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Then - 1876



Now - 2014

**138 Years of
Progress**

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INDIAN WOODS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
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The Gospel Oak

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We Celebrate Excellence

Clara Lewis Speller

In 1915, Woodrow Wilson was president, a gallon of milk cost 36 cents, Albert Einstein published his "Theory of Relativity", the first transcontinental conversation was held, the Boston Red Sox won the World Series, Billie Holliday, Frank Sinatra, and a beautiful baby girl named Clara Louis was born, the 10th of 12 children.

The beautiful baby grew up to be a beautiful woman of God—99 years strong. Married to Ervin Lee Speller, Sr., she raised 8 children, Norma Ophelia, Lizzie Pearl, Ervin, Jr., Maxine, Marvin, Joan, Judy, and Porcia. She and Ervin also raised a granddaughter, Linda and a grandson Kelvin as their very own. Her other grandchildren, Carshenia, Elliott, Ernest, Darryl, Sonia, Shelia, Nedra, and Trish, as well as nieces and nephews all look to her as the Matriarch of the family, and she has led by example as she continues to model her love for God, her church, her family and friends.

Like the beautiful dandelions, sunny and bright, you stand out as special.

We celebrate you and we love you. You make us proud.



Jhamya King



Student of the Month

Jhamya, age 7, a student at Williamston Primary School, Williamston, NC, was selected Student of the Month for December. Keep up the good work.



"The greatest discovery of any generation is that human beings can alter their lives by altering their attitudes."
— Albert Schweitzer

Timothy Woolard, Jr.

Timothy graduated from Boot Camp in Great Lakes, ILL on December 5, 2014, as a proud member of the United States Navy.



Quanesha Cooper

Question??? What does a girl with 2 degrees and a thirst for knowledge do once she graduates from college. If you are Quanesha Cooper, you go back to school. After visiting Costa Rica, she realized that one of the things she likes to do most is helping people. One way she can do this is to provide a skill that is very much needed. That of a Community Spanish Language Interpreter. She is now attending Johnston Community College in Smithfield, NC where she expects to graduate in 2016 and be certified.

The possibilities are endless—from state and local agencies to the State Department..Language Interpreters are in great demand. Best Wishes, Quanesha.



Farewell, Jethro Pugh

To the family of Jethro Pugh. We thank you for sharing him with the world for 70 years.

As members the Indian Woods Missionary Baptist Church, his home church, we have been the beneficiary of his generosity for many, many years. With his support and his desire to help others, he gifted us with an endowment that has helped well over 35 young men and women finance their educations. We will be forever grateful for his liberal support of our students. Not only will his spirit live on, but his charitable contributions are still blessing our church and our community. With everyone of our graduates, they know without a doubt that they were the recipients of blessings through the generosity of Jethro Pugh and the JETHRO PUGH SCHOLARSHIP FUND of Indian Woods Missionary Baptist Church.

While the public saw Jethro as an amazing football player, his family, friends and teammates also knew Jethro as a kind, loving and selfless man – a "gentle giant" at his height of 6'6". He was as hard-working, sharp, and tireless in business as he was on the football field. Jethro was also very dedicated to the community. He didn't just talk it, he proved it to us. He will forever be in our hearts. Read more about him at www.indianwoodsmbc.com