industry businesses that are doing everything they can to keep employees and visitors safe. "Sadly, there are some that are not. We need them to act now to be able to safely recover."

Gerrita Postlewait, superintendent of the [Charleston County School District](#), asked the public to consider how the coronavirus is affecting children and parents. "The high infection rate in our area creates more uncertainty every day as we think about how to safely restart schools this fall," she said. "Our children need to get back to the normalcy of schooling both for academic reasons and their social and emotional well-being."

"Charleston has a choice to make. Will we veer off the road and become Houston, Miami or New York?" Cole asked, referring to other areas that are dealing or have dealt with COVID-19 spikes. "If we act now, we can continue to move forward."



BET Founder Robert Johnson Calls For \$14 Trillion of Reparations For Slavery

Robert Johnson, founder of Black Entertainment Television, told CNBC that the U.S. government should provide \$14 trillion of reparations for slavery to help reduce racial inequality. The wealth divide and police brutality against blacks are at the heart of protests that have erupted across the nation following last week's killing of George Floyd during an arrest in Minneapolis.

"Now is the time to go big" to keep America from dividing into two separate and unequal societies, Johnson said on "Squawk Box." "Wealth transfer is what's needed," he argued. "Think about this. Since 200-plus-years or so of slavery, labor taken with no compensation, is a wealth transfer. Denial of access to education, which is a primary driver of accumulation of income and wealth, is a wealth transfer."

Johnson, 74 made history as America's first black billionaire when he sold BET to Viacom in 2001. Shortly after the sale, he started the investment firm The RLJ Cos. He's no longer on the Forbes billionaires list.

Calling reparations the **"affirmative action program of all time,"** Johnson said they would send the signal that white Americans acknowledge "damages that are owed" for the unequal playing field created by slavery and the decades since with a "wealth transfer to white Americans away from African Americans."

"Damages is a normal factor in a capitalist society for when you have been deprived for certain rights," he said. "If this money goes into pockets like the [coronavirus] stimulus checks ... that money is going to return back to the economy" in the form of consumption. There will also be more black-owned businesses, he added. Johnson said the need for reparations has been on his website since last year. "I'm not new to this challenge." He said he's not advocating "more bureaucratic programs that don't deliver and don't perform." He stressed, "I'm talking about cash. We are a society based on wealth. That's the foundation of capitalism." Later on "Squawk Box" Merck Chairman and **CEO Ken Frazier**, who is black, expressed doubts about whether reparations would be possible. "I don't believe we'll be able to get anything like that through our political system." However, he said, "Leaders in the business community have to be a unifying force. They can be a source of opportunity. They can be a source of understanding." "We as business leaders can step up and solve many of these economic problems for people," **Frazier added**, saying that education, particularly financial literacy, is the "great equalizer."

Now is the time to go big, short answers to long horrific questions about the stain of slavery are not going to solve the inequality problem,' Johnson said on CNBC. 'Wealth transfer is exactly what's needed,' Johnson said. 'Think about this. Since 200-plus-years or so of slavery, labor taken with no compensation, is a wealth transfer.

Denial of access to education, which is a primary driver of accumulation of income and wealth, is a wealth transfer.'

Johnson said he believes 'wealth transfer' would help to combat lingering inequalities. *"Is \$14 trillion too much to ask for the atonement of 200 plus years of brutal slavery, de facto and de jure government-sponsored social and economic discrimination and the permanent emotional trauma inflicted upon black Americans by being forced to believe in a hypocritical and unfulfilled pledge that 'all men are created equal?'" Johnson also wrote in a statement on Monday. We know there are starkly different economic realities for Black and white Americans in this country, and solutions have not yet met those realities.*

African American families lag far behind white Americans in all categories of wealth. More than 73 percent of white Americans own homes, while only 44 percent of African Americans do. The median income of a white American family is more than double that of an African American family. White Americans graduate from college at a higher rate than African Americans, which affects African American's ability to gain wealth given that, with a college degree, you're more likely to get a better-paying job. African Americans also lag way behind white Americans in savings for retirement and investments in the stock market. When you see all the lagging statistics between Blacks and whites, you must ask yourself, "Why?"

It is not that whites are more intelligent, morally superior or more industrious than Black Americans, which are the primary sociological attributes that cause people to succeed in life.

African Americans are very industrious: They disproportionately work at some of the toughest and least-rewarding jobs in the country. It's not a lack of morality, as African Americans have a deep moral fiber. They firmly believe in traditional Judeo-Christian morality and can be more conservative than whites in many ways. It's certainly not a lack of patriotism: African Americans are loyal to this country and have fought in our wars when rights for which we were fighting for others were denied to us here.

Source: CNBC June 2020



BET Founder Bob Johnson speaks during a signing event in the Roosevelt Room of the White House.

"Is \$14 trillion too much to ask for the atonement of 200 plus years of brutal slavery, de facto and de jure government-sponsored social and economic discrimination and the permanent emotional trauma inflicted upon black Americans by being forced to believe in a hypocritical and unfulfilled pledge that 'all men are created equal?'"

Settles With Comcast to Carry its Channels

Entertainment Studios founder and owner Allen expanded into local television in 2019, striking a \$165 million deal in May and a \$290 million deal in October to buy 15 stations. Also in May, he joined forces with Sinclair Broadcast Group as an equity partner in the \$10.6 billion acquisition of the Fox RSNs. Allen continues to diversify his holdings under the Entertainment banner, which include the Weather Channel and seven other niche channels. The company's film arm, Entertainment Studios Motion Pictures, consistently delivers solid returns for modestly budgeted genre fare ("47 Meters Down" and "Chappaquiddick"). In June, the Supreme Court agreed to hear arguments in Comcast's appeal of Allen's 2015 \$20 billion racial discrimination lawsuit against the company.



Byron Allen and **Comcast** have settled the long-running racial discrimination lawsuit over Allen's cable channels that went all the way to the Supreme Court last November.

Comcast has reached a deal with Allen's Entertainment Studios to pick up three of his cable channels — Comedy.TV, Recipe.TV and JusticeCentral.TV. *The pact also amends the terms of Comcast's existing deal to carry Weather Channel, which Allen's company acquired in 2018.* It also covers the retransmission consent rights to 14 local TV stations that Allen Media Group has acquired during the past few months.

