



# Historic Health Care Bill Signed Into Law

**Brenda Bines**  
**President Goose Creek NAACP Branch**



While it has been a long and often challenging year for Health Care Reform, the passage of this legislation has turned the right of every American to have access to decent health care into a reality for the first time in American history. It gives the more than 30 million uninsured and underinsured Americans-especially African Americans who disproportionately lack access to health insurance as well as quality health.... hope. Nearly one in five African Americans (19 percent) is without health care insurance.

With this reform, 7 million African Americans who are currently uninsured will now have access to health care.

Ultimately, the passage of the Health Care Reform will mark a major turning point for our nation and will become a staple of our nations programs to improve the health and well being of all Americans, akin to social security, and Medicare of which were unpopular upon passage but now viewed favorably by many.

### Summary of Health Care Bill passed by Congress and Signed into law by President Obama

The new health insurance coverage expansion begins in 2014. When fully phased in, 95 percent of eligible Americans would have health insurance coverage, compared with only 83 percent today.

The law will:

- Give adults who are uninsured because of pre-existing conditions access to affordable insurance through a temporary high-risk pool.
- Prevent insurers from denying coverage to people when they get sick;
- Extend coverage to young adults up to the age of 26 on their parents insurance;
- Eliminate life-time caps on coverage;
- Close the Medicare Part D donut hole in 2010 by providing a \$250 rebate to Medicare beneficiaries who hit the gap in prescription drug coverage. And beginning in 2011, the bill institutes a 50% discount on prescription drugs in the donut hole.
- Require insurers to offer free preventive care, and
- Give 35 percent tax credits to small businesses to help defray the costs associated with providing health insurance to employees.

Hopefully, we will become a nation where decent health care is a privilege for all and not for the rich. We will become a nation who will not turn away children and seniors because they are too poor to have insurance. We will become a nation who will not allow people to die because they cannot afford life-saving medical treatments.

Finally, whatever happens in the remainder of President Obama's term, future biographers will mark March 23, 2010, as a turning point in America.

### Read What others have to say about the Historic Health Care Reform Bill . . .

*"I am pleased that finally there is Health Care Reform legislation signed into law by President Obama. This is an historic moment in our history and I applaud the work of the NAACP in helping to ensure the passage of this legislation. While this is not a perfect solution to the dis-*



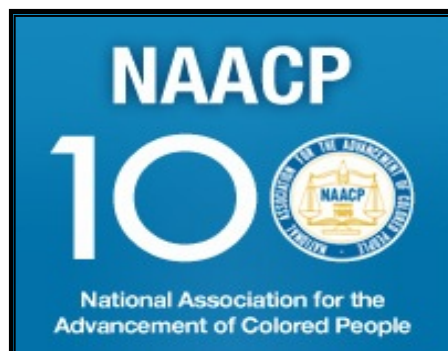
*parities in health care, it is an important first step. I encourage all people of good will to continue to advocate for health care for all Americans, which I consider a civil right."*

*Madie Robinson, President  
 Florence NAACP Branch  
 Member, NAACP National Board of Directors*



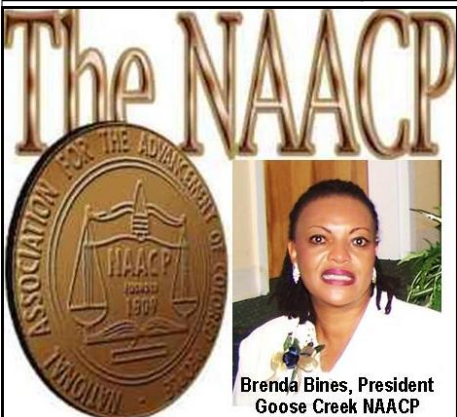
*SC Congressman James Clyburn, the House Majority Whip, said . . ."we have debated this issue for several generations. The time has come to act. This is the Civil Rights Act of the 21st Century."*

*SC Congressman James Clyburn*



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Brenda Bines, President  
Goose Creek NAACP

### BRANCH MEETINGS

Goose Creek NAACP meets the first Monday of the month at  
Abraham Masonic Building  
206 Liberty Hall Rd; Goose Creek, SC.

