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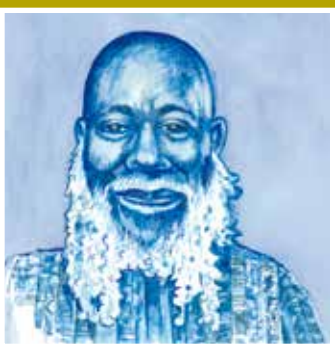
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Charleston Church Massacre Draws Crowds, Raises Questions



Mourners photographed above were part of a steady stream of cars and pedestrians traveled to the church on Calhoun Street. Many added bouquets to the makeshift floral memorial that spanned the length of the church front. (AP file photo)

By Clem Richardson

CHARLESTON, SC – Kenneth Washington was watching his TV in Cleveland Wednesday when he learned that a gunman shot up his family’s church in Charleston, South Carolina.

Hours later, he discovered that the loss struck even closer to home.

“I saw a picture of the church on TV,” Washington said. “I was born and raised here in Charleston, on Alexander Street, where my aunt, Suzie Jackson lived. Tywanza Sanders was my cousin. Ethel Lance was my

cousin. So we had three in the family who were killed.”

Washington joined the throngs of onlookers Friday who braved the sweltering 97-degree heat to stand in the street outside Emanuel AME Church. They honored the fallen: Rev. Clementa Pinckney, Sharonda Coleman-Singleton, Cynthia Hurd, Susie Jackson,

On the Cover: Thousands gathered to protest the Confederate flag, which flew at full mast, over the South Carolina State House while the State and American flags were flown at half mast as tribute to the victims of the mass shooting. Dylann Storm Roof, the alleged shooter, had a Confederate flag on his car and was photographed waving a Stars & Bars Confederate flag. (AP file photo)

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The fallen Emanuel AME Church members included: Rev. Clementa Pinckney, Sharon-da Coleman-Singleton, Cynthia Hurd, Susie Jackson, Ethel Lance, Depayne Middleton-Doctor, Tywanza Sanders, Daniel L. Simmons, and Myra Thompson. (AP file photo)



Throngs of onlookers Friday braved the sweltering 97-degree heat to stand in the street outside Emanuel AME Church.

Ethel Lance, Depayne Middleton-Doctor, Tywanza Sanders, Daniel L. Simmons, and Myra Thompson.

Traffic was tied up most of the day as a steady stream of cars and pedestrians traveled to the church on Calhoun Street. Many added bouquets to the makeshift floral memorial that spanned the length of the church front. Others clasped their hands, and bowed their heads in silent prayer.

Keith Biggs, a staffer at nearby Citadel Square Baptist Church, and his wife Janice pulled bottles of cold water from two ice-filled coolers and offered them for free to the sweaty crowds.

"We're brothers and sisters in Christ," Biggs said. "It was not two weeks ago that we helped Rev. Pinckney with a funeral they had. He sent me a thank you note with a \$50 certificate I could use to take my wife to dinner."

"They extended love to us, and we wanted to do the same for Brother Pinckney. We know they're with the Lord now, but we want to help those who are suffering through this. We want an extension of Brother Pinckney's love."

Biggs was not the only person impressed by the 41-year-old Pinckney, who, police say, Dylann Storm Roof killed along with eight of his parishioners in a bloody rampage

as their evening Bible study class ended.

Several people hailed Pinckney as a virtual Renaissance man; a caring, intellectual pastor first elected to the state legislature at age 23; a community leader and quiet man who, outside the pulpit, only spoke when he had something important to say.

Charleston City Councilman and mayoral candidate William Dudley Gregory (D - District 6) traces his family's membership in Emanuel almost to the church's founding in 1816.

He now sits on Emanuel's Board of Trustees.

"This church has produced so many great leaders, starting with Richard Allen and Denmark Vesey," Gregory said. Vesey was a former slave and Emanuel minister who launched a failed slave revolt from the church in 1822. "It's a church that has always been a part of the leadership of this city. That's why it's called Mother Emanuel."

AME bishops assigned Pinckney to Emanuel in 2010, and "he brought to the church this young energy and vision, and put this vision with action," Gregory said. "It was quite refreshing."

Under Pinckney, Emanuel renovated three rundown church-owned

properties and was in installing the sanctuary's first elevator.

"So you're talking about someone who was a visionary," Gregory said. "Within five years we were able to complete all those projects, and from there we will start restoring the sanctuary."

"He was clearly an intellectual, well studied, well versed," Gregory said. "I liked to call him 'quiet fire.' He had this knack of taking on a lot of sometimes controversial things in the church with this even keel, but still being very effective. That is a real trick when you're trying to run a church, and you're younger and coming up with totally new ideas and new approaches."

"He had the ability to move among opposition and still get what he wanted," Gregory said. "He was a very hopeful person who clearly understood that without hope there was never-ending darkness. He knew you had to peer through that darkness to see the light."

It was unclear at week's end when the County Coroner's office would release the victims' bodies, or if the families would hold one massive funeral service. Police told several Emanuel members that they would not be able to hold Sunday services in the sanctuary. Detectives still are handling it as a crime scene.

NAACP President Cornel Brooks, a fourth generation AME minister, said many other issues surround the killings.

