



## Until Justice Rolls Down Like Waters . . . Dr. Martin Luther King

Recently, I had the opportunity to spend several days in Montgomery, Alabama with other bankers. With the hope of improving diversity and inclusion in our businesses and communities, we decided to spend some time in Montgomery, arguably the starting place for the civil rights movement in the United States.

Our first stop was the National Memorial for Peace and Justice. The Memorial is “set on a six acre site, and uses sculpture, art and design

to con-



textualize racial terror.”\* Touring the memorial is profound. The memorial includes over 800 steel monuments, one for each county in the United States, where racial terror lynchings took place, with the names of lynching victims engraved on the columns. In the park surrounding the memorial, there is a field of identical monu-

ments, which will be installed over time in the counties that they represent.

Equal Justice Initiative has documented over 4,400 lynchings of black people in the United States between 1877 and 1950. Racial terror lynchings were nothing less than terrorism. Lynching victims were tortured and killed for no reason at all. One victim addressed a white police officer by his name without using the title of “Mr.” and was lynched and killed. A private in the U.S. Army was lynched after he refused to empty his pockets while wearing his Army uniform. One black man was lynched by a white mob for merely knocking on the door of a white woman’s house.

The memorial is an effort to tell the truth of what happened in our country during that period of time. Lynchings didn’t just happen in southern states; Illinois has 56 documented cases of racial lynchings.

*Continued on Page Two*

# Justice

*Continued from Page One*

We also had a chance to visit with Equal Justice Initiative staff, and tour the Equal Justice Initiative Legacy Museum. Equal Justice Initiative Director Brian Stevenson, as a young African-



American lawyer, started EJI to defend those wrongfully convicted people serving on death row, and also to defend children who were prosecuted as adults, and sentenced to long terms in jail. One of the equal justice initiatives' first cases was the defense and appeal for Anthony Ray Hinton, who was wrongfully convicted, sentenced to death row, and spent nearly three decades in jail before being exonerated. The equal justice initiative staff noted that there are 13 states in the United States that have no minimum age for trying children as adults, and some states set the minimum age for trying children as adults as young as 10, 12, or 13 years old.

The Southern Poverty Law Center has a monument of black granite and flowing water designed by Mia Lynn, the same sculptor that designed the Vietnam Memorial Wall. The Center includes an exhibit that details the lives of those displayed on the monument. Again, a very powerful place.

We were also able to visit the Rosa Parks Library and Museum, which is a major landmark in Montgomery, and is located where the actual arrest of Mrs. Parks took place in 1955. Many of you will recall that Rosa Parks was the African American seamstress that refused to give up her seat to a white man on a city bus in 1955. Ms. Parks was arrested for refusing to give up her seat, and that sparked the Montgomery public bus boycott, which lasted



for over one year. The boycott was successful, and Montgomery

*Continued on Page Three*

## Friends in Motion

Anniversaries being celebrated include: **Gordon and Dorothy Melvin** (43 years) of Macomb, **Bud and Deb Hobbs**(56 years) of Good Hope, **Larry and Judy McLouth** (56 years) of Bushnell. Happy Anniversary to all!



Birthday celebrations include: **John Butler**(79) of Greenbush, **Harold Camp** (90) of Macomb, **Bud Hobbs** (75) of Good Hope, **Gordon Melvin** (94) of Macomb, **Jane Brown, Kathy Hollis** (77), **Murrel Hollis** (78), **Larry Kugler** (79), **George Pensinger** (83), and **Nelda VanDiver**, all of Bushnell. Happy Birthday to all!



**UPCOMING  
COMMUNITY  
EVENTS**

**Feb 2 & Mar. 2** - VFW breakfast, 7 to 10 am.  
**Mar. 1 & Jun. 7** - Free blood pressure, pulse/oxygen, cholesterol and blood sugar checks at F&M Main Bank, 9 to 10 am.

## Justice

*Continued from Page Two*

repealed its law requiring segregation on public busses, after the U. S. Supreme Court ruled that it was unconstitutional.

We were also able to view the home of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who was a minister in Montgomery, Alabama, at the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in 1954.

Prominent among the civil rights displays in Montgomery, Alabama, are tributes to Macomb native C. T. Vivian, who grew up and attended school in Macomb, Illinois. Dr. Vivian became an integral part of the civil rights movement, and worked with Dr. King and many others to reach freedom and justice for all Americans. Recently, the former home site of Dr. Vivian in Macomb was designated as an historic site.

I would urge you to take the time to visit Montgomery, Alabama, and view the compelling civil rights sites located there. My writing about it doesn't do it justice; you have to see it for yourself.

\* Equal Justice Initiative,  
The Legacy Museum,  
2018.

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# Nothing Beats Comfort Food

## CHICKEN ROLL UPS

Rachel Hyde

2-3 chicken breasts  
1 tube of crescent rolls  
1 can cream of chicken soup  
Shredded cheddar cheese

Boil chicken breasts for half an hour. Shred chicken. Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Roll up shredded cheddar cheese and chicken into each crescent roll and place in a 9x13 baking dish. Mix 1/2 cup of water with cream of chicken soup and pour over the roll ups. Cook for 20-25 minutes or until golden brown.



## DEEP FRIED PORK LOIN

Dan Cortelyou

4 lb. pork loin  
Inject with Cajun butter (or favorite injectable)  
Roll in favorite rub

Fry at 335 degrees for 10 minutes per pound. I made a handle out of number 9 wire. Push through loin and bend over. 2 servings.

## CHICKEN AND PASTA

BAKE

Kathy Lynn

1/4 cup butter  
1 cup chopped onion  
4 cloves garlic, minced

1/4 cup all-purpose flour  
1 cup milk  
2 (14.5 oz.) cans diced tomatoes with basil, garlic and oregano  
1 (15 oz.) can tomato sauce  
3 cups chopped, cooked chicken  
4 cups shredded mozzarella cheese, divided  
1 1/2 tsp. salt  
1 tsp. ground black pepper  
1/2 tsp. sugar  
1 (16 oz.) package bow tie pasta, cooked according to package directions and kept warm.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spray a 13x9 inch baking dish with nonstick cooking spray. In a very large skillet, melt butter over medium-high heat. Add onion and garlic; cook, stirring occasionally for 5 to 6 minutes, or until onion is tender. Add flour, and cook, stirring constantly for 2 minutes. Stir in milk, diced



tomatoes, and tomato sauce; cook for 5 to 6 minutes or until slightly thickened. Stir in chicken, 3 cups cheese, salt, pepper, and sugar. Stir in pasta. Spoon mixture into prepared baking dish; sprinkle with remaining 1 cup cheese. Bake for 25 to 30 minutes or until hot and bubbly.