#### Upcoming Meetings

**Monday April 12, 2010\*** 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM General Meeting  
Monday May 3, 2010

*\*This meeting will be at Berkeley Electric (2 Springhall Dr, Goose Creek)*

Goose Creek Branch NAACP  
PO Box 1356  
Goose Creek, SC 29445-1356  
Telephone: 843-870-4225  
Fax: 843-628-4950  
[www.naacpgoosecreek.org](http://www.naacpgoosecreek.org)  
Email: [info@naacpgoosecreek.org](mailto:info@naacpgoosecreek.org)

#### Officers

President .....Brenda Bines  
1st VP .....David Cakley  
2nd VP.....Orville Hayes  
Secretary.....Aja Adams Blanding  
Treasurer.....Tamekia Morant

#### Executive Committee Members

Rev. Ted Adams	Beverly Hargrow
Jackie Adams	Ranese Harrell
Eddie Anderson	David Johnson
Barbara Blackwell	Betty Jones
Herbert Bodison	Thomas Lanier
Lori Brooks	Marlene Lemon
Veronica Dukes	Paul W. Staggers, Jr.
Andrea Glover	Eyamba Williams



### SAVE THE DATE!

GOOSE CREEK, SOUTH CAROLINA  
NAACP BRANCH

2010 Freedom Fund Luncheon

## 6TH Annual Freedom Fund Gala

12:30 PM

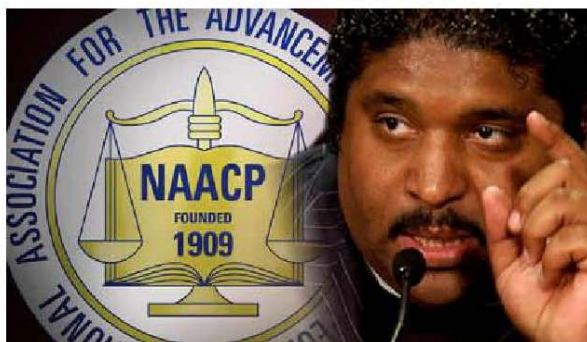
Saturday June 12th, 2010

at

### Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church

Brenda Bines  
Goose Creek NAACP Branch President

#### GUEST SPEAKER




Tickets are \$40

Tables are \$400

**The Reverend Dr. William J. Barber, II**  
Pastor Greenleaf Christian Church  
President, North Carolina State Conference of the NAACP  
National Board Member of the NAACP  
Board Member of the NC Justice Center

**For Tickets and More Information Call 843-870-4225 or 843-442-1319**


*"You can kill a man but you can't kill an idea"*

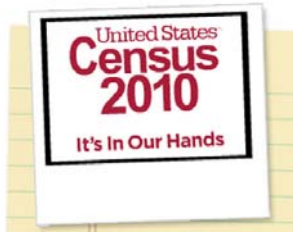


Myrlie Evers

KEEP THE IDEA OF FREEDOM ALIVE

## JOIN NAACP





IT'S IN OUR HANDS

## NAACP 2010 Census Campaign

Participation in the 2010 Census will ensure that your voice and the voice of your community count.  
**Celebrate National Census Day: April 1, 2010**

Every 10 years, the U.S. government conducts a national Census: a demographic count of the American people. Federal funding, political representation, infrastructure projects & private investment are all based on Census data. When families do not participate, their communities lose resources and power. Yet low-income families and communities of color—those who stand the most to benefit from the Census—are often less likely to participate.

That's why the NAACP has launched Yes We Count, a nationwide mobilization to ensure that every American family participates. We'll be canvassing hard-to-reach neighborhoods and getting word out through our mobile phone network, but we can't do it alone. Spread the word, take the pledge and volunteer. Together, we can make sure that every American is counted.

**Be sure both to return your form and encourage your family, friends, and neighbors to do the same**

**If you have not received a form in the mail, promptly contact the census Bureau at 866-872-6868**

**Make sure you and your community count.**

*When families do not participate in the census, it means their communities lose access to money, resources and power. Together, we can make sure all Americans count.*

**Census Bureau Call Center: 301-763-INFO (4636) or 800-923-8282**

## Reformer in Chief: Honing in on Obama's Agenda

C. Nicole Mason, Ph.D



C. Nicole Mason

**March 26, 2010 -**

### **Healthcare reform—check.**

Overhauling America's economic infrastructure and financial regulatory system—in process. Immigration reform—in the pipeline. Closing the educational achievement gap—working on it. Shutting Guantanamo Bay—delayed until further review. Ending the war in Iraq and repealing Don't Ask Don't Tell—both on the radar.