"I am here to lend support and to make clear that we support the vigorous prosecution of this crime and the ongoing investigation of this crime to determine whether or not there are any others complicit in it."

Noting that Dylann Storm Roof had a Confederate flag on his car, Brooks said, "We are here in a state where the capitol has a Confederate flag flying over it. Bringing down that flag will not bring about an end to racial hatred, but it would do a lot to prevent the nurturing of this kind of hatred."

The Stars and Bars does not fly over the state capitol, per se. Thanks to a legislative compromise in 2000, a smaller Confederate flag now flutters on a pole on the statehouse lawn. Not surprisingly, at this time of high emotions, controversy surrounds even this lower-profile presence of what many consider a symbol of racial oppression.

Charleston Mayor Pro Tem and District 7 City Councilman Perry Keith Waring and retired Charleston Chief Municipal Court Judge Arthur McFarland said they hoped police were able to determine if

Roof acted alone, something both men doubted.

"This young man repeated the ninth grade," McFarland said. "Yet he drove over 100 miles from Eastover, South Carolina to Denmark Vesey's church to shoot the minister. He could have shot a lot of black people between here and there. He meant to come here."

"These were all good, Christian people - not a criminal among them," Waring said. "This shows how a community loses when something like this happens, because Christian people give back."

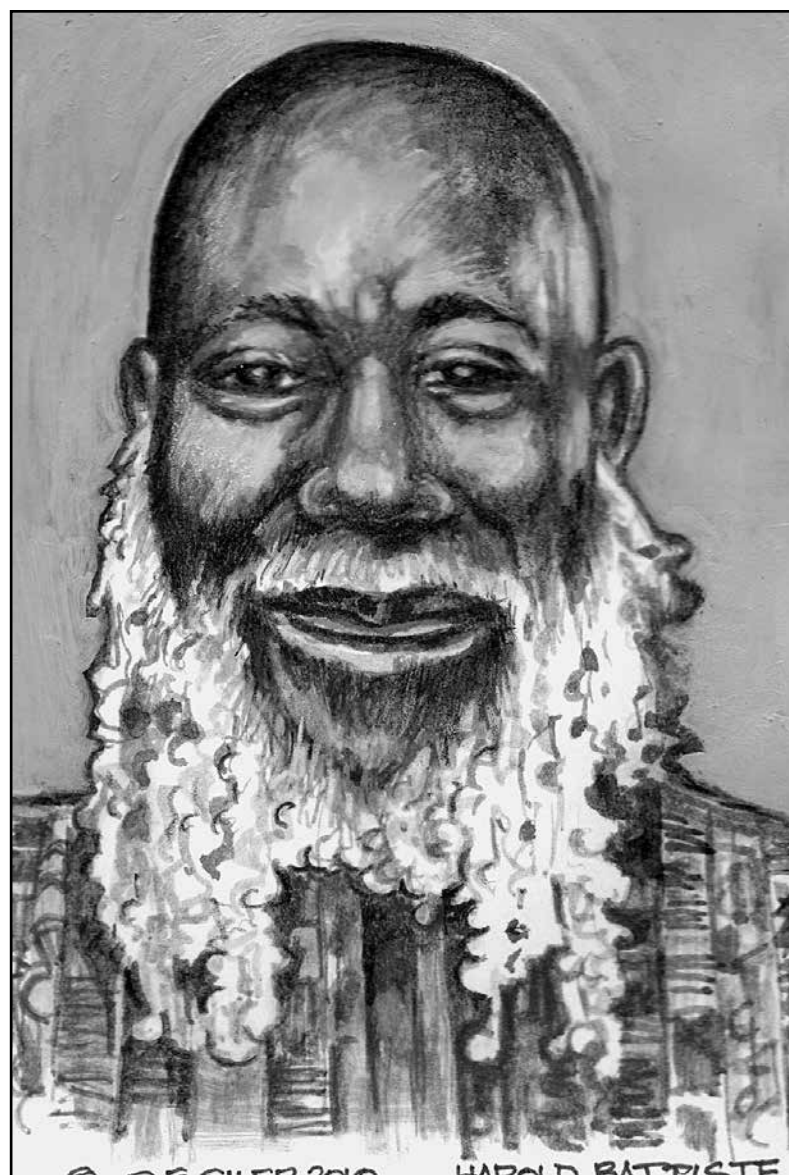
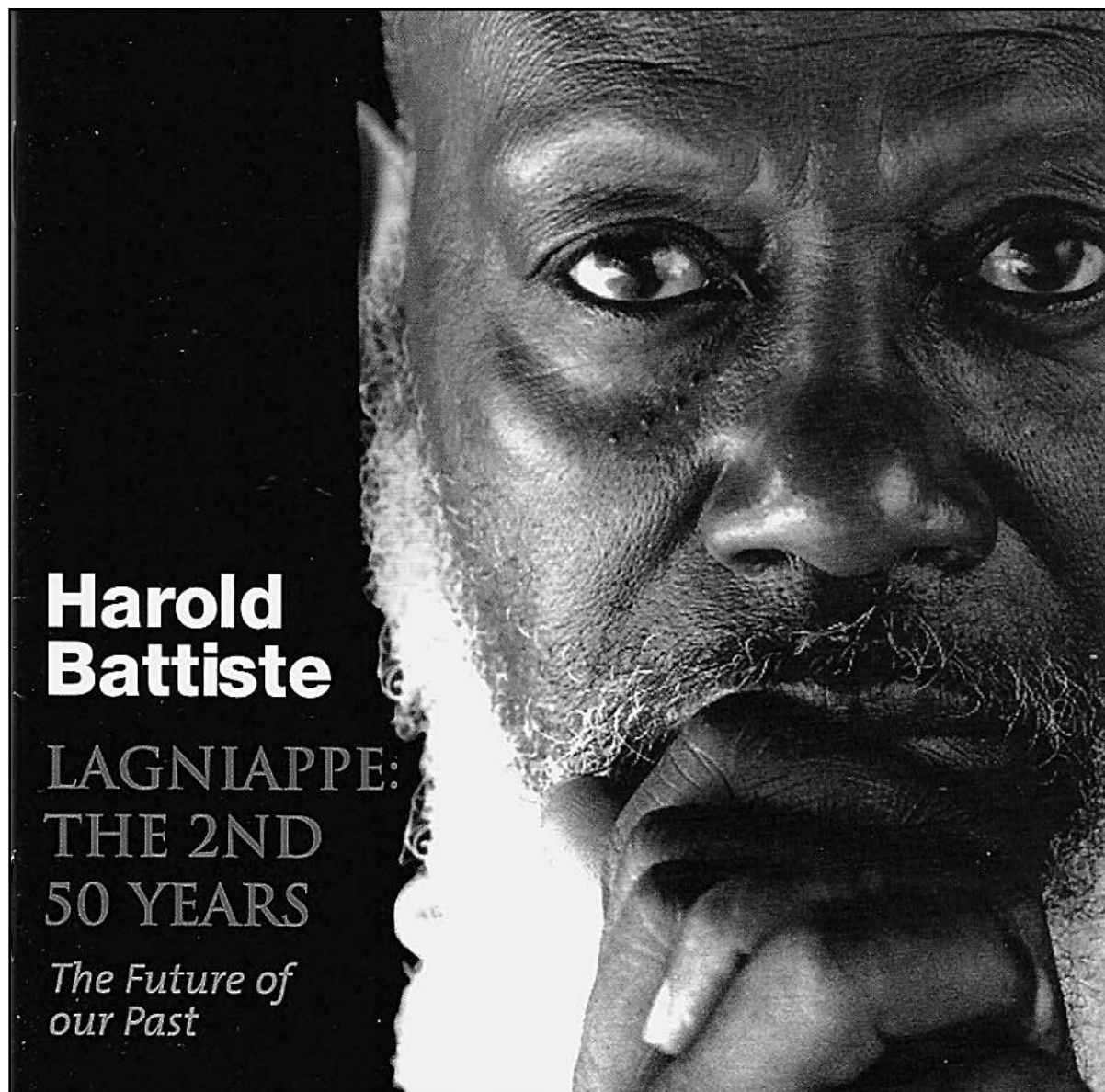
"After the funerals, do we go back to business as usual?" Waring wondered. "My fear is we will. Out of the Walter Scott shooting, body cameras for police officers became the buzzword, the strategy."