Allen filed a \$20 billion lawsuit against the media giant in 2015, asserting that the media giant violated civil rights law by refusing to carry his portfolio of seven niche cable channels. Comcast vehemently denied that race played any role in its decision.

"We're excited to begin a new phase of partnership with Comcast and Xfinity, including the distribution of our cable channels for the first time on Xfinity platforms," said Byron Allen, founder, chairman and CEO of Entertainment Studios/Allen Media Group.

Allen declined to elaborate on the matter. It's likely that the settlement included a confidentiality agreement. "We are pleased to have reached this multifaceted agreement that continues our long

relationship with The Weather Channel while bringing Xfinity customers additional content. We look forward to an ongoing partnership," said **Bec Heap**, senior VP of video and entertainment for Comcast Cable.

The carriage pact also calls for Comcast to launch the free Weather Channel app Local Now on its Xfinity and Flex platforms and the WeLoveWeather.TV website on an authenticated basis. Comcast will also have VOD rights to the three new channels.

Allen's suit maintained that Comcast had violated a federal civil rights law from 1866 designed to ensure that Black people had the same right to make and enforce contracts as white people. The suit asserted that because race was involved in Comcast's decision making, the cable giant had violated the law known as Section 1981.

Last November, attorneys for Allen and Comcast squared off in the nation's high court to argue over a narrow issue in the case involving the whether race was the sole factor in Comcast's rejection of Allen or whether it was a "motivating factor." Allen's team argued for the "motivating factor" standard. The significance applied to the burden of proof in the case, which would have been lighter on Allen's team had the justices agreed that the probing the "motivating factor" standard was right test for the case.

In March, the court ruled 9-0 in favor of Comcast's argument on the interpretation question and sent the lawsuit back to a lower court to be refiled. It's understood that settlement discussions between Comcast and Allen had picked up steam even before the Supreme Court decision was issued.

Allen also has a \$10 billion lawsuit pending against cable giant Charter Communications. The litigation against a prominent Black media entrepreneur has become a PR nightmare for Comcast and Charter, particularly at a time of heightened sensitivity to racial justice concerns. Allen previously settled litigation against DirecTV that also led to the Entertainment Studios' channels being picked up by the satcaster.

Allen's suit maintained that Comcast had violated a federal civil rights law from 1866 designed to ensure that Black people had the same right to make and enforce contracts as white people. The suit asserted that because race was involved in Comcast's decision making, the cable giant had violated the law known as Section 1981.



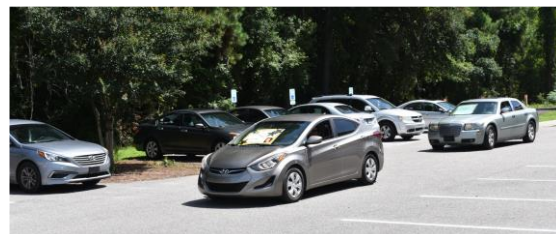
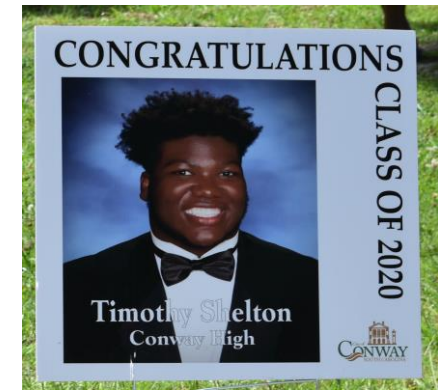
In the Aftermath of Major Flooding The Bucksport Community Recognizes Their New principal and Celebrate Future Scholars

As the 2019-2020 school year began to come to a halt, it became glaringly obvious to everyone that the Class of 2020 would not have the traditional senior year experiences like all the other graduating classes before them. Therefore, a handful of women from the Bucksport community decided to come together and plan something special specifically for the graduates of their community. These ladies wanted the seniors of this unique graduating year to feel special and appreciated. So, a graduation parade was organized. In the midst of the organization, the Bucksport community received another reason to celebrate and be proud. Horry County Schools named **Ms. Demetrius Williams**, as the head principal of Early College High School. Ms. Williams grew up and has lived the majority of her adulthood in the Bucksport community. So, the committee decided to honor and celebrate Ms. Williams as well. The Bucksport 2020 Graduation Parade was a huge success due to the family, friends, and community members who came out to celebrate their very own. It was also a great success due to the generosity of community members, community churches, community organizations, and local politicians who donated cash, gift cards, and goodie bags all in an effort to make our Bucksport graduates know how proud of them we are.

Committee Members : Marlo Frazier, Betty Gause, Joyce Coefield, Gwen Mishoe, Tasheema Kelly, and Yaminah Jordan



Ms. Demetrius Williams (Above Left) was honored, as she made Bucksport proud by being named head principal of Early College High School.
Kudos to the Committee Members (Above Right) who coordinated this fantastic celebration and recognition for these well-deserved recipients !!



From the Family of Miriam Graham Rogers

At a time like this we are helpless - it is only God who can speak the words that calm the sea, still the wind and ease the pain. Our Dear Miriam has transitioned to be with the Lord, and we are sad, but we say Glory to God in His Highest because another Saint has gone Home, and her suffering is over. We would like to express our thoughts of appreciation and we want you to know whatever you have done for us to console our hearts; we sincerely thank you so very much. For those of you who would like to **donate in honor** of Miriam Graham Rogers, we would like for that **donation** to go to the **Whittemore High School Alumni Association Scholarship Fund**. Thank you again, and may God Bless you in his most abundant way.



Sarah Graham and Family



Greetings from the Whittemore Alumni Association "We Need Your Help!"

Can you believe it has been thirty-five years since the Alumni Association initiated the first Whittemore Alumni Association Scholarship?

Since that time, more than 100 awards have been given to deserving seniors, based on the availability of funds. Our funds are derived from special people like you, through our annual Whittemore Fundraiser Dance in the fall, and limited funds from a Published Souvenir Journal.

Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic that is impacting all of us, distancing at social gatherings, and safety measures put in place, it was necessary to cancel the annual fundraiser event this year.

Our scholarship application process started early, and we have already received completed applications from deserving high school graduates. Therefore, we feel the need to award funds to those that qualify. However, with limited funds available, and the need to ensure that we will be able to award scholarships this year (due to the cancellation of our annual event), we are again asking for your financial support.