Obama won election on a reformist platform. His ambitious agenda, coupled with his pledge to transform Washington and calls for bipartisanship, convinced many that a more even-handed democracy and level playing field were within reach. However, over the past year, change has seemed to pour like cold molasses over a stack of pancakes.



Up until a few days ago, nothing was going according to plan. Obama and by extension his agenda couldn't seem to catch a break. Obstinate Republicans, jockeying Democrats afraid to risk their seats in the upcoming mid-term elections, and the newly formed tea bag movement have made his agenda seem nearly impossible to achieve. And those who got him elected—millennials, independents,

people of color and progressives were beginning to get restless.

In fact, recent polls showed support of Obama slipping with his key demographics. Among millennials, a group he carried by a two-to-one margin over McCain in the general election, for example, his job approval rating has slipped, from a high of 73 percent in February 2009 to just 57 percent today. For millennials, the explanation for the decline in support is simple—change hasn't happened fast enough. They like their change just like they like their communication—at 3G speed.

Among independents, his approval rating has declined 10 points—and it now stands at just 42 percent. And in some of the states he managed to flip in the general election—Virginia, Nevada and New Mexico, he is doing much worse; his approval rating hovers around 35 percent. Independents have no loyalty to either party. Losing the buy-in of independents can spell trouble down the road for Obama. He needs them to help push his agenda beyond partisan splits.

And although Obama maintains extraordinary levels of support among blacks and Latinos, there are rumblings that his agenda seems a little too universal and less specific at a time when unemployment is soaring in the black community and citizenship is out of reach for many immigrants.

To say that Obama needed a big, decisive win is understatement. And he got it in the passage of the healthcare reform legislation. With one fell swoop, he managed to simultaneously

restore faith in his agenda and push back tea partysers who grossly underestimated his political will and fortitude.

So, what's next? Judging from the fallout from the healthcare legislation, we still have a long way to go. For Obama, it will take grit, discipline, and perseverance to move his agenda. For our part, we have to be prepared for the time it takes to overhaul a system, shift a culture and correct inequalities that have been festering for generations. There's no way around it.

Because of the lack of responsiveness from the previous Administration to the needs of those who pushed Obama to victory, it seems as though change can't come soon enough. However, it is important to remember it has only been a little over a year since Obama took office. There are so many balls in the air; it is hard to tell which one to catch next. Is the economy more important than immigration than healthcare reform or ending the war? It depends on whom you ask.

I am not so much into polls as much as I am into sensing the mood of a moment. Obama needed a game change—something that would shift the mood from angst and pessimism to hope once more. And he got it. The passage of the healthcare reform legislation signals that reform and change are inevitable, and that it is just a matter of time.

*Dr. C. Nicole Mason is the Executive Director of the Women of Color Policy Network at the Wagner School of Public Service at New York University.*



### Health Disparities

The National Institute of Health defines health disparities as: "differences in the incidence, prevalence, mortality, and burden of diseases and other adverse health conditions that exist among specific population groups in the United States." In essence, disparities in health exist when there are unequal burdens of disease among specific population groups. It is this unequal sharing of disease burdens that leads to differences in health status among population groups.

Disparities are found in access to quality health care services, in the burden of diseases or complications from disease, and in the number of deaths from disease. For example, in South Carolina racial and ethnic minorities are more than two times more likely to experience diabetes than are white persons and three times more likely to die from the disease.

### Eliminating Health Disparities: An NAACP Strategic Priority

Elimination of disparities in accessibility to quality health care services by African-Americans and other minority groups is central to the work of the Goose Creek Branch. The Health Committee of the Goose Creek Branch:

- Supports Advocacy for universal health insurance and access to appropriate health care for all;
- Campaigns for equal access to health education, care and treatment;
- Sponsors events, such as health forums, HIV/AIDS Testing, and events that highlight issues of importance to people of color;
- Supports equal representation of African-Americans and other minorities within the health professions;
- Supports the increased research funding on African-American health issues; and supports health initiatives of the national NAACP.

