

Charleston Club Tattler

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S.C. State Grad to Head S.C. Supreme Court

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Associate Justice Donald W. Beatty is the only candidate to run for chief justice of the S.C. Supreme Court. He is the lone African-American on the five-member court, and is the senior most associate justice. By longstanding tradition, the senior associate justice, runs unopposed for the vacancy created by a retiring chief justice and is elected by acclamation.



Donald W. Beatty (born c. 1952) is an Associate Justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court and formerly a Court of Appeals judge for the state. He was elected to a seat on the South Carolina Supreme Court on May 23, 2007. The Spartanburg native received his J.D. from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 1979 and his B.A. cum laude from South Carolina State University in 1974.

Beatty began his legal career by working for the Neighborhood Legal Assistance Program, thus fulfilling a personal commitment to use his legal training to benefit those who could not afford paid legal representation. Following his tenure with the legal assistance program, he established a private practice in his home town, Spartanburg, SC. During this time, Justice Beatty maintained a commitment to public service with his election to Spartanburg City Council, later moving to the state level with his election to the House of Representatives. In the S.C. General Assembly he served as a member of the Medical Military, Public and Municipal affairs Committee and the Judiciary Committee. In addition, he served as Vice-Chairman and Chairman-elect of the South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus.

After five years of distinguished service in the General Assembly, he was elected to the Circuit Court in 1995 where he served as a trial judge until he was elevated to the Court of Appeals in 2003. In 2007, Beatty was elected as an Associate Justice on the South Carolina Supreme Court. He has received numerous awards for community service and leadership; among them are, Profile in Leadership Award from Benedict College, Honorary Doctor of Laws from South Carolina State University, Living Legend Award from the NAACP, Superior Achievement Award from the Donald James Sampson Chapter of the National Bar Association, Man of the Year from the Epsilon Nu Chapter, Omega Psi Phi, and the Vision Award from the South Carolina Business Network.

On February 25, 2016, President Obama nominated Beatty to serve as a United States District Judge of the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina.

His nomination is currently pending before the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Smalls Brothers to take over Charleston Chronicle



Charleston Chronicle President/Editor/Publisher Jim French has named Tolbert Smalls Jr. as the new publisher of the newspaper. His brother, Damion Smalls, was named editor. The brothers are the sons of

Tolbert Smalls, Sr. and Nanette French Smalls. They are the grandsons of Jim and Olivia French and the late Simon and Marie Smalls.

Tolbert Smalls joined his grandfather's business as its marketing director in 2007 after graduating Francis Marion University with a B.S. Degree in General Business. He eventually became the paper's general manager and managing editor. Damion Smalls joined the paper in 2012 as its web manager after attending Coastal Carolina University. Tolbert Smalls has completed several courses in journalism since joining the business. While in college, Tolbert was a member of the Omicron Upsilon Chapter of Delta Sigma Pi professional fraternity. He served as the chapter's senior vice president and president of Community Service. In November 2015, he was recognized by the Bethune-Leonard Chapter of the National Council of Negro Women at its annual 'Innovators Under 35' banquet.

Damion studied Psychology & Sociology at Coastal Carolina University, expanded his role at the paper to include becoming social media manager, publishing assistant and writer. He assisted in organizing the January 2016 Charleston County Public Library's panel discussion with Chronicle staffers. His reporting focuses on technology, education and recreation in addition to business promotion and producing video content for The Chronicle. Tolbert said he will use the wisdom instilled in him by his grandfather and seek the advice of those who have come before him as his career with the publication develops. Damion plans to work on expanding the paper's reach from the Tri-County area to beyond. (Charleston Chronicle 3-9-2016)

Jenkins Institute for Children Turns 125 Years Old!

On April 2, the Jenkins Institute for Children will celebrate their 125th anniversary of its founding with a festive event, "The Legacy Moves Forward." The affair will include music, food, beverages and more. Johanna Martin-Carrington, former executive director at Jenkins who now sits on its board of directors, said the celebration also will

serve to kick off the Jenkins' capital campaign to fund construction of a new cultural center at the campus located 3923 Azalea Drive in N. Charleston.



Jenkins Institute for Children, formerly Jenkins Orphanage, was established in 1891 by Rev. Daniel J. Jenkins after he found four orphaned young Black boys huddled against the cold on the streets of Charleston. Originally located on King St., the orphanage doubled as a day school. Jenkins converted a cabin on the lot into housing for the boys. Other boys soon joined them. Within six months the number of students at the school grew to 96 though only a small number of students actually lived at the orphanage. In 1892 Jenkins, who was pastor of Fourth Baptist Church, led his congregation to form the Orphan Aid Society which built a new school and 24-room orphanage on two lots on H Street adjacent to the King Street school.