Remember, *It Takes a Village to Raise a Child*. Will you continue to be part of the village and contribute to the scholarship program? **Scholarships will be awarded no later than August 1, 2020.**

Yours truly,

Larue Galloway
President

Jerrlyn Gaghum
Scholarship Chairperson

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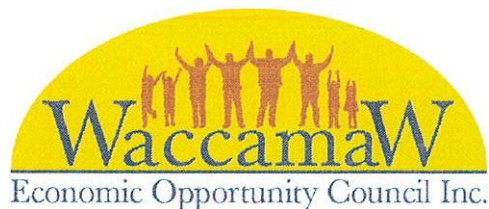
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News Release

The Waccamaw Economic Opportunity Council, Inc., is participating in the Summer Food Service Program. The Summer Food Service Program is designed to bridge the gap between when children are in school and when schools are closed by continuing to provide nutritious meals and snacks to children.

Meals will be provided to all children ages 18 and younger without charge. Acceptance and participation requirements for the program and all activities are the same for all regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service.

The Waccamaw Economic Opportunity Council Summer Food Service Program will begin Monday, June 8-July 31, 2020.

For further information and locations, please contact Carolyn Williams, 843-234-4100, ext. 229.



Carolyn Williams
Waccamaw Economic Opportunity Council, Inc.
Summer Foods Department

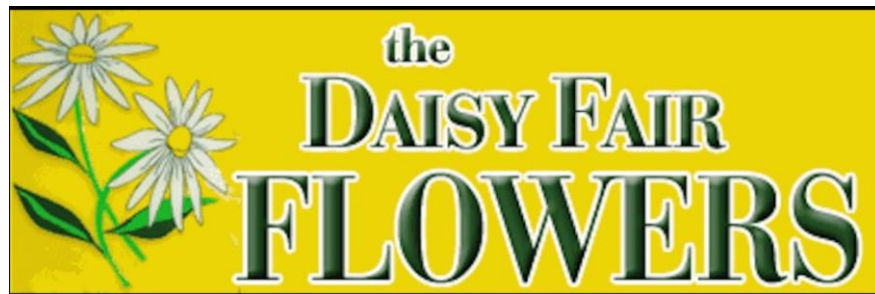
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Affordable Housing Replacing Former Whittemore Elementary School ??

Conway City Council is not giving up on a suitable use for the old [Whittemore School property](#) on U.S. 378.

The city bought the property from the school district several years ago with the idea of renovating it into a community center, but later decided that transforming too much of the building into a modern usable structure isn't feasible for the city. But at a June city council meeting, council agreed to work with Liollio Architecture, the Charleston company Conway had already hired to transform the building, to come up with a master plan for the property to include affordable housing or some type of veterans' housing and, perhaps, a community center.

Information provided by the city says the issue was first discussed at the annual budget retreat in March when council instructed city staff to look at the option of partnering with a group to build affordable housing. ***Councilman White.....suggests staff to help the residents seek employment, build job skills, write resumes, refer them for alcohol/drug treatment and more.***

Staff had spoken with Joey Smoak with Eastern Carolina Housing Organization (ECHO), a 13-county private, nonprofit organization that receives grants through groups including the state housing authority, the Veterans Administration, Housing and Urban Development and more. Smoak said the need for affordable housing is great. His agency has a list of 1,500 people now who need it, and most of those are in Horry County. Council has heralded the possibility of affordable housing, public amenities including sidewalks, trails, community gardens and playgrounds.

City staff first met with ECHO at the property to look at the possibility of housing for veterans, but decided then that the property needs a larger partner for a bigger project.

[Councilman Larry White](#) said he's been harping on the idea of tiny houses and believes some of them could fit into this plan. He also wants to see more than just housing there. He suggests staff to help the residents seek employment, build job skills, write resumes, refer them for alcohol/drug treatment and more.

He'd like to see a place where people can develop their creativity, enjoy music and art. If they are able to save part of the building, he suggests using part of it for a museum for the Whittemore schools and some of the grounds for recreation.

Shortly after the city bought the old building, the city hosted workshops for people to come in and make suggestions for how they'd like to see the property used. White thinks it's time to do that again before the city moves too far forward with plans for the property.

[Conway Mayor Barbara Blain-Bellamy](#), who has perhaps been the biggest supporter of a community center at the site of the old school, warned council to be prepared for public reaction because there are people, right or wrong, who believe that bringing in homeless people will hurt the community.

[Councilwoman Jean Timbes](#) was hesitant about the issue after the meeting saying the city has so much going on that she hadn't thought much about that building recently and she wants to know more before she comes to any final decisions. But, Timbes said she's walked through the building and doesn't see much more than two or three classrooms that she thinks can be saved. She also worries that there might be some kind of historical connection that could prohibit some possibilities for the building. "Let's do something different," she said. "It's served its time. Let it go. I don't know what we're going to do with it. I think we need to move a little slower." She also opposes a community center at the site saying, "I don't think it's a community center unless it reaches all parts of the community."

There is also an issue with asbestos in the building.

Staff has recommended saving money by having city staff do any demolition work, and also recommends removing all asbestos.

Reprint: Courtesy of My Horry News



The Former Whittemore Elementary School

Makes Her Transition at 99 Years Old**1921 - 2020**

A'La Perle Ashley Hickman, age 99, passed away peacefully at the Place at Shadow Oaks Assisted Living Community, Aiken, SC, **June 29, 2020**. She was born on **February 22, 1921**. She is the youngest of nine children born in Trenton, SC to Robert and Mary Boughknight Ashley. She was predeceased by her sisters Ethel Lewis, Emma Ryan, Lucie Robinson, Estelle Ashley, and brothers, Richard, Booker T. Robert and Pernell Ashley.

Perle, as she was known to family and friends, became a lifelong member of Mount Canaan Baptist Church, Trenton, SC in 1933. She graduated with honors from Bettis Academy and Junior College in 1939. She was a charter member of Psi Alpha Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority at South Carolina State University where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in 1942 and where she met her husband, the late Alton Hickman. Christian values coupled with a desire to learn, a belief in service and commitment to improving the lives of others shaped Perle's life.

Alton and Perle began marriage in Conway SC in 1946. She shared her passion for learning with students in the classrooms of Horry County Schools for over ten years before appointment as **Principal of Whittemore Elementary School in Conway for nine years**. There were always good memories and great stories of the Conway years.