### April is National Donate Life Month

Each day about 74 people receive an organ transplant. However, 17 people die each day waiting for transplants that can't take place due to the shortage of donated organs. The rate of organ donations in the minority community does not keep pace with the number needing transplants.

For more information or to register as an organ donor go to **Minority Organ Tissue Transplantation Education Program** at [www.mottep.org](http://www.mottep.org) or **SC Donor Registry** at: [www.donatelifesc.org](http://www.donatelifesc.org)



### Truth and Lies About the Prostate

Over the past several weeks, information about the prostate has been targeted at African American men throughout the country. It is unfortunate that well known African Americans have been recruited to promote products to African American men about prostate health that have no substantiated medical basis yet black men are encouraged to try these products. In my community, radio commercials about this product runs on a regular basis targeting African American men who have been calling me about its effectiveness. Of course, I have not recommended it to my patients.

I encourage all black men who are inclined to use the product "Beta Prostate" to use it "at your own risk". There is no evidence-based medical research that this product works to improve prostate health. Discuss the product with your physician. There is no product to date that can improve prostate health. Good nutrition, optimal weight and being fit are the best options for prostate health.

Remember the vitamin Selenium? It was promoted to protect men from prostate cancer. Recent research shows that Selenium does not work to protect one from prostate cancer.

Bell Update Volume 1  
Copyright March 2010

### April is National Minority Health Month

Theme:

**Man Up To Your Health! Healthy Men Move Our Communities Forward**

To learn more go to <http://www.minorityhealth.hhs.gov>

### African American 9 A Day Campaign

The National Cancer Institute's new campaign encourages African-American men to eat 9 servings of fruits and vegetables a day for better health.



# THE 57<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SOUTHEAST REGION CIVIL RIGHTS ADVOCACY TRAINING INSTITUTE OFFICIAL CALL

April 29 – May 1, 2010

**“NAACP: ONE NATION, ONE DREAM”**



**ALABAMA • FLORIDA • GEORGIA • MISSISSIPPI • NORTH CAROLINA • SOUTH  
CAROLINA • TENNESSEE**

We are happy to announce that the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Southeast Region NAACP Civil Rights Advocacy Training Institute (CRATI) will be held **April 29 – May 1, 2010**, in the great city of **Tunica, Mississippi**. The Southeast Regional Conference has been one of the most outstanding events in the NAACP and this year's conference will be just as **AWESOME!**

This year's conference is designed to provide you with the necessary tools and guidance needed to move our Region to the next level. You will receive specialized training, participate in special events and hear and meet motivational speakers who will leave you inspired, motivated, fired up and ready to go back to your units to move the NAACP and Region V to the next level of excellence. With the closure of the Region V Office, we need to have the most equipped troops on the ground carrying out the NAACP's work in every community.

We are excited by the opportunities the convention provides in commemorating the people and events that have created one of the greatest and most historically rich civil rights breeding grounds. Units are invited to express a special message in the convention journal.

## **SOUVENIR JOURNAL ADVERTISEMENT COSTS FOR NAACP UNITS**

- ◆ Full Page \$250.00
- ◆ ½ Page \$175.00

(continued on next page)



Please note that the deadline to submit your ad for the souvenir journal is **Thursday, April 15, 2010**. Due to the tight timeframe that we are working with, we will not be able to accept any ads after this deadline date.

### CONVENTION HOUSING

We are excited by the opportunities the convention provides in commemorating the people and events that have created one of the greatest and most historically rich civil rights breeding grounds.

The **Veranda Hotel at Harrah’s Hotel & Casino** will serve as the convention site for this year’s Regional CRATI. Listed below, please find specific information regarding the location, prices, and reservation deadline:



**Host Site:** Veranda Hotel at Harrah’s Hotel & Casino, Tunica  
13615 Old Highway 61 North  
Robinsonville, Mississippi 38664

**Prices:** \$119.00 + 10% sales tax (Single/Double Rooms)  
\$259.00 + 10% sales tax (Parlor Suite)

**Reservations:** 1-866-635-7095

Reservations by attendees must be received on or before **Wednesday, April 14, 2010**, (the “Cut-Off Date”). When calling, please request the **Tennessee State Conference –Region V NAACP** group rate to receive the discounted price. Hotel space is limited, so make your reservations **TODAY!**

### CONVENTION REGISTRATION COSTS

#### ON-REGISTRATION

On-site registration will begin on Thursday, April 29, 2010, at 4:00 p.m. During registration, you will receive an event nametag. It will be important that you keep track of this nametag throughout the conference, for it will be your **only** access into the Conference plenary session and special events.

