

# H.D. POPE FUNERAL HOME

Personal Service • Peace of Mind • Pleasant Memories



Photo: Learn NC

## Thomas Day

### Revered North Carolina Furniture Maker

Thomas Day was born a free black in 1801 in Dinwiddie, Virginia to a white mother and black father. His family moved to Warren County, North Carolina in 1817 “because of increasing restrictions against free African Americans in the early nineteenth century in Virginia”.

Day’s father, John Day, Sr., was a successful cabinetmaker. Thomas worked under the apprenticeship of his father and also studied woodcarving in Boston and Washington, DC.

In 1825, Day moved to Milton, North Carolina where he established his own cabinetmaking business. His work—“characterized by tightly curlicued scrollwork; bulbous, carved-wooden ‘thumb’ ornaments; flowing, symmetrical S-curves; and a careful balance between positive and negative space”—was purchased by wealthy planters and other prominent people and politicians in Caswell County. Day apprenticed whites as well as enslaved persons of color.

Remarkably, Day’s craftsmanship allowed him to cross racial barriers. For example, in exchange for crafting the pews for the Milton Presbyterian Church, he and his family were allowed to sit amongst the white congregation. Other free and enslaved blacks had to sit upstairs. Years earlier when a North Carolina law prohibited him from moving his free African American wife from Virginia to Milton, the North Carolina attorney general and more than 60 whites submitted a petition to the General Assembly. As a result, Day was granted an exemption which allowed his wife to migrate to the state.

By 1850, Day’s furniture company was the largest in North Carolina.

## November

American Indian  
Heritage Month

6 - Daylight Saving  
Time ends  
8 - Election Day  
11 - Veteran’s Day  
24 - Thanksgiving  
25 - Black Friday  
26 - Small Business  
Saturday



**520 Smith Church Rd.**  
Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870  
Phone: 252-535-1228  
Fax: 252-535-1344



**325 Nash St.**  
Rocky Mount, NC 27804  
Phone: 252-446-9696  
Fax: 252-446-9697

Places where his works can be found include the Shepard House on the campus of North Carolina Central University, the NC Museum of History, various places in the town of Milton, NC, and antique shops.

In 1975, his business/home became a National Historic Landmark.

Sources: *African American Culture and History: A Student's Guide*, UNC TV, *The Washington Post*, [www.learnnc.org](http://www.learnnc.org)

## Hurricane Matthew Relief



Photo: Wikipedia

Hurricane Matthew—and its aftermath—has greatly affected our local communities and surrounding areas. Many people were displaced from their homes and some people have lost everything. According to ABC11, there are even some North Carolinians who are still without electricity.

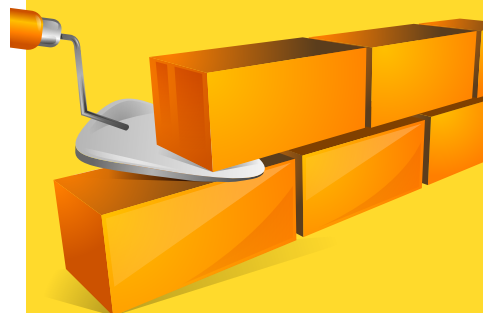
Beginning November 1, 2016, H.D. Pope Funeral Home will be accepting donations for hurricane victims to assist them in their time of need. Donations may be dropped off at the Roanoke Rapids or Rocky Mount locations and will be delivered to the Salvation Army.

## Voting Update

Remember, one-stop early voting and same-day registration ends Saturday, November 5, 2016.

## HCC'S BRICK BY BRICK CAMPAIGN

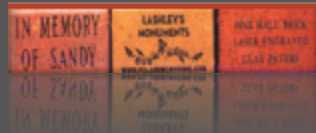
The Halifax Community College Foundation Inc. is offering a wonderful opportunity for you to support its students and show your commitment to educational excellence through its first-ever Brick-by-Brick Campaign: "Order Our Steps." Engraved bricks will be featured at the main entrance to The Centre—its premier multipurpose venue—and will be sold throughout the remainder of the year. Your brick will be visible for generations to come. Purchase of a brick is tax-deductible, according to applicable tax law. Proceeds will provide assistance to the Foundation to support scholarships, events, activities and operating expenses. To download and complete an order form, look for the



brick image on the HD Pope Funeral Home website.



### BRICK BY BRICK CAMPAIGN



NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	DATE OF DEATH
William Watson	June 7, 1932	January 23, 2016
Catherine Harrison	September 16, 1946	January 27, 2016
Iola Johnson	October 15, 1926	January 30, 2016
Cathy Wooten	January 25, 1957	February 8, 2016
Joshua Outen	March 24, 1943	February 10, 2016
Wallace Parham	July 11, 1928	February 15, 2016
Elbert Barrett	January 1, 1940	February 16, 2016
Jennie Odom	December 21, 1936	February 15, 2016
Verdena Evans	November 2, 1965	February 25, 2016
Horace Batchelor	September 17, 1946	March 17, 2016
Milton Barnes	June 2, 1936	March 21, 2016