While working in Conway, she finished a Master's degree in Education at Temple University and completed additional studies at North Carolina Central University in School Administration and Library Science. Changing careers and returning to Aiken in 1967, Perle worked with the Aiken County Public School Libraries for 16 years until her 1983 retirement.

Retirement only meant a different schedule. Perle volunteered with Habitat for Humanity, Alston Wilkes Society, Bettis Academy Heritage Corridor Team, and held leadership roles with American Association of University Women and Church Women United. Perle led Bible studies. She was an active member of Iota Lambda Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. supporting the Storks Nest, a program encouraging healthy behavior during pregnancy. She worked with kids at Mount Canaan Baptist Church and Friendship Baptist Church summer enrichment programs. She researched her family genealogy, studied horticulture, gardened and traveled the world from China to the Caribbean. She adored her family and would drive all over the USA to attend graduations, weddings and other special family events.

Perle is survived by her nieces Ethel Ala Perle Lewis Malone, (Philadelphia, PA), Mildred Ryan Smith, (Charlotte, NC) Rose Marie Ryan Harrison, (Charlotte, NC) Estella Marie Ashley Moore, (Orangeburg, SC) Gwendolyn Ashley, (Marlborough, MA), Carolyn Ashley (Robert) Eberhardt, (Miami, FL) LaLita (Gary Reynolds) Ashley, Aiken, SC and nephews Fredrick Lewis, (Philadelphia, PA), William W. (Glenda) Ashley, MD, (Olympia Falls, IL) and William W. (Beverly) Ashley, (Ladson, SC). She is also survived by numerous great-nieces and nephews, great-great nieces and nephews, cousins, and friends.

Expressions of sympathy may be made in her memory to: Iota Lambda Zeta Chapter, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. for The A'La Perle Hickman Scholarship Fund, (P.O. Box 3253, Aiken, SC 29802) established in 2011 to provide scholarships to African American women in Aiken and Edgefield counties.

**The Whittemore Elementary School Faculty**

Al Bennett Simmons

Al Bennett Simmons, son of the late George Pompie Drain Simmons and the late Lillie Mae Small Simmons was born on **January 10, 1943** at Socastee, SC. He departed this life on **June 16, 2020**, at his home.



1943 - 2020

Three brothers preceded him in death. He attended the public schools of Horry County. At an early young age, he joined Salem Missionary Baptist Church. He was joined into holy matrimony to **Mildred Palmer Simmons**. He was blessed to help her raise 8 beautiful children. *He leaves to cherish his memories, his loving wife of the home, 6 sons, Demetris Palmer of Columbia, SC, Dennis (Beverly) Palmer of MBSC., Marvin (Patricia) Palmer of Columbia, SC., Henry (Lisa) Palmer of Montgomery AL., Andre Palmer of Burgess, SC., 2 daughters, Alzata Alston of Burgess, SC., and Jacqueline Palmer of MBSC., 3 sisters, Eula Mae (Rev. Fulton) Winningham, Rosa Bell (Jimmy) Gore and Mary Jane (Elder Jim) Taylor. One brother, Ralph William (Vivian) Simmons 18 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren, 1 great- great grandson, 6 brothers in law, 4 sisters in law, 2 aunts and a host of loving nieces, nephews other loving family and friends. A special friend the late Mr. & Mrs. Nelson Jackson. Special thanks to the Nelson and Jackson family, coworkers, and friends, thank you to my dear brother Ralph Simmons and family.*



Lee Morris Bryant, Sr.

Mr. Lee Morris Bryant, Sr. the son of the late George and Ruby Bryant was born on **January 11, 1945** in Barnesville, NC. He attended the public school in Proctorville, NC. He later moved to South Carolina where



1945 - 2020

Finklea Career Center and received his auto mechanic license. Upon moving to S.C. he also became a member of Piney Grove Missionary Baptist church. He departed this life on **June 17, 2020**. Mr. Lee Morris Bryant Sr. hobbies included working on the farm, fishing, hunting, gardening, and most of all listening to his music on Sundays. *Those left to cherish his memories are his wife Mrs. Shelby J. Bryant of Longs, S.C., 1 daughter Diane B (Gregory) Chestnut, 1 son Lee Morris (Vanessa) Bryant Jr of Lexington, KY, 3 step-children Douglas (Joanna) Stinson of Longs, SC, Johnny Farris of New York and Betty Gilmore who precedes him in death, One brother Johnny (Betty) Bryant, 3 sisters Beatrice (Moses) Johnson and Ruby Mae Carmichael both of Tabor City, N.C., Dorothy Brown of Loris, S.C., sister-in-law Mary Bryant and Sally Stinson, 9 Grandchildren, 40 step-grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren, 2 brothers George Bryant Jr, Jethro Bryant 1 sister Lillie Mae Stackhouse which all three preceded him in death, a host of nieces, nephews, special friends and 3 special nieces Freda Harrison Winnie Stevens and Tammy Brown.*



Alexander Thomas

Alexander Thomas was born on **August 3, 1958**. He departed this life on **June 22, 2020**.



1958 - 2020



Keaira Michelle Pickett

Keaira Michelle Pickett was born on **July 12, 1992**. She departed this life on **June 2, 2020**.



1992- 2020



Lewis Edward Johnson

Lewis Edward Johnson, Sr. was born on **March 14, 1926**. He departed this life on **July 1, 2020** (age 94)



1926 - 2020



Vernon Leroy Parmerlee

Vernon Leroy Parmerlee was born on **September 14, 1930**. He departed this life on **June 20, 2020** (age 89).



1930 - 2020



Lide Grayson, Jr.