#### CONVENTION FEES

- ◆ State Conferences \$150.00
- ◆ Branches \$100.00
- ◆ State Youth and College Divisions \$ 75.00
- ◆ Youth & College Division Units \$ 50.00

#### BRANCH REGISTRATION

- ◆ Includes Branch Convention Fee

(continued on next page)



- ◆ Includes (1) Adult Registration
- ◆ Includes (1) ticket to the Labor/Human Rights Breakfast
- ◆ Includes (1) ticket to the Membership/Memorial Luncheon
- ◆ Includes (1) ticket to the WIN Breakfast
- ◆ Includes (1) ticket to the Youth & College Luncheon
- ◆ Includes (1) ticket to the Freedom Awards Banquet

**Early Bird Special: \$250.00**

*(After April 23, 2010, an on-site fee of \$275 applies)*

**YOUTH/COLLEGE REGISTRATION**

- ◆ Includes Youth Unit Convention Fee
- ◆ Includes (1) Youth Registration
- ◆ Includes (1) ticket to the Youth Leadership Breakfast
- ◆ Includes (1) ticket to the Youth & College Luncheon
- ◆ Includes (1) ticket to the Freedom Awards Banquet

**Early Bird Special: \$125.00**

*(After April 23, 2010, an on-site fee of \$150 applies)*

**ADULT PACKAGE**

- ◆ Includes (1) Adult Registration
- ◆ Includes (1) ticket to the Labor/Human Rights Breakfast
- ◆ Includes (1) ticket to the Membership/Memorial Luncheon
- ◆ Includes (1) ticket to the WIN Breakfast
- ◆ Includes (1) ticket to the Youth & College Luncheon
- ◆ Includes (1) ticket to the Freedom Awards Banquet

**Early Bird Special: \$150.00**

*(After April 23, 2010, an on-site fee of \$160 applies)*

**YOUTH PACKAGE**

- ◆ Includes (1) Youth Registration
- ◆ Includes (1) ticket to the Youth Leadership Breakfast
- ◆ Includes (1) ticket to the Youth & College Luncheon
- ◆ Includes (1) ticket to the Freedom Awards Banquet

**Early Bird Special: \$100.00**

*(After April 23, 2010, an on-site fee of \$135 applies)*

**INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION FEE**

**Adult Registration \$45.00**

*(After April 23, 2010, an on-site fee of \$55 applies)*

**Youth Registration \$25.00**

*(After April 23, 2010, an on-site fee of \$30.00 applies)*

**ADDITIONAL TICKETS FOR EVENTS**

**A. Labor/Human Rights Breakfast – Friday, April 30, 2010 \$25.00**



- B. Youth Leadership Breakfast – Friday, April 30, 2010 \$25.00
- C. Ruby Hurley Membership Luncheon – Friday, April 30, 2010 \$35.00
- D. Women in the NAACP (WIN) Breakfast – Saturday, May 1, 2010 \$30.00
- E. Youth & College Luncheon – Saturday, May 1, 2010 \$25.00
- F. Freedom Awards Banquet – Saturday, May 1, 2010 \$50.00

**SPECIAL NOTE: Each branch, youth council and college chapter is asked to pay the annual convention fee, whether or not anyone from your unit attends. The packages listed above include payment of the unit assessment fee as well as an entire registration packet for one individual. Therefore, each branch, youth council, or college chapter can only purchase one package that includes the assessment fee.**

**THOSE TO BE REMEMBERED**

As I survey the list, we lost many movers and shakers in our local branches this year. **Help us to always remember those individuals who we should never forget!** We want to have a list of those individuals to be memorialized during the Ruby Hurley Memorial Membership Luncheon on Friday, April 30, 2010, during the Regional Conference. Please email your names to: [tannaacp3@bellsouth.net](mailto:tannaacp3@bellsouth.net) or fax them to (731) 660-5581 by **Thursday, April 15, 2010.**

**TRANSPORTATION/SHUTTLE**

For those individuals traveling by air, the closest airport to Tunica, Mississippi is the Memphis, Tennessee **(MEM)** airport which is approximately 30 miles from Tunica. Therefore, we will provide shuttle services from the Memphis Airport to Tunica for the convention.

