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Republican Trump hammers claim of fraud in new ad as early voting nears

By Hope Yen

WASHINGTON (AP) - Donald Trump's newest campaign ad begins with a warning: "In Hillary Clinton's America, the system stays rigged against Americans."

The commercial, which aired Aug. 19 as part of his \$5 million swing state ad buy, harkens back to a claim Trump has been hammering for weeks - that the general election is rigged against him. The questionable claim

looks to mobilize Republicans, with the all-important start of early voting in some states just weeks away.

The presidential nominee has voiced strong support for North Carolina's stringent voter ID law - struck down as discriminatory, but to be appealed - saying without it, voters will cast ballots "15 times" for Democrat Hillary Clinton. He also launched a new effort on his website last week seeking volunteers to root out

fraud at the polls.

Some things to know about voting fraud:

WHAT ARE VOTER ID LAWS?

That ID law Trump referred to had involved a broader package of restrictions - among them, reducing early in-person voting, which is popular among blacks in particular. At the same time, it exempted tough photo ID requirements for early mail-in voters, who were more likely to be white and Republican.

In all, 17 states were set to have restrictions for the first time in a presidential election, pending final appeals, such as voter

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Family of Marcus Garvey pushing for presidential pardon

By Jesse J. Holland

WASHINGTON (AP) - The son of early 20th century black nationalist Marcus Garvey on Aug. 17 said his father's 129th birthday marked the perfect day to begin a public push for a presidential pardon to exonerate Garvey for an unjust conviction.

Dr. Julius W. Garvey, a New York surgeon, wants President Barack Obama to clear his father's name from a mail fraud conviction that caused Marcus Garvey to be deported from the United States to his native Jamaica.

The younger Garvey said he has lived his whole life with the fact that his famous father was a convicted criminal, which he believes is part of the reason his father is less well-known and accepted among mainstream Americans.

Because of the conviction, "there is still a whiff of subversion about the idea of being" a fan of his father's teachings, Garvey said at a news conference at the National Press Club.

Marcus Garvey was born in Jamaica on Aug. 17, 1887, and was considered by people like Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X to be a father of the civil rights movement. He inspired millions of followers worldwide with messages of black pride and self-reliance, and founded the Universal Negro Improvement Association in 1914, considered to be the largest secular organization in African-American history. His Pan-African philosophy urged blacks to return to the continent of their ancestors, and he launched the Black Star Line, a fleet of steamships intended to take them there.

Garvey was also controversial because of his "back to Africa" promotion and his campaign for racial separation, born of the conviction that whites would never allow blacks justice.

He was convicted of mail fraud in 1923 in connection with his steamship line and deported to Jamaica in exchange for being released from prison. He died in London in 1940 and was buried in Kingston, Jamaica.

Garvey's family, along with supporters and fans, have filed a pardon request with the White House and are waiting to see if Obama will consider the request before he leaves office next year. If not, future presidents will get the same request, they said.

They are hoping to build a groundswell of support for the pardon, given Garvey's prominent contributions. "Legally, there's not much more to be done," said former NAACP President Kweisi Mfume, who attended the news conference. "This is now in the court of public opinion."



Ms. Deja Young



Ms. Temilade Aladeniyi

North Carolina Central University Students Selected for Elite White House Initiative

The White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) has named two North Carolina Central University (NCCU) students HBCU All-Stars.

Deja Young and Temilade Aladeniyi were among 73 winners selected from an application pool of 300 students to become HBCU ambassadors for the White House.

The program, established in 2010 as part of President Barack Obama's Executive Order, rates applicants on academic achievement, leadership and civic engagement. To be considered as an HBCU All-Star students must submit their college transcripts, résumés, produce an essay and gather letters of recommendation.

"Deja Young and Temilade Aladeniyi's selection as members of the White House Initiative's HBCU All-Star program is a great distinction and a well-deserved honor," said NCCU Acting Chancellor Johnson O. Akinleye, Ph.D. "Their determination for academic excellence and achievement is a great example of the many scholars North Carolina Central University produces."

Young, a Lexington, N.C., native pursuing a bachelor's degree in mathematics secondary educator and psychology, credits last year's honoree, Tamina Kienka, for encouraging her to apply.

"I'm very excited to be an HBCU All-Star, I've been working hard and preparing for this moment," said Young, who is also a member of the university's honors program and Kappa Delta Pi, international education honor society.

Along with her academic achievements, Young is an undergraduate research assistant at NCCU's Center for Translational Health Equity Research.

Aladeniyi, a sophomore biology student from Charlotte, considers it a great opportunity to represent North Carolina Central University among many other brilliant students from HBCUs around the country.