Lide Grayson, Jr. (aka Beljames) was born **November 3, 1952** from the late Lloyd and Earline Grayson and departed his journey of life **Saturday, June 6, 2020** in Summerville, South Carolina. Lide was educated through the Paterson School System of Passaic County. Lide Grayson, Jr. life is preceded in death by (Mom & Dad) Lloyd and Earline Grayson, and (Sister) Irene Grayson and (Brother) Timothy Lee Grayson. *He leaves to cherish fond memories his (Beloved Companion For Life) Viceina Risher; Daughter: Tamika Askew; Step-Daughters: Waletta Askew, Christina and Sean Dawson (Son-in-law); Sons: Spyvee Grayson and Antone Johnson; Step son Jerome Risher, Grand and Great-Grandchildren: Walik, Amir, and Audrey Askew, Aiden and Talhia Dawson; Seven Sisters: Dorothy Livingston, Lou Ella, Catherine, Linda, Joan Grayson, Priscilla Grayson Taylor (Husband) George, and Brenda Grayson Coppage (Husband) Jamie; Two Brothers: Jack and Stevie Grayson (Wife) Penny; Four Sisters-in-law Tammy Grayson, Pat Risher, Vicky Linder, and Mary Ann White; One Brother-in-law Willie Risher, and a host of nephews, nieces, relatives, and friends*



1952 - 2020



Ernest James West

Ernest James West, the child of Verise Chestnut and William T. West was born in Horry County, South Carolina on **January 7, 1952**. He departed from this life on **Thursday June 18, 2020** at his residence.



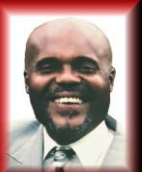
1952 - 2020

Ernest West attended the public schools in Horry County. Quickly after school he went into the US army for a period of time and after that he returned back home where he worked for the Myrtle Beach High school as a janitor/school bus driver. He also later went on to become a member of Sandy Grove Missionary Baptist church. *Ernest was preceded in death by his parents and five brothers T.C, Jerry, Willie T, Johnny, Daniel and one sister Lou Ella West. He leaves to cherish his memories his three children: Tara, Ernestine (Isaac) Collington and Casey all of Myrtle Beach, SC, Four grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and a special niece Verise Lee and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.*



Richie Melton Rhue, Sr.

Richie Melton Rhue, Sr. son of the late Matthew and the late Beatrice Rhue was born **April 24, 1957** in Conway, SC departed this life on **Thursday, June 4, 2020** in Georgetown, SC. He was educated in the Horry County School System. *He is Survivors are his*



1957 - 2020

wife, Carolyn Rhue; his loving and devoted children, Maurice Ford (Fredrena) of Conway, SC; Richie Melton Rhue Jr. (Calvin) of Forest Hills, NY; Tammy Rhue Ingram (Maurice) of Southampton, PA; two step daughters, Alisha Sherman-Waters (Andre) of Warner Robins, GA; and LaDorrea Collington of Conway, SC; one step son, Chuck Collington of Conway, SC; five brothers and sisters to the union of the late Matthew and the late Beatrice Rhue; Joyce Rhue Williams of Columbia, SC; Samuel Ronald Rhue (Florence) of Petersburg, VA; Kathy Rhue Robinson of Richmond, VA; Bernard Rhue (Amanda) of Myrtle Beach, SC; Lisa Rhue Warren of State College, PA; Nephews nurtured at home: Atu Williams (Tammy) and Raheem Williams. Richie was also the brother of Terry McCray (Regina); Maxine Woodberry of Atlanta, GA; Dawna Faulk of Conway, SC. one aunt, Gladys Myers of Georgetown, SC; seven grandchildren and eight step-grandchildren; mother-in-law, Edith Parker; father-in-law, Sanders Collington; sisters-in-law, Jacquelyn Mitchell, Gwendolyn Davis Linda Swinton, Celeste Parker, and Flettie Parker; brothers-in-law, James Parker, Jeremiah Parker, and William Parker; A special brother, Winfred (Buzzy) Hemingway of Bucksport, goddaughter, Marshalla L. James. Richie also leaves to cherish his memories, a host of nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews, cousins, Spivey Alley Family, other relatives and close friends, Aaron Lesane, Curtis Alston, and Floyd Gaskins.



Mary (Farewell) Ellison

The Daughter of the Late Ernest and Roxie Farewell, **Mary (Farewell) Ellison** was born on **April 29, 1957**. She departed this life on **June 22, 2020** (age 63). She lived at 438 Thompson Street in Conway, SC.



1957 - 2020

She leaves to cherish memories; Sisters, Elnita Holmes, Earnestine and Ethel Johnson. She also leaves one Brother, Ben



Farewell. She was a member of Mason Temple COGIC in Conway, SC.

Althea "Tia" (Gause) Crawford

Althea "Tia" (Gause) Crawford was born on **November 3, 1970**. She departed this life on **June 30, 2020** (age 49). She was the daughter of The Late Donnie Gause & Mrs. Ernestine Gause of Longs, SC. *She leaves to cherish her memories, 4 Sisters, Aunts & Uncles.*



1970 - 2020



Carrie J. Hughes

Carrie Hughes, 69, of Wampee, SC was born on **March 1, 1951**. She departed this life on **July 3, 2020**. *She is survived by her 5 Children, daughter Pamela Claridy, Sons, Paul A. Green, LeFonne Green, Gemayle Green and daughter Tiney Jones. She also leaves to cherish 5 Sisters, Rev. Dr. Margie O. Bellamy, Angie Randall, Cynthia (John) Glover, Lila C. Wilson, Waitus (Garlon) Edge and 1 Brother LeWather Galloway. She also leaves numerous grandchildren.*



1951 - 2020



Guillermo Alvarado

Guillermo Alvarado was born on **February 24, 1965**. He departed this life on **June 27, 2020** (age 55). Mr. Alvarado is *survived by his wife Colleen Storr, sons Aarin Michael, Antonio Alvarado and Andres Alvarado. His Brother*



1965 - 2020

Danny Alvarado, sisters Carol Gutierrez, Maria Rodriguez and Angela Alvarad-Villacorte, nieces Kayla Rodriguez and Jennifer Gutierrez and Nephew Kevin Rodriguez and two Grandkids, Serenity Michael and Jalisa Bromell and a host of cousins and friends.