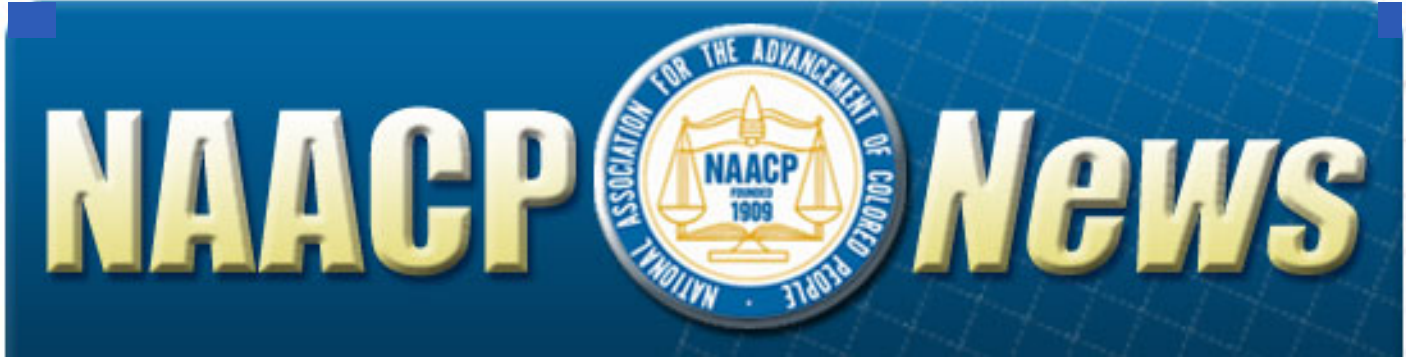
Therefore, it is important that once you have confirmed your air travel a copy of your itinerary be forwarded to [tannaacp3@bellsouth.net](mailto:tannaacp3@bellsouth.net). So, we can arrange shuttle services for you. Once we receive your information, you will receive a confirmation email to let you know what time the shuttle will pick you up along with the specific location.



**SEE YOU IN TUNICA WITH A SMILE!**

**For additional information, please contact:**

**NAACP Tennessee State Conference  
(731) 660-5581 – [tannaacp3@bellsouth.net](mailto:tannaacp3@bellsouth.net)**



### Goodbye Message from Angela Ciccolo, NAACP General Counsel

Dear Friends and Colleagues:



*It has been a pleasure to get to know you and to work with you. I wish you all the best as I transition from NAACP staff as the Association's first female General Counsel. The NAACP has changed this nation for the better through its fight for justice and equality. It has certainly enriched my life, and I leave staff as a much better and wiser person.*

*As many of you know, in mid April, I will begin serving as the General Counsel and Chief Legal Officer of Special Olympics International which serves over 3 million athletes in 180 countries. My office will be located at its headquarters in Washington, D.C., and after I get settled I hope you will reach out and get in touch. I am looking forward to this great opportunity and will miss many of you, although I expect to stay involved in the NAACP as a volunteer.*

*Special thanks to the hard working staff of the legal department: Anson Asaka, Sandra Grice, Victor Goode, Merigene Lumley, Lanita Ross, Evan Johnson and volunteer Kendra Glover; to the board of directors, SCF trustees, state conference presidents, legal redress chairpersons, the members of this great Association, and to fellow staff for your support.*  
*Sincerely,*

Angela Ciccolo  
General Counsel  
4805 Mt. Hope Drive  
Baltimore, MD 21215  
410-580-5792 Direct Dial  
410-358-9350 Facsimile

#### Angela's Route to Present Position

Ciccolo served in Paris as a trainer for the Conseil Représentatif des Associations Noires and as an election monitor during Venezuela's 2006 presidential contest. She was struck by Venezuelans' deep desire to participate in the process — they stood in lines miles long to vote, she said. Touch-screen machines used candidates' pictures,

flags and party colors to assist the voters, many of whom were illiterate. And they got receipts!

Her overseas work exemplified for Ciccolo the NAACP's "natural link" with its counterparts abroad, proving that "the same struggles inspire other minorities, women, the disabled and elderly to be able to advocate for their rights in their own countries."