"What's going to come out of this?"

"President Obama is right," Waring said. "If elementary kids can be mowed down in Sandy Hook with no results; if the people out in Colorado can be mowed down in a movie theater, with no results; if people in Bible study can be mowed down, with no results, the silence is beginning to be deafening."

"If this becomes just another massacre in our rear view mirror, if nothing positive comes up to make it better, then shame on us."

Celebrating the Life of Musician, Educator and Humanitarian Harold Battiste Jr.



Written and Researched by Edwin Buggage

The world loss a great musician, educator and humanitarian on June 19th, Harold Battiste Jr., a musical prodigy, visionary and pioneer in the world of music, who played saxophone and piano, in addition to his work as a producer, arranger, record label owner, educator and author. He was 83.

During his amazing journey in life he blazed the trail for many who came after him, with some becoming household names. Mr. Battiste founded A.F.O. (All For One) Records, the first musician owned and operated label. During which time he released the million-selling hit single, Barbara George's "I Know (You Don't Love Me No More)" (AFO#302). The company also released the first album by New Orleans Icon and Educator Ellis Marsalis, *The Monkey Puzzle*, featuring Drum Legend James Black. Battiste's other professional contri-

butions as a producer and arranger for studio, film, stage and television include Joe Jones' "You Talk Too Much", Lee Dorsey's "Ya Ya", and Sonny and Cher's "I Got You Babe" where he also worked as music director for their television series. Battiste also introduced audiences to New Orleans Artist Mac Rebennack as Dr. John, and produced his earliest albums. He also worked with Sam Cooke on his first secular hit "You Send Me" and played piano on what became an anthem of the Civil Rights Movement "A Change Gonna Come."

Harold Battiste Jr. was born Oct. 28, 1931, in Uptown New Orleans. In the 1940's in a segregated New Orleans his family moved into the then brand-new Magnolia Housing Development (A Housing Development for Blacks). But while segregation was the law of the land, the music that he heard from the nearby Dew Drop Inn on LaSalle Street, the famed nightclub and hotel would change his life. In his

book "Unfinished Blues" he wrote of how he was drawn to the music he was hearing and where he would eventually begin to play with several bands during the heyday where all the greats of Black music would come.

