

Walking for Justice



Photo by Todd Luck

Youth lead a march Saturday through the streets of downtown to voice their opposition to the recent acquittal of George Zimmerman for killing black teenager Trayvon Martin. Union Baptist Church sponsored the march, which began with a rally at the Trade Street church. Another Trayvon-inspired rally will be held Saturday, July 27 at 11 a.m. in the grassy lot beside Hooper Funeral Home, 1415 E. 14th St.

Thatch

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nobody is going to run me out of town. This man is going to be prosecuted for what he did."

Despite hate mail from White supremacists over the years, Jervay, who served as chairman of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) in the 1950s, never tempered his demand for justice and equality. Neither has his daughter.

At an event in 2011, commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Wilmington Ten's false convictions, Louis Hines, a local International Longshoreman Association official, issued a challenge.

"He said, 'There are two things we have got to do in Wilmington,'" recalled Mary Alice Thatch, who was in the audience. "'And those two things are to seek compensation for these 10 folks, and we've got to always make sure that the doors of the Wilmington Journal are open.'"

The next day, in a meeting in her

office, Thatch told several members of the Wilmington Ten: "I don't know how we're going to do it, but we're going to do it. I'm going to take this to somebody much bigger than I. I cannot do this by myself in Wilmington, but I promise you that I will get somebody that can help us."

And she did. Thatch convinced the NNPA, whose members include more than 200 black-owned newspapers, to take up the cause of the Wilmington Ten, a group of nine men and a woman unjustly convicted of arson and conspiracy in 1971. The Wilmington Ten Pardons of Innocence Project was officially launched in Washington, D.C. at the 2011 Black Press Week luncheon at the National Press Club.

The two-year campaign resulted in outgoing North Carolina Gov. Beverly Perdue issuing pardons of innocence on Dec. 31, 2012 to the Wilmington Ten. Although a federal appeals court had overturned their convictions in 1980 because the prosecutor had, among other things,

failed to turn over evidence that was favorable to the defense, the Wilmington Ten were released from jail, but they were not fully exonerated. Not until the governor pardoned them.

Thatch said it was a combination of Wilmington Ten leader Ben Chavis' optimism, the commitment of the two original attorneys - James E. Ferguson II and Irving, who never abandoned the case - the diligence of Cash Michaels and Rev. William Barber, president of the North Carolina NAACP, NNPA publishers who carried the stories, and others that made the pardons a reality.

In large part, because of the Wilmington Ten campaign that she led, Thatch was elected NNPA 2012 Publisher of the Year at the organization's recent convention in Nashville.

"I was surprised," she said, "It required a great deal of hard work and tenacity, and I feel very honored and appreciative to NNPA for the recognition."

MRSA

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contact, openings in the skin such as cuts or abrasions, contaminated items and surfaces, crowded living conditions, and poor hygiene.

Healthcare-Associated MRSA

More commonly, MRSA is spread through hospitals or other healthcare environments, such as nursing homes and dialysis centers. This type of MRSA is known as Healthcare-Associated MRSA (HA-MRSA). HA-MRSA accounts for approximately 85% of MRSA cases. According to the CDC, these infections occur most frequently among people who have been patients or visited hospitals or other healthcare facilities and who have weakened immune systems. HA-MRSA tends to be a bloodstream or other internal infection and is thus much more invasive than CA-MRSA.

How do I know if I have MRSA?

According to the Mayo Clinic, CA-MRSA often begins as small red bumps that resemble pimples, boils or spider bites but can quickly evolve into abscesses that require surgical treatment in order to drain. However, MRSA is not always confined to the skin; the bacteria can enter the body (invasive MRSA) and cause life-threatening infections in the bloodstream, bones, heart, and other tissues and organs.

What can I do to prevent MRSA?

There are steps you can take to protect yourself from CA-MRSA:

- Keep your hands clean! Wash with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand rub and shower after working out;
- Cover any open skin area such as abrasions or cuts with a clean dry bandage;
- Avoid sharing personal items such as towels or razors;
- Use a barrier (like

clothing or a towel) between your skin and shared exercise equipment and wipe surfaces of equipment before and after use; and

- Use antibiotics appropriately (according to your doctor's instructions).

