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1 year after church shooting, much is the same in Charleston

By Jeffrey Collins and Jonathan Drew

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) - The names of Confederate generals still adorn street signs in Charleston's public housing projects, and a heroic waterfront statue dedicated to the Confederate Defenders of Charleston still faces Fort Sumter, where the first shots of the Civil War were fired.

Just down from the Emanuel AME church - where nine black parishioners studying their Bibles were gunned down one year ago - a statue of Vice President John C. Calhoun, a staunch defender of slavery, towers above a park.

After the June 17, 2015, massacre, South Carolina lawmakers did what many people thought was impossible to achieve and

removed the Confederate flag from the Statehouse grounds in Columbia. Across the country, as far away as Alaska, officials moved to strip streets, college dormitories and even lakes of the names of Confederates, secessionists and public figures who championed segregation.

But a year later, little has changed in Charleston, the city where tens of thousands of enslaved Africans first set foot in North America. It was here that the work of plantation slaves made the city one of the wealthiest in the nation before the Civil War. It was here where the bombardment of Fort Sumter threw the nation into that war in 1861.

A section of a street in front of the white stucco Emanuel AME church may have been

renamed "Mother Emanuel Way Memorial District," but all of Charleston's Confederate commemorations remain intact - and longstanding racial issues endure.

"I think a lot of things happened out of the immediate emotions of how horrific the killings were. That's the human side of folks and the politeness, particularly of Charleston, that we just had to do something. But then when reality checks us - the question is what is that going to cost us in terms of changing the way we think and do things?" said Dot Scott, president of the Charleston branch of the NAACP.

A white man who police said hated blacks and posted photos

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A Swearing-In ceremony was held at the Carolina Theatre June 10 for Cerelyn "C.J." Davis. The public was invited for the first African American woman to serve as Durham Police Chief. At left is her husband, Sgt. Terry Davis, Fulton County (Georgia) Sheriff's Department.



Actress Bern Nadette Stanis who played Thelma on the hit television show "Good Times" was at a book signing at Bimbe. See photos from the festival on page 8.

Back in Washington, Clinton, Trump work toward party unity

By Lisa Lerer and Jill Colvin

WASHINGTON (AP) - The presidential race shifted to the nation's capital June 10, with Democrats executing a carefully orchestrated plan to unify their party around presumptive nominee Hillary Clinton.

Her likely general election rival, Donald Trump, continued his months-long effort to win over the Republican base, with events wooing top donors and evangelical voters.

With the primary contests all but over, a series of top Democrats formally announced their support for Clinton, headlined by the glowing endorsement of President Barack Obama on June 10.

Within hours, Vice President Joe Biden and Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren joined that effort, both backing Clinton and signaling to many of Sanders' supporters that it's time to unite around the party's presumptive nominee. Clinton and Warren met privately for about an hour Friday (June 10) morning at Clinton's home in Washington, intensifying speculation that the progressive stalwart may be tapped for the vice presidency.

"If you really want to electrify the base you've got to get somebody who's been speaking to the base and is going to turn the base out," said Rep. Keith Ellison, D-Minn., one of Sanders' top supporters in Congress. He said he and other progressives would be thrilled if Clinton tapped Warren for her ticket.

Democrats in Washington are eager to unite their party against Trump and avoid a lingering intraparty spat. Primary rival Bernie Sanders, who's vowed to take his political revolution to their national Democratic convention in July, has been stressing his determination to defeat Trump, perhaps signaling that he may exit the race or at least shift his focus away from Clinton after the final primary election next June 14 in Washington, D.C.

On June 10, he retreated to his home in Burlington, Vermont, to plot his next steps.

Clinton, meanwhile, delivered her first speech since becoming the presumptive nominee, addressing advocates at Planned Parenthood, the women's health organization and abortion provider. The nonprofit was a strong champion of Clinton in the primaries, giving her its first endorsement in their 100-year history.

Describing Trump as someone who "doesn't hold women in high regard," Clinton launched into an unabashedly feminist attack on her GOP rival, arguing he would take the country back to "when abortion was illegal, women had far fewer options and life for too many women and girls was limited."

"When Donald Trump says, 'let's make America great again,' that is code for 'let's take America backward,'" she told the cheering audience.

Trump, who has also faced resistance from corners of his party, addressed a gathering of conservative evangelical voters at the Faith & Freedom Coalition's "Road to Majority" conference not long after Clinton spoke.

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Ole Miss adding slavery info to plaque by Confederate statue

By Emily Wagster Pettus

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) - The University of Mississippi will revise a plaque beside a Confederate monument on its Oxford campus to add more information about the Civil War and slavery, Chancellor Jeffrey Vitter said June 10.

In a letter to students, faculty and alumni, Vitter also said that even as the university continues efforts to improve racial diversity, it will retain its nickname Ole Miss and its mascot, the Rebels. Critics see the name and mascot as divisive reminders of the Old South, while supporters see them as affectionate symbols of school spirit.

His predecessor as chancellor, Dan Jones, announced in 2014 that Ole Miss would provide historical context for some symbols and buildings on a campus that's home to a Confederate cemetery.

The university was founded in 1848, and the Confederate soldier statue has stood for generations in a parklike area near the main administrative building. A plaque to add historical context was put by the statue earlier this year, but the campus NAACP said it failed to mention slavery as the central cause of the Civil War. Vitter acknowledged revisions are being made in response to criticism.

The first plaque said the statue was dedicated by local citizens in 1906 and was one of many monuments built across the South as aging Civil War veterans were dying. It also mentioned the violence that erupted in 1962 by white people opposing the court-ordered admission of James Meredith as the first black student at Ole Miss.

"It was also at this statue that a local minister implored the mob to disperse and allow James Meredith to exercise his rights as an American citizen," the plaque said.

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Philadelphia to honor activist with statue at City Hall

PHILADELPHIA (AP) - Philadelphia's City Hall is receiving a sculpture installation to honor a black activist and writer who fought to desegregate the city's horse-drawn streetcars and for equal voting rights regardless of race or previous status of servitude.

The Philadelphia Inquirer reports the memorial design for Octavius Catto was to be presented to the public on June 10.

Plans call for a 12-foot bronze statue of Catto with five granite pillars behind him that would be fashioned like overturned streetcars. Catto would face a ballot box upon a table.

Excerpts of his writings would be incised on the granite. Organizers say the \$1.5 million monument, A Quest for Parity, should be installed by late 2016.

Catto was shot three times in 1871 during a racially-charged election cycle. He died at 32.

Medical building first in Dallas government named for Latino

DALLAS (AP) - A new \$39 million jail medical facility is the first Dallas County government building in the county's 170-year history to carry the name of a Latino.

The Jesse Everett Gill and Dr. Onesimo Hernandez Medical Facility, named for two Dallas minority leaders, was dedicated June 13.

The 139,000-square-foot Gill-Dr. Hernandez Medical Facility includes medical clinic space, a pharmacy and medical staff offices to serve Dallas County Jail patients.

Hernandez, who died in 1994 at age 69, was the first Latino to attend Southwestern Medical School.

Gill was the first African-American to be a Dallas County deputy sheriff, joining the department in 1954. He left in 1962 to become a teacher and taught in Dallas public schools until his retirement in 2000.