"The support and encouragement from NCCU's faculty, staff and alumni has allowed me to excel in my major and co-curricular activities. I wouldn't have been able to achieve my academic success and this award without their support," said Aladeniyi. "NCCU has embraced me and I'm so excited to represent NCCU as an White House HBCU All-Star."

Aladeniyi, a native of Nigeria who has studied at NCCU since 2014, currently has a 4.0 grade point average. She has been involved with several student organizations, including the NCCU Honda Campus All-Star Challenge Team, and is the president of the Association of Students for a Better Africa.

She is also a member of NCCU's chapter of GlobeMed, a student led non-profit organization that seeks to strengthen global health equity. She has also contributed greatly to the NCCU community through her work as an undergraduate research assistant.

"We're looking forward to working with this new class of HBCU All Stars," said Deputy Under Secretary of Education and Acting Executive Director White House Initiative on HBCUs Kim Hunter Reed. "Our goal is to provide a unique opportunity for these talented students that exposes them to critical national conversations and thought leaders. No doubt they will make their mark and represent their campuses well."

Over the course of the next year, along with other HBCU All-Stars, Young and Aladeniyi will participate in the White House HBCU Week Conference in September, as well as take part in national events and engage via web chats with professionals from a range of disciplines.

Media note: To view videos of Young and Aladeniyi's notification of the award, please click here.

North Carolina Central University prepares students to succeed in the global marketplace. Selected as 2016 HBCU of the Year by HBCU Digest, NCCU offers flagship programs in the sciences, technology nursing, education, law, business and the arts. Founded in 1910 as a liberal arts college for African-Americans, NCCU remains committed to diversity in higher education. Our alumni excel in a wide variety of academic and professional fields. Visit www.nccu.edu.



George E. Curry

Legendary Journalist, Black Press Columnist George Curry Remembered As Champion of Civil Rights

By Hazel Trice Edney

(TriceEdneyWire) - Renowned civil rights and Black political journalist George E. Curry, the dean of Black press columnists because of his riveting weekly commentary in Black newspapers across the country, is being remembered this week as a legend.

Curry died suddenly of heart failure on Saturday, August 20. He was 69.

"He stood tall. He helped pave the way for other journalists of color to do their jobs without the questions and doubts," said the Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr. with whom Curry traveled extensively, including to the funeral of President Nelson Mandela. "He was a proud and tireless advocate of the Black press, serving two tours as editor-in-chief of the National Newspaper Publishers Association's news service."

Curry's fiancée Ann Ragland confirmed that the funeral will be held Saturday, August 27, at 11 am at the Weeping Mary Baptist Church, 2701 20th Street, Tuscaloosa, Ala. Rev. Al Sharpton will give the eulogy. A viewing on Saturday will be from 8:30-11 am.

Ragland said a viewing will also be held on Friday evening, Aug. 26, with Rev. Jackson speaking, but the time and venue have not been confirmed by deadline. Additional details will be announced this week.

Having grown up in Tuscaloosa during the height of racial segregation, Curry often said he "fled Alabama" and vowed never to return when he went away to college. However, Ragland said he always told her to return him home to Tuscaloosa upon his death.

Shocking rumors of his death circulated heavily in journalistic circles on Saturday night until it was confirmed by Dr. Bernard Lafayette, MLK confidant and chairman of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference shortly before midnight.

"This is a tragic loss to the movement because George Curry was a journalist who paid special attention to civil rights because he lived it and loved it," Lafayette told the Trice Edney News Wire through his spokesman Maynard Eaton, SCLC national communications director.

Curry's connection to the SCLC was through his longtime childhood friend, confidant and ally in civil rights, Dr. Charles Steele, SCLC president. Steele and Curry grew up together in Tuscaloosa, Ala., where they played football at Druid High School. Curry bloomed as a civil rights and sports writer as Steele grew into a politician and civil rights leader.

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Roberts wants response next week on voter ID ruling request

RALEIGH (AP) - Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts wants to hear from those who sued to overturn North Carolina's voter identification law about the state's request to restore the photo ID mandate for the November election.

The court said Aug. 16 that Roberts wants by Aug. 25 a written response to Monday's filing by the state to keep voter ID and 10 days of early voting in place.

Attorneys for state officials say voting rules shouldn't be altered this close to the general election. They want delayed a federal appeals court ruling last month that struck down a 2013 law, canceled voter ID and returned early voting to cover 17 days.

The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said the law was approved with the intent to discriminate against black voters.



President Barack Obama hugs a home owner while viewing her flood-damaged home in the Castle Place subdivision in Zachary, near Baton Rouge, La., Aug. 23, 2016. (Official White House Photo by Pete Souza)