Before joining the NAACP in 2000, Ciccolo served as a civil trial attorney with Ashcraft & Gerel in Washington, beginning in 1992. She served on the board of governors of the Trial Lawyers Association of Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Ciccolo was the first in her family to attend college; she holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Georgetown University's Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service and is a graduate of Georgetown University Law Center.

#### Personal

Ciccolo hails from Indianapolis. She enjoys gardening and creative writing in her free time. She and her husband, Christopher, an executive in the National Security Agency, are the parents of Christopher, 24; Nicholas, 22; and Danielle, 20. Ciccolo received the 2003 NAACP Staff Lawyer of the Year Award and the Medgar W. Evers Award, the NAACP's highest staff honor. She is a member of the District of Columbia Bar, the Maryland Bar and the U.S. Supreme Court Bar.

Ciccolo was instrumental in establishing the NAACP Law Fellow Program, which provides students the opportunity to learn civil rights laws and work as staff attorneys. It embodies her "Four Bs": "Be candid, be civil, be prepared and bring someone along."

### Former NAACP head Kweisi Mfume to lead National Medical Association



March 25, 2010 - Kweisi Mfume, the former head of the NAACP and a former member of Congress, was named on Thursday to head the National Medical Association.

The group, which represents black American doctors and their patients, has about 30,000 physician members. Mfume is not a doctor.

"The National Medical Association has been the conscience of the

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News continued from page 10

medical profession by making sure that African Americans and the underserved have a voice in their health and health care," Mfume said in a statement.

"We have a long way to go to truly eliminate health disparities, but now is the time to work with political, medical, and community leaders to make that vision real."

Mfume, 61, was President and CEO of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for nine years. He was also a Maryland member of the House of Representatives.

He was born Frizzell Gerald Gray and legally changed his name. □

### NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Attorney's named 2 of the Decade's Most Influential Lawyers



John Payton, President LDF President

Theodore V. Wells, Jr Co-chair LDF Board of Directors

These are the lawyers who've defined a decade."

So begins an article in the current issue of the National Law Journal announcing its list of "The Decade's Most Influential Lawyers."

Among that illustrious group are two of the leaders of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. John Payton, LDF President and Director-Counsel, was one of four attorneys named to the publication's list of the most influential attorneys in the field of civil rights law. And Theodore V. Wells, Jr., co-chair of the LDF Board of Directors and a partner at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison, was one

of four attorneys named as one of the decade's four most influential litigators. □

### Branch Members Recognized by City of Goose Creek

City of Goose Creek Mayor Michael Heitzler, City Administrator Dennis Harmon, and City Clerk Kelly Lovette hosted a get together and dinner for to recognize City of Goose Creek employees, commission and council members.



Harvey Becker Andrea Glover

Former branch president Andrea Glover was given a certificate for her service on the Recreation Commission.

Police Chief Harvey Becker was recognized for 30 years of service on the City Police Force.

Our congratulations go out to Andrea and Chief Becker for their service to the City of Goose Creek. □

### Colleton County Branch of the NAACP celebrates 25th Freedom Fund Banquet

Saturday, evening March 27, 2010 witnessed a changing of the guard for the Colleton County branch of the NAACP and a call to "Feed your dog." According to keynote speaker Nelson Rivers, III NAACP Vice President of, "America only respects big dogs."

In his address he likened the work of the NAACP over the past 103 years as being doggedly determined to making a difference in the lives of people of color and addressing issues of injustice that blocked access to resources necessary to pursue the American dream. He asked those assembled "have you feed your dog lately?"

With a personal history that epitomizes what hard work and a vision can do the Reverend

Nelson B. Rivers, III was introduced by past Colleton County NAACP President Raleigh Williams as "a great warrior" and "On fire for justice." In his opening remarks he highlighted the breadth and depth of the organizations development of the last one hundred and three years.

He told the attendees that he was proud to be there representing not just the NAACP here in Walterboro and South Carolina but all of the 1600 branches, 500 Youth Councils and 250 College Chapters of the NAACP. However, his closing remarks highlighted our challenges of today. He stated that the work is not over because "I don't care how much you tell me its raining...When you're spitting in my face...I know it's spit."