Evelean Roberts Owens

Evelean Roberts Owens was born on **November 27, 1941** in Cool Springs, SC. She was the daughter of the late Reverend Sylvester Roberts and Dottie L. Johnson and stepmother Myrtie Bellamy. Evelean graduated from **Whittemore High School** in 1960 and attended Fayetteville State University, Fayetteville, NC. Evelean majored in Elementary Education and used her passion to teach at the family nursery and with the Horry County School system. She departed this life on **June 24, 2020**. *Evelean was previously married to Roy C. (Mary) Owens. From this union, there were three children: Clifayetta (Glennie) Floyd of Conway, SC, Clementine (Harold - Deceased) McConnell of Goldsboro, NC and Elton L. (Lisa) Owens of Upper Marlboro, MD. There are three grandchildren: Terell J. Owens of Loris, SC, Anastasia K. Owens of Upper Marlboro, MD and Olivia C. (Marcus) Thomas of Charlotte, NC. She has nine brothers and sisters: Lillie M. (Ellis) Howard of Bayboro, SC, Sylvia (Dupree - Deceased) of Cool Springs, SC, Elder Willie J. (Pauline) Roberts of Farrell, PA, Rev. Richard (Carolyn - Deceased) Roberts of Farrell, PA and Doris (Albert) Woods of Reading, PA. Evelean was preceded in death by four brothers: Howard, Paul, Frank and Charlie Roberts; and a host of nieces, nephews, and other loving and caring relatives and friends.*



1941 - 2020



Allen Fate White

The Husband of Mrs. Debra Huffman White of Conway, **Allen Fate White** was the son of The Late Mrs. Irene Morgan. He was born on **October 23, 1952**. He departed this life on **June 12, 2020** (age 67). He was preceded in death by two sons; Andrico Rush and Jamarr Alan White. *He leaves his surviving sons: Domonique White, Thaddeus White, Quniton (Jada) Dewitt, Jonathan Dewitt and Princeton (Courtney) Huffman. siblings: Patricia (Buck) Hunt, Joseph (Hilda) Morgan, Sharon (Richard) Bellamy, Jesse (Easter) Morgan, Margaret Morgan, Lorraine Lawrence and Renee Horton. One Uncle GW (Bernie) White Jr.*



1952 - 2020



Thomas "Catman" Holoman

Thomas "Catman" Holoman, son of the late Alex Holoman and Annie Council Holoman, was born on **January 31, 1940** in Sumter, SC. He departed this life on **June 28, 2020**. During his time on earth, Thomas "Catman" was a faithful member of Sandy Grove Baptist Church. Thomas "Catman" was preceded in death by his wife Alaphere McCray; two brothers, James "Nunch" Holoman and Raymond Holoman; and two great grands, Kassidy Olivia Rose Holoman and Kiyan Noel Stephan Holoman and a special friend Fannie Mae Carr. *To cherish his memory, he leaves one son, Kenneth (Robin) Holoman, Myrtle Beach SC; two daughters, Ericka Carr, Myrtle Beach, SC and Lenora (Mark) Bard, Jonesboro, Ga; two sisters, Elizabeth "Dudley" Holoman and Eva Mae Holoman, both of Myrtle Beach, SC; nine grandchildren, Kenneth Jebrie Holoman, Dallas, TX, Kendric Harold Thomas Holoman, Fort Lauderdale, FL, Arianna Seival Holoman, Columbia, SC, Kentessa Denise Holoman, Mebane, NC, Naomi Renee Holoman, Kenisha Alaphare Holoman and Nehemiah Thomas Holoman, all of Myrtle Beach, SC, Antonio Carr, Hollywood, CA, and Tremain Carr, Jonesboro, GA; five great-grandchildren; one aunt, Juanita Holoman, Myrtle Beach, SC; Close friends, Henry "Byrd" (Patricia) Burgess, Woodrow (Betty) Chestnut, Ella "Dolly" Thomas, Franklin Tucker, and Mike Smith, and a host of loving relatives, cousins and friends, all of whom will miss him dearly.*



1940 - 2020



Juanita Lewis Gore Bellamy

Juanita Lewis Gore Bellamy was born on **January 18, 1928**. She departed this life on **June 10, 2020** at her home.



1928 - 2020



Phil Jemar "Touche" Graham

Phil Jemar "Touche" Graham was born on **March 17, 1970**. He departed this life on **July 1, 2020** (age 50). He was the Husband of Mrs. Shemika Graham of 1709 Dewitt St in Conway, SC.



1970 - 2020



Sandra Marie Jordan

Sandra Marie Jordan was born on March 1, 1954. She departed this life on **June 9, 2020**. She was the wife of Terry Jordan of Conway, SC. Sandra was the daughter of Marie (Jones) Edwards and John Edwards. Both parents preceded her in death. She was reared by her grandmother Mrs. Ada Jones of Conway, SC. She attended public schools in Horry County and graduated from Conway High School. After High school she worked for Waccamaw Pottery. She married Terry Jordan and they shared a loving and warm relationship for more than thirty years. During her early childhood and as an adult, Sandra shared her joy, laughter, endurance and love with family and friends. She enjoyed a special relationship with her oldest sister Deloris. She was a member of Bethel AME church and participated in the choir and other church activities before becoming ill. She enjoyed Sunday School and attending church events. We thank the Conway/Sandridge community for loving and caring for Sandra. *She leaves her husband Terry Jordan of Conway; four siblings, Deloris, John, Joann and Mark along with her in-laws Mr. and Mrs. George (Frances) Shular and Eunice Hasty; sisters in law Memphis Shular, Sara Ely (Aundra) and Patron Shular; And many other relatives and friends.*



1954 - 2020



Lorinda Michelle Dewitt-Lamas

Ms. Dewitt-Lamas was born **August 10, 1963** in Conway, SC and departed this life on **June 29, 2020**. She is the daughter of the late Lonnie Williams, Jr. and Mrs. Lula Bell Dewitt of Conway, SC. Affectionately known as Michelle, she graduated from Conway High School in 1981. *Michelle was previously married to John Lamas. From this union, she birthed one child; Dominique Gaskin (Stevener) of Chicago and cared for two stepchildren; Raynaldo Lamas of Denver and Tiffany Digi'Amo (Cuse) of Atlanta. She found much joy in being a grandmother to August Gaskin. She also leaves to cherish her memories her siblings, Deborah Smith (Tyrone Smith, Sr.) & Carlton Terry, I (Nora Gail); and a host of loving aunts, uncles, special nieces and nephews, cousins and friends. She was preceded in death by her uncle, Harley Joe DeWitt and her dear aunt and uncle, Ralph and Lillian Williams.*