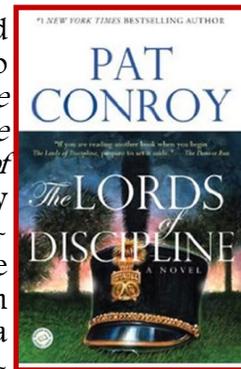
As the orphanage grew, the need for space led Jenkins in 1893 to purchase a building at 20 Franklin St. where he housed his orphans and continued his school. By 1894 he had incorporated industrial education into the school's program. A proponent of the self-help concept, Jenkins implemented a structured program emphasizing trade and craft skills that would benefit the orphanage and the youngsters. That year, Jenkins acquired 100 acres of land in Ladson from a wealthy New York manufacturer where he grew cotton, raised livestock and sold lumber. Greenwood Industrial Farm allowed the orphanage to become an independent enterprise. Funding was a consistent problem. The orphanage used its farm to supplement its income provided through donations from individuals and local churches. In 1937 it moved from Magazine Street to a 220-acre farm in the North Area on the banks of the Ashley River. It still is located at that site.

One of the orphanage's best known programs was its band. The band gained national and international recognition as a result of performances across the United States and abroad. The band's performances generated substantial funding for the orphanage. A number of band members went on to perform with bandleaders such as Duke Ellington, Dizzie Gillespie, Count Basie and Lionel Hampton. Other residents of the institute became doctors, lawyers, ministers and teachers. Jenkins died in 1937, but the band he formed cemented the institution's renown. The orphanage Jenkins founded continues to serve children. About 16 residents live at the 70-acre waterfront campus. Martin-Carrington said the proposed \$1 million cultural center will provide a resource where genealogical and historical information can be stored and maintained for public viewing.

Novelist, Pat Conroy Dies in Beaufort— He was 70 Y.O.

One of South Carolina's most gifted storytellers died on March 4th at the age of 70. Best-selling author Pat Conroy succumbed to cancer at his home in Beaufort. He turned

his difficult youth, family trauma and his home state's civil rights legacy into compelling best-selling novels like *The Great Santini*, *The Prince of Tides*, *The Lords of Discipline* and *South of Broad*. "I always steal the stories of my friends and family," he told USA TODAY. "Around me, no one is safe." He was born Donald Patrick Conroy on Oct. 26, 1945 in Atlanta, GA into a large military family, the family eventually settled in Beaufort, SC. His 1980 book, *The Lords of Discipline* in which alumni and cadets' plot to drive out the school's first black student (Charles D. Foster, C.A. Brown '66) and anyone who helps him, made Conroy to be ostracized by the Citadel community. Camera crews were not allowed on campus to shoot the 1983 movie version. During a 2002 homecoming visit, fans lined up for signed copies of *My Losing Season*, about his final year on the Citadel's basketball team.



Congressional Civil Rights Pilgrimage to S.C.

The Faith and Politics Institute led a bipartisan Congressional Civil Rights Pilgrimage to South Carolina on March 18th-20th. A delegation of members of Congress took part in the journey that explored the unique role of faith and the civil rights history of South Carolina. The pilgrimage made stops in Columbia, Orangeburg and Charleston and listen to the stories of civil rights luminaries, religious leaders and historians.



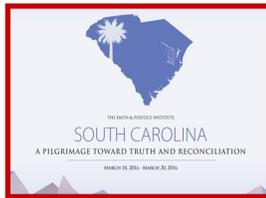
Representative Jim Clyburn (D-SC) and U.S. Senator Tim Scott (R-SC) along with Lindsey Graham (R-SC), and civil rights movement icon Rep. John Lewis (D-GA) co-hosted the pilgrimage over the weekend. Participants learned about SC civil rights pioneers such as Septima Clark and about the 400-year old Gullah Geechee cultural heritage. The delegation visited such historic sites as Zion and Brookland Baptist Churches and that of the Orangeburg massacre where three students were killed in Feb. 1968 while demonstrating against segregation. Participants also discussed the impact of the 2015 Charleston killing, and the reactions of the victims' family members on the community, S.C. and the nation. The pilgrimage culminated in a Palm Sunday worship service at the historic Mother Emanuel A.M.E. Church.

Since 1998, The Faith and Politics Institute has led annual Congressional Civil Rights Pilgrimages to five southern states affording hundreds of members of the House and Senate an experiential journey through the American civil rights movement as well as international trips.

Rev. Pinckney Scholars Program Opens!

Two weeks after an avowed white supremacist killed nine black worshippers at Emanuel A.M.E. Church in June, a group of anonymous, out-of-state donors ponied up

more than \$3 million for a college scholarship fund named in honor of the church's slain pastor. Eight months later, applications for the Reverend Pinckney Scholars Program are finally open. The program, administered by the Coastal Community Foundation, will award up to eight renewable scholarships, worth between \$5,000 and \$10,000 annually. Black high school seniors who live in Beaufort, Charleston or Jasper counties are eligible to apply.