Mr. Battiste then graduated from Gilbert Academy High School, a Private School for African-Americans that stressed excellence; (Its location was on St. Charles Ave. where De LaSalle High School is today) one that counts, Civil Rights Leader Andrew Young as one of its graduates. He later went on to earn a degree in music education from Dillard University in 1952. Later he became a music teacher in the public schools while performing in bands and serving as a talent scout for Specialty Records where he auditioned future "Soul Queen of New Orleans" Irma Thomas.

Not only was he a great musician, he was concerned with passing on his knowledge and experiences to young people. Battiste worked for

many years as director of jazz studies for the Coburn School of Music of the University of California at Los Angeles. As a man who spent most of his adult life between Los Angeles and New Orleans in 1989 he decided to return to New Orleans when Ellis Marsalis became head of Jazz studies at the University of New Orleans to make a greater impact in the City of his birth.

He gave back in many ways. He re-launched A.F.O. to give young musicians a place to have their music heard. And as a music scholar/historian and archivist he worked on a project that preserves and promotes the music of New Orleans' early modern jazz masters via "The Silverbook," a collection of compositions by the likes of James Black, Ed Blackwell, Ellis Marsalis, Nat Perrilliat, Red Tyler and others. In this collection he also includes his own compositions including the swinging, Count Basie-like "Alvieta Is Her Name" and the percussive "Marzique Dancing," both named

for his daughters.

He has been honored by many including the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra performed a tribute concert of Mr. Battiste's "Bravo Mr. Batt!" in addition to receiving *The OffBeat Magazine's* Best of the Beat Lifetime Achievement in Music Award in 2009.

Battiste remained active in the community, and served as a board member of the Congo Square Cultural Collective, the Louisiana State Music Commission, New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Foundation, Louisiana Jazz Federation, the African Cultural Endowment and numerous other cultural organizations. He received the Beau Arts Award, the Mayor's Arts Award, the Governor's Arts Lifetime Achievement Award and many others. In 1998, the City of New Orleans proclaimed his birthday as Harold Battiste Day.

Data News salutes the amazing Life of Harold Battiste Jr. as inspiration for the next generation to pursue excellence.

trailblazer

Lionel Milton

Painting a New Picture of Reality

by: Edwin Buggage

Coming from a City that gave the world Jazz, gumbo, beignets and Who Dat; New Orleans Visual Artist Lionel Milton in his over two decades has become an artist whose work is the essence of the limitless potential that art has in bringing people together. His unique style has garnered him clients from many walks of life who clamor for one of his original creations. And while his work has been received with much acclaim and taken him across the globe, at the core of his being he is a humble guy who is truly committed to inspiring young people using his art to reach them and touch their lives.

"I started out as one of the original members of YA/YA (Young Aspirations/Young Artists, Inc. provides artistic experiences and opportunities to area teens.) During that time it provided for me and many others with an opportunity to get outside of our community and see that the world was bigger than our neighborhood. That kind of exposure at a young age allowed me to grow in so many ways and I just wanted to pass this onto others," says Milton of the work he does teaching art lessons and the many workshops he does with young people.

Lionel's story began as a young man who is from the Lower Ninth Ward in New Orleans and his life is the embodiment of the

words of the late Rapper/Actor Tupac Shakur's poem "The Rose that Grew From Concrete." From his humble beginnings he's used his gift as an artist to attract the attention of buyers from all over the world in addition to attracting media companies such as MTV and BET to use several of his original pieces for their television programming décor. Additionally, national consumer brands such as Disney, Target, Budweiser and Atronic have employed his designs for children's clothing and bedding, character development and promotional materials. He's also created posters for the Voodoo Music and Essence Music Festival among many others in his two decade career as an artist.

This New Orleans native is a well-known ambassador for his City and especially the Lower 9. He has worked with Actor/Humanitarian Brad Pitt's Make it Right Foundation, who commissioned Lionel to create the merchandising artwork for the "Pink Project" with the proceeds going to the future rebuilding of homes in the Lower Ninth Ward.

"Rebuilding the City and particularly the Lower Nine is something that is near and dear to my heart. There is so much history back there and so many great people whose lives changed forever when the levees breached de-



stroying so much of what I knew as my world during my early life," says Milton. "But in my art I am always inspired by the people who helped shape who I am and it will always come through in my work, how I speak and who I am. And regardless of where I am I will always represent my City and the Lower 9 and it is my goal to see it rebuilt and repopulated. It is a part of the City that cannot be forgotten and be simply remembered as ground zero for Hurricane Katrina."

He is an advocate of education and new technology and is using his art to encourage reading. He has an app available on iTunes called the ABC's Learning Party developed by Lionel Milton & Jacob Devaney. An app called Mardi Brah - Coconut Catching Game set in the streets of New Orleans and worked with Sony PlayStation 3 to de-

sign a level for the video game "Little Big Planet."