1963 - 2020



Willie Nathaniel Singleton

Mr. Willie Nathaniel Singleton was born on **November 6, 1946** in Philadelphia, PA to the late Mr. Willie Singleton and Mrs. Florence Powell-Singleton. He departed this life on **June 8, 2020** at the Conway Medical Center. He graduated from **Whitemore High School** in Conway, SC in 1964. He is preceded in death by his wife, Mrs. Ester M. Singleton; Parents, Mr. Willie Singleton and Mrs. Florence Powell-Singleton; brothers, Glenn Lewis Singleton and Matthew Singleton. *Willie Nathaniel Singleton-loving, selfless and precious memories will always be cherished by his son, Nathaniel Mosi Willie Singleton (Fonyela) of DeSoto, Texas; two daughters, Jakarra Lowe-Oliver (Dion) of Detroit, Michigan and Jeannina Lowe of Detroit, Michigan; four grandchildren, Sikali Singleton of DeSoto, Texas, Korey Lowe, Kourtney Pride and Dion Oliver of Detroit, Michigan; one brother, George W Singleton of Tennessee; three sisters, Laura A. Singleton of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, Marcena S. Jones (Robert) of Conway, South Carolina and Ruthena S. Bromell (Jackie) of Conway, South Carolina; two very special nieces, Sasha D. Jones of Alexandria, Virginia, and Georgia Springfield (Wayne) of Clarksville, Tennessee; two aunts, three uncles, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, family and friends.*



1946 - 2020



Kenneth Maurice Cox

Mr. Kenneth M. Cox was born **July 4, 1984** to Mr. Kent Cox and Ms. Vanessa Cox Myers. He departed this life, **Wednesday, June 3, 2020** in Myrtle Beach, SC. Kenneth graduated from Socastee High School in 2002. Kenneth had a passion for drawing And technology. Kenneth was preceded in death by his grandmother, Dorothy Davis. *He leaves to cherish his memories, his brother: Daequan Grissette Cox of Brooksville; SC, grandmother: Betty Keel of Longs, SC; several aunts: Annie Wilson, Donna Cruz (Lewis), Mary Bethea, Deatricea Meyers all of Burgess, SC, Joeann Cox Hemingway (Ed) of Wintergarden, Florida, Deshan Vereen (Al) of Columbia, SC, Beverly Miller (Horace) of Myrtle Beach, SC; two uncles: William Keel (Tasha) of Longs, SC and Steven Keel (Daphne) of Augusta, Georgia; special friends: Shade Gillians, Tiffany Thomas, both of Burgess, SC and a host of cousins, friends and family.*



1984 - 2020



McKiever

Mrs. Mary Alice Hopkins

Mrs. Mary Alice Hopkins was born on **October 21, 1919**. She departed this life on **June 23, 2020 (age 100)**. she was educated in the public schools of Fort Mill, SC. She eventually moved to Conway, SC to live with her aunt and uncle, Deacon Grant and Laura Sparkman. Later, she moved to New York City where she met and married the late Mr. Jessie Hopkins. She worked in the Garment Industry until she retired and moved back to South Carolina to care for her ailing aunt and uncle. She was a member of the Cherry Hill Missionary Baptist Church where her pastor was the Reverend James H. Cokley, DMin. Having no relatives in the area, *she adopted as her family and friends, the Latimer Family, the staff and volunteers of the Samaritan House, Reverend Leslie H. McIver, Sr., the Salkehatchie Group, Sandra Graves, and George Johnson along with Edna Bellamy DeWitt. With a heart for loving, she also adopted as her children, Elizabeth Thornton, Randolph Hudson, Edward Smith, Jr., Deacon Michael Dixon, Herman Days and - Susan Thomas who regularly checked on her. Her favorite niece is Linda Murphy whom lives in New Your City with all her other nieces and nephews. Mrs. Mary Hopkins lived at 419 Smith street, Conway, S.C. where she continued to be very independent until her demise.*



1919 - 2020



Joan Younne (Evans) Huggins

Joan Y. Huggins was born on **March 29, 1940**. She was a mother of 5 children whom she loved very much. She was a woman of much strength in mind and a great believer in the Lord who she learned about, worshiped and adored until the sun sat upon her life on **June 19, 2020** at 6:13 pm. She spent much of her life helping others not only those she knew personally but also imperfect strangers. Until her health began to decline she would help feed the hungry, uplift other seniors at the center she spent time at and simply people she met in the businesses she shopped at. *She is survived by 4 living children: Robert A. Evans, Dewayne Huggins, Parissa M. Burton and Lindelle Huggins; one sister: Diana Harris, twelve grandchildren, thirteen great-grandchildren, one great-great grandchild and two nieces. Her strength, drive and ambition will be greatly missed. Her compassion will be remembered. Her wisdom will live on throughout the generations.*



1940 - 2020



McKiever

Oneida Bellamy Gause

Mrs. Oneida Bellamy Gause was born **September 17, 1945**. She departed this life **Tuesday, June 23, 2020** in Loris, South Carolina.



McKiever



1945 - 2020

Snowrie Woodard

Mrs. Snowrie Woodard was born **October 22, 1936** in Chadburn, North Carolina. She was the daughter of the late Mrs. Callie Johnson and Rev. Nero Augustus Bryant. She departed this life on **June 20, 2020** (Age 83.) She attended the Horry County Public Schools and was a graduate of Horry Georgetown Technical College where she studied nursing. In 1997, God called her into ministry as a devoted Pastor of Way of Salvation Holiness Church in Conway, South Carolina. *She leaves to cherish her memories to a loving, devoted and caring husband of 54 years, Minister Albert James Woodard, two lovely children: Apostle Bernita Livingston of Longs, South Carolina and Kelvin Woodard of Ellenwood, Georgia; one child preceded her in death: Gloria (Jimmy) Johnson of Conway, South Carolina; one sister: Myrtle (deceased husband Bobbie) Pernel of Conway, South Carolina. Ten siblings preceded her in death: Lila Bryant, Eleanor (Cleveland) Morris, Earlene (Woodrow) Henry, Willie (Ana Mae) Bryant, Sam T. (Ora-Dean) Bryant, David Bryant, Leroy (Bessie) Bryant, James (Lular Mae) Bryant, G.B. (Mildred) Bryant, all of Conway, South Carolina, and Jimmy (Eliza) Bryant of Baltimore, Maryland; four brothers-in-law and four who preceded her in death; five sisters-in-law, thirty-four grand and great-grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.*