The theme of the year "Celebrating Our Past, Boldly Facing Our Future" was echoed by each speaker that evening from the invocation of Bishop Lewis Taylor to the welcome from Nicole Holmes to the greetings from the Honorable William Young, Mayor of the City of Walterboro to the Superintendent of Colleton County Schools Leila Williams. Each recounted some tale of "ole Walterboro" with what they see as a better state of affairs today.

Standing in for Walterboro City Council Chairman, Joe Flowers who could not attend the event, City Council Vice Chairman the Reverend Evon Robinson echoed the best wishes of the cadre of speakers during the evening as he stated, "Hat's off as we congratulate you on your continued efforts to make a difference for the people."

The well turned out crowd was treated to the vocal stylings of the Lucas Sisters from North Charleston and Walterboro's own Minister Alonzo Samuels offered selections on keyboard and vocals. With able assistance from Reverend Paul Thomas who offered blessings before dinner to the Reverend Jack Lewis Jr. and Doris Hicks who invited those who were not yet members of the NAACP to "feed their dog" and sign up for membership at the door before they left.

After awards to corporate sponsors and other supporters, Mrs. Vernelle Williams received a plaque for her many years of service to the Colleton County NAACP. After the benediction was delivered by the Rev. Leon Maxwell the 2010 Census representatives handed out free gifts as the banqueted ended. ■



Goose Creek, SC  
Branch # 56A3

## NAACP CREEK CONNECTION

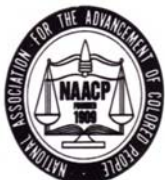
### 2010 Upcoming Events

- Apr 5 Regular Monthly Meeting Rescheduled to Observe former President Andrea Glover and John Matthews Jump The Broom
- Apr 12 **6PM Executive Committee Meeting**  
**7PM Monthly Meeting Both at Berkeley Electric (2 Spring Hall Dr; Goose Creek)**
- Jun 12 **12:30 PM 2010 Goose Creek Freedom Fund Gala at Mt. Moriah Baptist Church - North Charleston**
- Jun 12 Ridgeville NAACP Freedom Fund
- Jul 10-15 101st NAACP Annual Convention  
Kansas City, Missouri
- TBA Goose Creek Unity Day Aug

### FIVE REASONS TO JOIN THE NAACP

1. The fight for freedom is not free! Your membership will help fund initiatives and programs to support our mission of racial equality and equal justice
2. A membership in the NAACP is your opportunity to give back to the organization that has done more to change this country for the betterment of people of color, women, and the disenfranchised than any other in the nation's history
3. Your membership in the NAACP makes you a part of a force of 300,000 people who stand for the freedoms guaranteed in our nation's constitution
4. Your membership in the NAACP makes a direct and positive impact in your community when you join your local Unit
5. Your membership in the NAACP will give you access to our upcoming benefits program that provides discounts on products and services across the country

**THE NAACP  
IS TODAY**



Impact the issues affecting your community by joining the NAACP today!

Call 830-9779 or download application online from:  
[www.naacpgoosecreek.org](http://www.naacpgoosecreek.org)

JOIN US IN  
KANSAS CITY  
MISSOURI

# NAACP 101<sup>ST</sup>

ANNUAL CONVENTION  
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI JULY 10TH-15TH

NAACP: "One Nation, One Dream"

The 101st Annual Convention is scheduled for Saturday, July 10 to Thursday, July 15 at the Kansas City Convention Center, Kansas City, Missouri. **The official convention hotels are: Crown Plaza, Marriott Downtown, Westin Hotel, and Aladdin Hotel.**

**The Youth, ACT-SO and adult hotel will be the Marriott Downtown.**

#### NEW HOTEL PROCEDURE

Due to the high rate of cancellations and no shows and given the fact that when attendees cancel 72 hours in advance, the rooms revert back to the National Office, we have instituted a new hotel reservation policy.

All guests must guarantee reservations by making a deposit equivalent to the room rate for two nights, including applicable taxes then in effect. The deposits for one of the two nights shall be non-refundable and shall be credited to the NAACP account if a guest cancels their reservation 72 hours prior to the day of arrival. Credit cards used for the deposits shall be charged immediately.

**As in the past, requests for hotel suites must be submitted to the National Office, attention Events Planning Department or faxed to 410-764-7742.**

Please include current credit card information for this process or mail a check along with your request. Do not forget to include your arrival and departure dates. ■