"Working with new technology is great and helped me reach people I would have never been able to do simply as an artist painting and selling pictures. I have been able to use my artistic ability in many different ways and developing things that will help kids learn was a great project and my passion," says Milton. "Using my art to reach young people via new technology is an extension of the other things I do with kids. Also when

I have worked on projects like this I am glad that I have been able to help educate people about New Orleans by using symbols and things that represent the City and its history and culture. And it is my hope that the next generation of young African-Americans begins to understand and not just use technology but create, maybe the next Bill Gates or Mark Zuckerberg may be a young African-American living in New Orleans and just need someone to encourage them and believe in them."

There are so many things that are happening in racial relations today that has created a powder keg that is exploding all over the country. Milton feels that educating people about the greatness of African-Americans contributions to this country's past and present can help shape the future where ignorance can fall by the wayside and all people can work better to heal the historical scourge of racism in America. He is using his art to bring people together for what it is; one colorful family of humanity.

"I think it's critical to our community to always give back. We should try to break the chain of negative stereotypes and piece together a chain of our true legacy of a great people. Never forget places like Black Wall Street in Tulsa Ok in 1921. That story can inspire greatness! So I continue to stay in the trenches so maybe one day some generation after will remember the positive contributions we have given through art and creativity."

JMJ
Joseph M. Jones
Continuing Education Fund



Shoot Ya Best Shot!

Tribute to Dr. Norman C. Francis

Photos by Bernie Saul

The City of New Orleans turned out to honor the legacy of Dr. Norman C. Francis on Saturday June 4th. Proceeds from the event will help fund the Norman C. Francis Endowed Scholarship Fund, giving many future generations of students the opportunity to attend Xavier University of Louisiana.



Left to Right – Moon Landrieu, former Governor of Louisiana, Dr. Norman Francis, former President of Xavier University, Lolis Elie, Civil Rights Attorney and Pascal Calogero, former Louisiana Chief Justice of the Supreme Court



Vocalist Wanda Rouzan performs



Vocalist Irma Thomas performs



Alexis Herman - Former U.S. Secretary of Transportation and currently a member of the Board of Trustee at Xavier University and graduate of Xavier's Class of 1969.



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Dr. Norman Francis, former President of Xavier University



Guitarist – George Porter, Jr. performs

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Shoot Ya Best Shot!

General Motors Hosts Event to Celebrate The Black Press' 75th Anniversary

Ed Welburn, Vice-President of Global Design, welcomed NNPA Leadership and members during a reception held inside GM World Headquarters in Detroit, Michigan. Chevrolet sponsored the event in celebration and honor of NNPA's 75th Anniversary.



Laura Hernandez-Romine, GM Marketing Diversity Manager, Global Marketing Services; Ed Welburn, GM Vice-President, Global Design; and Crystal Windham, GM Director of Design, Global Chevrolet.



Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., NNPA President & CEO; Laura Hernandez-Romine, Marketing Diversity Manager, Global Marketing Services; Ed Welburn, Vice-President, Global Design; Crystal Windham, Director of Design, Global Chevrolet; and Cloves C. Campbell, NNPA Arizona Informant Chair.

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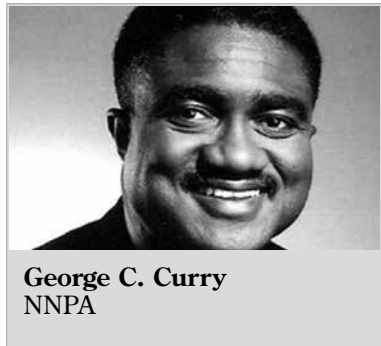
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Whites Still Live in 'State of Denial' on Race



George C. Curry
NNPA

We have the murderer's own words that his goal was to "start a race war," according to law enforcement officials who took Roof into custody.

Rather than address obvious racism, our non-friends on Fox & Friends and other Fox network programs attempted to make the massacre about religion, gun control and anything other than the actual culprit – racism.

Fox & Friends host Steve Doocy referenced "hostility toward Christians." That theme was echoed by Bishop E.W. Jackson when he noted that "we don't know why he went into a church, but he didn't choose a bar" or "basketball court." Former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani also postulated that "maybe he hates Christian churches."

But we aren't talking about any Christian church. We are talking about a historic Black church that had been carefully targeted by the shooter.

Within minutes after his name was made public, Dylann Roof's White supremacy views became widely known. A photo on his Facebook page showed him wearing patches with the flags of White minority-ruled South Africa during the

apartheid era and Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe. Both flags are popular symbols associated with White supremacists in the U.S.

Another photo posted on Facebook by one of Roof's friends showed him leaning against an automobile sporting the license plate, "Confederate States of America."

Several days after the rampage, Roof's racist manifesto was discovered. In it, he said:

"Anyone who thinks that White and black people look as different as we do on the outside, but are somehow magically the same on the inside, is delusional. How could our faces, skin, hair, and body structure all be different, but our brains be exactly the same? This is the nonsense we are led to believe.

"Negroes have lower Iqs, lower impulse control, and higher testosterone levels in generals. These three things alone are a recipe for violent behavior..."

Toward the end, he wrote:

"I chose Charleston because it is most historic city in my state, and at one time had the highest ratio of blacks to Whites in the country. We have no skinheads, no real KKK, no one doing anything but talking on the internet. Well someone has

to have the bravery to take it to the real world, and I guess that has to be me."