1936 - 2020



McKiever

Charlie Quince Benford

Mr. Charlie Quince Benford was born **September 20th, 1953** in Conway, SC to the Late Willie Mae Dixon and the Late Calden Benford. Bro. Benford was a graduate of Conway High School class of 1972. He departed this life on **July 7, 2020**. He also was in the high school band. He was "Conway's Native Son" and loved his community. Bro. Benford was raised in the church and was a son of the church. He was singer and love Gospel Music. He was a member of St. Paul Missionary Baptist. **Bro. Benford was married to Melinda Green Benford of Longs, SC and to this union they had a son Min. Kabra' Benford of Columbia, SC and 3 additional children Wesley (Shumein) Green, Comaneci Green and Rashawn (Jaleel) Eady. 7 grandchildren: Elijah Green, Elannah Green, Lavonte' Stanley (Deceased), Ayanna Green, Nyasia McKenzie, Ethan Davis and Ameerah Eady. He had 5 brothers and Sisters: Colden Benford (deceased) Harvey (Wendilyn) Dixon (deceased) Gerald (Tammy) Manner, Sandra Waters, and Crystal Greene. He leaves to cherish a host of nieces and nephews and loving relatives.**



1953 - 2018



Gwynette Long

Gwynette Long, 71, of Cheyenne Road went to be with the Lord on **Friday January 5, 2018**, at Baystate Medical Center. She was born on **February 19, 1946** in Conway, SC. She was the daughter of the late Eugene Long and the late Roberta (Brantley) Long-McIntyre. Gwynette's early years were spent in Conway, South Carolina. She graduated from Whittemore High School and moved to Springfield, Massachusetts in 1964. "Gwynette was affectionally known to her family and close friends as "Mammy" and her baby brother, Isaiah Longs was known as "Pappy." *To celebrate her life, continue her legacy and to cherish her memory she leaves her beloved son, Jonathan Sterling Long of Springfield, siblings, Thales Long (late Janie) of Columbia, SC, Bishop Eugene Long Jr. (Lila) of Egg Harbor City, NJ, Isaiah Longs (Carmen) of Springfield, MA. granddaughters, Jalajza Jonae Desire Long (Jj), Springfield, MA, who resided in her loving care, Brielle Elizabeth Long, of Greenfield, MA. nieces; Audrey Long-Wright (Curtis), Columbia, SC, Andrea Walker, Springfield, MA, Lanita (Kevin) Lathan-Eady, Waterbury, Conn, Regina Long, Albany NY, Josette (Kevin) Waters, Orlando FL, Kristle Small, Philadelphia, PA. Jasmine Small, Mays Landing, NJ, nephews; Kelvin Brantley (Sandy), Christopher Brantley (Darlene), Messiah Long, of Columbia, SC, Isaiah Longs Jr., Lee Lathan both of Springfield, MA. Christopher Lathan, Boston, MA, Andre Long, Hemstead, NY. great-niece, Naomi Lathan, Boston, MA great-nephews; David Lathan, Boston, MA, James and Julian Eady, both of Waterbury, Conn. Mason Walker, Springfield, MA. Edward Small, Egg Harbor City, NJ. cousins; Frank Perkins Jr, (Brenda), Conway, SC, Constance Perkins, William (Nancy) Brantley of Columbia, SC, Nettie Lathan, Boston, MA, Okbar Esaw, Deborah Ross both of Springfield, MA, Honorable Reginald (Denise) Brantley, Tamara Brantley of West Berry, NY. James (Doshia Dean) Bailey, Springfield, MA.*



1946 - 2018

Anthony J. Luddley

Anthony J. Luddley was born on **October 30, 1955**. He departed this life on **July 3, 2020** (age 64).



1955 - 2018



Mrs. Priscilla Ann (Darby) Scruggs

Mrs. Priscilla Ann (Darby) Scruggs was born on **July 6, 1948**. She departed this life on **September 25, 2019**. She leaves to cherish her memory her husband of 47 years Rhea Scruggs Sr. She leaves her beloved children: Mariesca C. Darby Scruggs and Son Rhea V. Scruggs Jr both of Springfield, Ma. Siblings sisters: (Late) Mrs. Elouise Wimbish, (late) Mrs. Dollie Lou Beaty, Mrs. Cecilia J. Bennett, Mrs. Jacquelyn Johnson, Cousin/sister Mother Edna L. Burrowes, Deaconess Doris G. Epps, Evang. Carrie Clemons, Sister in-law Mrs. Sherry (Foley) Taft Spiritual Parents of 43 +years, whom she loved very deeply Deacon Earl Crenshaw and Minister Mary Crenshaw. Brothers: Deacon Ralph Williams, (late) Mr. Bill Smith, (late) Mr. Joseph-Robinson, Mr. Jacob Davis, Mr. Dennis Crenshaw, Mr. Steve Crenshaw, Brother in-law Mr. Kelvin Wimbish. Grandchildren: Minister Kendall Darby (wife Niya Burt-Darby), Govan E. Darby-Morales, Yaisa S. Torres, Jazzelee L. Terry. Nieces: Dr. Degwanda Beaty, Mrs. Loretta Bakari-Baldwin, Ms. Cheryse Page, Ms. Deborah Bailey, Ms. April Davis, Ms. Tracey Bennett, Mrs. Valerie Cypress Nephews: Mr. Gregory (Chyenne) Williams, Arnez Bennett, Rev. Kelvin Wimbish, Tierrell Dixon-Hughes, Godson Dr. Christopher S. Lathan Special cousins and family: Ms. Arclincia Cooke, Deaconess Mary (Emmett) Craddock, Deacon Anthony (Kim) Cooke, Mrs. Lanita (Kevin) Eady, Mr. Lee (Lisa) Lathan Jr., Mr. John Long, Ms. Sabrina Pretti, Ms. Arlene Davis, the Clemonts family, Ms. Lillian Murray and family Special thanks to Priscilla's care takers Ms. Anna Soto and Ms. Yvette The family would like to acknowledge special appreciation to the nurses at Bay state Medical Center 5th floor Cardiac Unit. Priscilla leaves many other dear relatives and friends stretching from Conway SC to Springfield Ma and beyond. Priscilla rests in heaven with her (cousins/best friends) Deaconess Nettie C. Lathan and Minister. Gwynette S. Long. They called themselves "the singing Sugar Babies", because they all had diabetes at the same time !!



1948 - 2018

In Loving Memory of Matthew and Beatrice Rhue



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