There are also things that healthcare workers should be doing to protect you as well as themselves from MRSA. These steps include:

- Washing hands frequently, especially after coming into contact with blood and other body fluids and contaminated items, even if gloves were worn at the time of contact;
- Wearing appropriate protection, including masks, gowns, and gloves;
- Handling equipment appropriately;
- Inserting IVs and performing other procedures under sterile conditions; and
- Handling laundry appropriately.

Never be afraid to ask a doctor to wash his or

her hands before coming into contact with you or a loved one!

Do you need further information or have questions or comments about this article? Please call toll-free 1-877-530-1824. Or, for more information about the Maya Angelou Center for Health Equity, please visit our website: <http://www.wakehealth.edu/MACHE>.

Mint Condition

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school in the Twin Cities region of Minneapolis-St. Paul amidst a thriving music scene energized by Prince, The Time, Jam & Lewis, The Replacements, Soul Asylum and others.

A gig at the famed First Avenue club in 1989 caught the attention of Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis (formerly of The Time), and they were signed to Jam & Lewis' record label.

Their hits include "Breakin' My Heart (Pretty Brown Eyes)," "What Kind of Man Would I Be" and "You Don't

Have to Hurt No More."

"We're fortunate that people have come to expect us to march to our own drum, musically speaking," said Kinchen. "And even though we have carved out our own unique creative path, we've always been well embraced."

Tickets are \$44.50, \$36.50 or \$24.50, depending on location, plus a \$2.50 Theatre Restoration Fee.

Tickets are available in person at the Carolina Theatre, by calling the box office at 336-333-2605 or online at www.CarolinaTheatre.com.



WSFCS Photo

Kyle Perkins with his creation.

Camp

from page A6

process of inventing.

"Maybe, in the future, I might be able to invent something else," she said.

The camp also offered classes with such names as Chinese Take-Out, Gross Science, It's OK To Play With Your Food! and Scratch the Surface: Create Your Own Animations! The overall idea of the camp, Cortez said, was to give the students the opportunity to do creative, hands-on projects.

Cortez was also teaching a class called From Here to There.

"The kids were exploring different countries around the world to show how location could affect behavior," she said.

All 16 teachers participating in the camp are working through Duke University to obtain their credentials to teach academically gifted students. Altogether, 76 rising fourth- through eighth-graders participated in the camp.

The Gross Science

class proved so popular that two sections were offered. More than one of the boys in the class readily acknowledged that having the word "gross" in the title piqued his interest in the class. In Gross Science, students studied such things as how the human digestive system functions and the role of worms in the ecosystem.

During the week, teachers and students alike wore T-shirts based on a design that Cynthia Fulks, who will be in the fifth grade at Abraham Elementary, created before camp started. The image included the names of some classes as well as words that she thought fit into the spirit of the camp, such as "Perseverance" and "Accomplish." "'Dream' was something that just popped into my head," Fulks said.

On the last day of the camp, parents were invited to Hanes to see what their children had done and to hear other students talk about their experiences.

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Submitted Photo

WSYC members and leaders pose in Paris.

Chorus

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Omaha Beach, overlooking rows and rows of marble crosses. WSYC members were stellar when performing alone an hour-long a cappella concert at St. Aubin Sur La Mer or when participating in the Paris

Festival under the direction of Dr. Andre Thomas. Singing the "Requiem by Faure" at the church where he served, Eglise de Madeleine, was a special delight. Enthusiastic crowds formed whenever we flash-mobbed, including at La Louvre, the Eiffel Tower, and in front of Notre Dame!"

The public is invited to the Chorus' 20th Anniversary with a concert at the Stevens Center at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 2. Alumni have been asked to perform with the current chorus members and to join in a reception to honor the rich heritage of this group. Ticket information will be available at a later date.

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