The selection committee will award scholarships to students who not only demonstrate financial need and strong academic performance but also embody the character and leadership of the late pastor and state Sen. Clementa Pinckney, said Darrin Goss Sr., president and CEO of Coastal Community Fdn. "Rev. Pinckney was, to me, a coalition builder," Goss said. "He could talk and relate and build consensus among people of diverse backgrounds, maybe coming from different political persuasions, and doing that in a way that demonstrated integrity and transparency and trust." Pinckney's widow, Jennifer Pinckney, has agreed to interview the finalists and help choose the winners. Former Charleston Mayor Joe Riley, Harvard professor Henry Louis Gates and investment banker William Lewis Jr. will serve as the scholarship program's advisers.

Emanuel Memorial Coming to Charleston Int'l Airport

The Charleston Intl Airport gave the public its first look at renderings for the planned \$175,000 Emanuel A.M.E. Memorial. Officials say the space will be a place for reflection and contemplation. The renderings were presented March 17th during the Charleston County Aviation Authority Board's meeting, a few months after members decided to create a space at the memorial to honor the nine church shooting victims.



"The memorial will be the first thing people see when they exit the gate area, a place of inspiration to our visitors, and a place for those that call the Lowcountry home to celebrate this remarkable community." The memorial will be in the Central Hall across from the arrivals area where two five-foot-tall stained glass windows, a sitting area, and a table with a Bible open to the verse the church members were studying the night of the shooting. "The Board is committed to the creation of a meaningful and lasting memorial to honor the Mother Emanuel A.M.E. victims and survivors."

Charleston Roots of John Hopkins' Heart Doctor

Dr. Robert Samuel DeCosta Higgins, M.D. - As the first African-American to run a department at The Johns Hopkins Hospital, new surgeon-in-chief Robert Higgins leads a double life: He is both renowned surgeon and barrier-breaking pioneer. Higgins is the William Stewart Halsted Professor of Surgery and director of the Department of

Surgery at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He aims to use his position to help foster a racially diverse and inclusive environment at Johns Hopkins and nationwide so that no one has to lead a double life.

A former president of the Society of Black Academic Surgeons and the Association of Black Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgeons, Higgins is nationally known for his advocacy on behalf of building a physician workforce that



mirrors the country's racial and ethnic diversity.

Surrounding him are dozens of family photos. They form a visual narrative of Higgins' life and include a black-and-white portrait of his late father and namesake in his army uniform. Robert Higgins, Sr., a Meharry Medical College-trained family practitioner in Charleston, who died from injuries sustained in a car accident when Higgins was 5 years old. "His father had a bright future as a physician and did not have a chance to fulfill his aspirations," says Higgins, 56. He says he chose his career in part to complete the work his father left unfinished. He is the grandson of A.M.E. Bishop Samuel Richard Higgins, former president of Allen University in Columbia (1939-1956) and his wife, Eugenia DeCosta Higgins. Dr. Higgins went on to earn his M.D. from Yale School of Medicine and master's degree in health services administration from Virginia Commonwealth University.

As Higgins has settled into his job in Baltimore, his wife, Molly, a former transplant nurse who is now a pre-school teacher, remains home in Chicago with their youngest son, Grant, a high school junior. His daughter, Grace, is a senior at Vanderbilt University. John, the Higgins' oldest child is a recent graduate of Dartmouth University - where he also played football - is applying to medical school.

Charleston Club Tattler ~ One liners ...

- The **39th Annual Cooper River Bridge Run** is scheduled for **April 2nd** in the Holy City. The Cooper River Bridge Run provides a world-class 10-K foot race. The race begins in Mt. Pleasant, crosses the Cooper River Bridge and finishes in downtown Charleston.
- **Coach Earl Brown**, Burke's legendary H.S. basketball coach is returning to the hard court. Brown was hired by Cross High School (Moncks Corner area) in early March. Coach Brown made history as the coach of Burke H.S. in 2011, when he was just six wins short of No. 700 and his contract was not renewed. He was reinstated after a public outcry. He later went on to coach at Baptist Hill High School in the Hollywood, SC area. Brown has 23 region titles over his career. He's been named the region coach of the year 16 times.
- **Ralph David Abernathy, III**, a former Georgia state senator and namesake son of a civil rights icon, died on March 17th, two days short of his 57th birthday. Abernathy III was diagnosed with colon cancer five years ago. Abernathy's father, **Ralph David Abernathy, Jr.**, was a

leader of the Civil Rights movement and Martin Luther King's closest friend. In 1957, the elder Abernathy co-founded, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. **Rev. Ralph David Abernathy, Jr.** died on April 17, 1990.