Some conservatives tried to make the shootings a gun issue. After several Fox personalities suggested that ministers arm themselves, Steve Doocy chimed in, "If somebody was there, they would have had the opportunity to pull out their weapon and take [the shooter] out."

But it's not that simple.

"Fox & Friends used a mass shooting at a South Carolina church to baselessly promote the carrying of guns as a solution to prevent such attacks – even though research indicates that civilians are more likely to harm themselves or someone else than stop a criminal when they have a gun, and there is 'no evidence; that arming civilians stops mass shootings," observed mediamatters.org

After conducting a 5-month investigation, Mother Jones magazine concluded: "In the wake of the massacres this year at a Colorado movie theater, a Sikh temple in Wisconsin, and Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut, we set out to track mass shootings in the United States over the last 30 years.

"We identified and analyzed 62

of them, and one striking pattern in the data is this: In not a single case was the killing stopped by a civilian using a gun. And in other recent (but less lethal) rampages in which armed civilians attempted to intervene, those civilians not only failed to stop the shooter but also were gravely wounded or killed. Moreover, we found that the rate of mass shootings has increased in recent years—at a time when America has been flooded with millions of additional firearms and a barrage of new laws has made it easier than ever to carry them in public places, including bars, parks, and schools."

Clearly, the rampage in Charleston, S.C. was not about attacking Christianity or the need for more guns. It was about racism – an issue this country has always been reluctant to address.

George E. Curry, former editor-in-chief of Emerge magazine, is editor-in-chief of the National Newspaper Publishers Association News Service (NNPA) and BlackPressUSA.com. He is a keynote speaker, moderator, and media coach. Curry can be reached through his Web site, www.georgecurry.com. You can also follow him at www.twitter.com/currygeorge and George E. Curry Fan Page on Facebook. See previous columns at <http://www.georgecurry.com/columns>.

Wake Up America!

By JoAnn Watson
Guest Columnist

This week, we mark the 150th Anniversary of the Juneteenth Observance in The United States of America; with June 19, 1865 as the date that many Africans who were held as Slaves in Texas were finally accessed to freedom, more than two and-a-half years after The Emancipation Proclamation was the law of the land.

Tragically, just as June 19th, 1865 showcased the raw reality that many Americans did not accept The Emancipation Proclamation, the Confederate defeat, the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments nor the credo that "All men are created equal"; so will June 17, 2015 forever be remembered as the date when hor-

rific assassinations were triggered during Bible study in the oldest Black Church in the South, not just by the toxicity of one 'lone gunman'; but by a culture of venomous racial hatred that has contaminated the moral underbelly of far too many in the USA.

Our Nation can not continue 'business as usual'. The Charleston, South Carolina Black Church murders offer an opportunity for many Americans who have turned a blind eye to white supremacist groups, and home-grown domestic terrorism, to Officially raise the banner that All human rights and All human lives must be respected! All Americans who honor Democracy and the US Constitution should raise their voices to demand that policies & programs which combat

racism in America be prioritized by law enforcers, political leaders, business leaders, faith leaders, civic leaders and higher education leaders of All Backgrounds; and-most importantly-in our own homes-with our own families!

Thank God for the glimmers of hope that have emerged. We honor the courageous woman who recognized the suspect-and his car-from news reports, subsequently alerting authorities and even following his vehicle on the highway until he was apprehended. We salute the suspect's sister, who alerted officials regarding his identity after video images were televised.

Of course, We honor the Beloved Honorable Pastor and State Senator, Rev. Clementa Pinckney & all of the faithful Bible-study

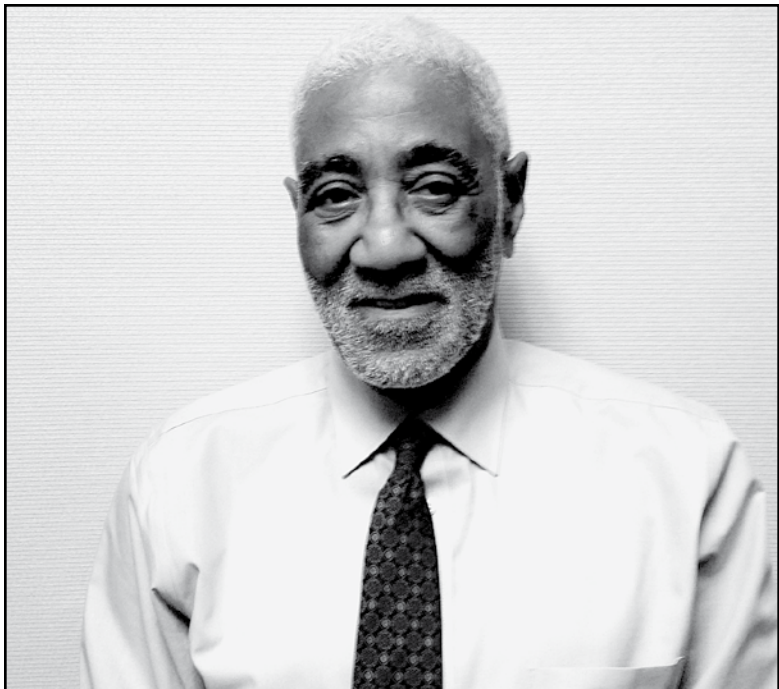
congregants of this historic church which was built by the Iconic Revolutionary, Denmark Vesey, and other African Descendants who fought to be free and who fought for the right to worship in a distinguished Sanctuary fashioned by their own hands.

We honor Thousands who have attended memorial services and prayer gatherings which have been convened in Charleston, SC (and elsewhere), which have been populated by Americans of every race, age and faith-tradition, praying together, grieving together and healing together. Thus, a visible demonstration of diverse, united 'We The People' collaboration has emerged in the post-mortem of the murders at 'Mother' Emanuel A.M.E. Church.

All Americans should disallow a confederate culture 'hiding in plain sight' in our neighborhoods, within our families or in our homes. Racial hatred and violence must not be allowed to fester unchecked and unchallenged anywhere in the USA or the world.

May the Massacre at 'Mother' Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church, which senselessly took away so many innocent lives (during Bible Study for Heaven's sake!) give birth to a new consciousness -which does not deny-but confronts racist hate groups & white supremacists as un-American, un-Democratic and unGodly with a supporting cast of drum majors for Justice (representing all hues) who demand Peace, freedom and dignity for all people-for all time!

Lionel “Beaver” Smith Named “Top Producer” by NY Life.



Lionel “Beaver” Smith

Lionel “Beaver” Smith was recently honored as one of New York Life’s leading producers, earning an invitation to the company’s 2015 Life Summit, held in Las Vegas in February. Of the company’s more than 12,000 agents and financial service professionals nationwide, Mr. Smith was one of only 400 who

received this recognition. The meeting provided these leading professionals with the opportunity to learn about new solutions to clients’ protection, wealth accumulation and retirement and estate planning needs, as well as to share best practices with other top producers. Congratulations to Mr. Smith.

USPS is Deferring All Activities in Louisiana Until 2016

*Including Consolidation of the New Orleans
Processing & Distribution Center*

Washington, DC – The United States Postal Service (USPS) has decided to defer plant consolidations in Louisiana that were scheduled to take place this summer. In a letter sent to Postmaster General Megan Brennan earlier this month, Rep. Richmond (LA-02) expressed his disappointment in the United States Postal Service (USPS) for their failure to provide clear and coherent data justifying the decision

to consolidate processing activities at the New Orleans Processing and Distribution Center to the Baton Rouge facility. A move that would have eliminated hundreds of jobs and stagnated mail service in New Orleans:

“I am pleased with USPS’s decision to defer consolidations in Louisiana,” said Rep. Richmond. “Consolidating the New Orleans Processing Center hurts small business, delays

service to households, and would put hundreds of hard working people out of work. At no point did USPS provide any credible justification for making this move and their decision to defer proves that to be the case.”

“I will continue to hold USPS accountable until we find a permanent solution that both protects jobs and provides the most efficient service to households and businesses throughout the 2nd District.”

DIBIA Dream to Host Annual Essence of Sports Clinic

New Orleans, LA. – DIBIA Dream will host its annual Essence of Sports Clinic from 9 a.m.-12:00 p.m., June 29, 2015 – July 2, 2015 at Isidore Newman High School. The clinic is designed for girls and boys of all skill levels, ages 7-16. The Clinic is FREE of cost.

The Dream Essence of Sports Clinic is the perfect blend of sports, educational development, life skills emphasis, and physical fitness. At-

tendees will be inspired to pursue their DREAMS as they leave with a renewed confidence to excel academically, socially, and athletically. Dream Essence of Sports Clinic includes: Educational and Life Skills Interactive Workshops; Innovative and Intense Basketball Drills; STEM projects facilitated by STEM NOLA; Special Celebrity Guest Speakers; and an Exclusive Dream t-shirt. Hydration will be provided.

Brandon Okpalobi, New Orleans native, founder of Dream and former St. Augustine basketball player, will facilitate the clinic’s inventive athletic activities, along with other skilled coaches and former St. Augustine players.

For more information, contact Brandon Okpalobi at (786) 543-8826 or brandon@dibi-adream.org

Data News Weekly is Hiring

Data News Weekly Newspaper, The People’s Paper,
is hiring for two positions in our New Orleans Office.

Editor/Reporters

About the Job

Journalists — tired of reading of layoffs, closings, the dire straights of the profession? Recent college graduates — think your job prospects are bleak? Not with us!

At Data News Weekly, we are expanding! This includes starting a print newspaper/digital endeavor in one of the most dynamic and exciting cities, New Orleans.

If you want to be an integral part of your community, tell stories in a multi-media environment — look no further.

If interested, send your resume, cover letter and at least three clips of your work to Terry Jones Publisher, Data News Weekly, 3501 Napoleon Ave, New Orleans, LA 70125, or via email to terrybjones@bellsouth.net, or call (504) 821-7421.

Sales Manager/Retail Ad Manager

About the Job

Data News Weekly Newspaper is the leading African American media company in New Orleans, publishing a weekly newspaper. Additionally, its website under ladatanews.com is the most read Black website in the region.