- Monday, April 4th is the one-year anniversary of the shooting of **Walter Scott** (April 4, 2015), in North Charleston. Scott was fatally shot by North Charleston police officer Michael Slager, who was charged with murder after a video surfaced contradicting his police report. On June 8th, a grand jury indicted Slager on a charge of murder. He was released on bond in January 2016 and a trial is scheduled to begin in October 2016.
- April 4th is also the 48th anniversary of the death of **Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** (January 15, 1929 – April 4, 1968) in Memphis, TN. MLK, Jr. Days were established as a holiday in numerous cities and states beginning in 1971, and as a U.S. federal holiday in 1986. Hundreds of streets in the U.S. have been renamed in his honor, The Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial on the National Mall was dedicated in 2011. James Earl Ray was convicted on his 41st birthday (March 10, 1969) after entering a guilty plea to forgo a jury trial. He was sentenced to 99 years in prison. In April 1998, Ray died in prison of complications due to chronic hepatitis C infection.

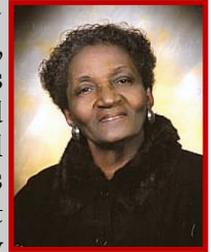


- **Ms. Alonia Oneillia Holloway** died on February 11, 2016 in Greensboro, NC. Alonia was a 1959 graduate of Burke H.S.; her death came two weeks short of her 73rd birthday. Funeral services were held on February 19th, at Shiloh Baptist Church in Greensboro. Alonia moved to Greensboro in 1963 when her mother, Mrs. Pauline Brown Holloway became an English/French instructor at N.C. A&T College in the early 1960s. Alonia was also the daughter of the late Dr. Charles T. Holloway; her body was returned to Charleston and interment was at the Humane & Friendly Society Cemetery in North Charleston.
- **Mrs. Phoebe Russell McPherson** entered into eternal rest on Friday, February 19th in Washington. Phoebe was the beloved sister of Charleston Club members Reginald W. and Emmett M. Russell. Phoebe and her husband, Harold moved to the Washington area forty-plus years ago. Being one of the oldest of the eight Russell siblings, Phoebe was a Shining LIGHT to her siblings. She attended Buist Elementary School and graduated from Burke Industrial H.S. in the 1950s. Phoebe was always concerned and involved with her younger brothers and sisters. She wanted "the best" for each of them and eager to help her



parents, the late John Henry and Mary Forrest Russell, Sr. from their Logan Street days. She was "the best" (in the family) at cooking, cosmetology, sewing, crocheting and knitting; perfecting her skills on her family and becoming masterful at most. She enjoyed her 37 years of work experience at the U.S. Treasury Dept. before retirement. Home-going services were Saturday, March 12th at The New Vision Fellowship Church in Forestville, MD. Her sister, Wilhelmenia designed a very fitting "Butterfly Themed" funeral program for Phoebe's services... "The Beautiful Butterfly!"

- **Mrs. Christina A. "Sara" Gladney** entered into eternal rest on Thursday, March 3rd in Portsmouth, VA, she was 78 years old. Christina (Sara) and Charleston Club president Rose Randall were cousins, but grew up together as "sisters" and they always kept that bond. Mrs. Gladney was originally from Charleston, but Portsmouth became her home for the past 50 years. She was preceded in death by her husband, Prentice Gladney, Sr. to whom she was married for forty-eight years. Christina was the last of 17 children, she received her early education in Charleston, attending Henry P. Archer and graduated from Burke H.S. in the mid-50s. Her interests in cosmetology lead her to receive her certification from Apex Beauty School in Columbia. In June 1956 she met and married her late husband, Prentice. This union led to the birth of 7 children; and as a military family residing/traveling to various places such as Charleston, North Africa, Tampa; and finally residing in Portsmouth, VA. A Celebration of Life Service was held on Saturday, March 12th at the New Light Baptist Church, in Chesapeake, VA.
- **Miss Cari Camielle Edwards**, the 17 year old granddaughter of former Charleston Club members Andrew and Bonnie D. Edwards entered into eternal rest on Saturday, March 5, 2016. Cari was the beloved daughter of Ronald E. Edwards and Kasey L. Edwards, and the sister of Kori Edwards. Home-going services were well attended by a host of family members and loyal friends, on Friday, March 11th at Ebenezer A.M.E. Church, in Ft. Washington, MD. Donations were scheduled to be made to St. Paul United Methodist Church, Oxon Hill, MD for the Cari C. Edwards Scholarship Fund and to the Academic Empowerment Foundation for the Cari C. Edwards Student Grants Fund.



Happy Birthdays!

Charleston Club's April Birthdays:

Michelle Gaston - April 3rd ~ **Emmett Russell** - April 8th ~
Mark M. Evans - April 12th ~ **Jack Rogers** - April 14th ~
Clarence McNeill - April 23rd ~ **Alethia Starke** - April 27th.
- The Fly on The Wall !