We are currently seeking a strong leader to proactively manage broad aspects of the advertising division. You will be working in a positive team-oriented atmosphere which has a modern press, leading website and award-winning newspaper.

Responsibilities include but not limited to:

- Prospect and develop sales leads for print and digital product lines
- Drive online and cross platform advertising sales
- Identify, create strategies, develop influential contacts, and help close new digital products
- Increase overall revenue opportunities in both print and online
- Develop a team sales atmosphere

Our ideal candidate will possess the following education,

skills and experience:

- Minimum 5 years print and digital sales and manager experience
- Self-starter, capable of executing within all phases of sales cycle
- Strong relationship building and client service background
- Strong organizational, communication and presentation skills
- Team player and leader
- Understanding of Analytics and ad serving technology
- Strong motivational skills
- Recruit talent

Our company provides a competitive salary, and an environment that encourages personal and professional growth. We are an equal opportunity employer.

If you are interested in a rewarding career, email a cover letter and resume to: terrybjones@bellsouth.net or mail to: Data News Weekly, c/o Terry Jones, Publisher, 3501 Napoleon Avenue, New Orleans LA 70125

New NNPA Officers Elected; Denise Rolark Barnes Elected Chair

DETROIT (NNPA) – Denise Rolark Barnes, publisher of the Washington Informer, has been elected chair of the National Newspaper Publishers Association, a federation of more than 200 African American newspapers.

Rolark Barnes, succeeds Cloves C. Campbell, Jr., publisher of the Arizona Informant, who served two, 2-year terms. After graduating from Howard University with a degree in communications, Rolark Barnes enrolled in the Howard University School of Law. She served as editor of The Barrister, the law university's student newspaper, before graduating in 1979. She is a second-generation publisher, following in the footsteps of her late father, Dr. Calvin W. Rolark.

"I am honored and proud to represent the NNPA as chairman of



Left to right, Karen Carter Freeman, 1st Vice Chair Shannon Williams, Secretary, Francis Page, Jr., 2nd Vice Chair Denise Rolark Barnes, Chairman and Janis Ware, Treasurer

this historic and impactful organization," Rolark Barnes said. "Since 1827, the Black Press has listened

to and spoken for the African American community. The future looks bright for the team of publishers

elected during our 75th anniversary convention in Detroit, Michigan; three of the new officers happen to

be second-generation newspaper publishers. We are committed to fulfill the promises we made to our nearly 200 fellow publishers and we will work hard to propel the Black Press into dynamic 21st century media companies."

Also elected were:

First Vice Chair: Karen Carter Richards, publisher of the Houston Forward Times

Second Chair: Francis Page, Jr., publisher of Houston Style

Treasurer: Janis Ware, publisher, Atlanta Voice

Secretary: Shannon Williams, publisher, Indianapolis Recorder

Elected as directors-at-large were Bernal Smith, publisher of the Tri-State Defender, and Larry Smith, publisher of The Community Times

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Ad Council AICPA

Container Gardening in the Marigny



By LMG Calla Victoria

One of the members Master Gardeners of Greater New Orleans (MGGNO), Faun Fenderson, invited the membership out to tour her lovely garden in the historic Marigny section of New Orleans. This amazing garden is dense with flora and fauna, several rose bushes, citrus and other fruit trees, veggies, tropicals, succulents, and evergreen shrubs. I think that's what impressed me most about this lush garden is the fact that most of the

plant material in the entire garden is in various sized containers, and a few raised beds; as the entire floor of the garden is concrete. The containers are so tightly packed and the foliage so abundant that you really have to look to find the containers. Had we not been told that it was mostly a container garden prior to the visit, I don't think that most would have realized the plants were in containers.

The garden is laid out like a backwards "L." As you enter the wooden gate to the back garden, to

the left is a massive LSU Purple Fig Tree (*Ficus carica*) creating a wonderful focal point for that part of the garden, and behind that a huge avocado tree. Because of all of the tall trees, much of the garden is in the shade and yet it is full of color, texture, and citrus trees and egg plants laden with fruit.

From the entry gate, straight forward is the long straight pathway flanked on both sides with lavish plant material. And because of the way the foliage leans out into the path you have swerves as you walk

through, thus creating the illusion of being on a winding pathway even though the walkway is straight as an arrow. Seating throughout the garden provides several places to pause and meditate in this tranquil oasis.

See all of the images on my website at www.thegardeningdiva.com. Also check out my "Gardening Tip of the Week."

Remember, never get too busy to stop and enjoy the beautiful flowers!

DATA CLASSIFIED

Call 504-821-7421 to place your classified ad.

Job Opportunity

Freelance Writers Wanted

Data News Weekly, "The People's Paper," is looking for freelance writers to join our team print and digital team. We want to hear from you if you are a working journalist, or an aspiring journalist who has 2 years or more of newspaper or PR writing experience. We need writers who can cover New Orleans news stories, ranging from local high school sports, community events, City Hall and entertainment. Experience in print is necessary, experience in digital and social media are encouraged.

Compensation is competitive and great story ideas will be appreciated.

If you are interested, please email your resume and 3 writing samples to: terrybjones@bellsouth.net and datanewseditor@bellsouth.net.

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