

Lighting The Road To The Future

New Orleans

Data

News Weekly

"The People's Paper"



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The Psychology of Black Unemployment



Today Black workers are on their own and in the dark, like so many American workers, and they are struggling in a complex economy overlaid with enormous systems of oppression and greed.

By: TheDefenderOnline.com

As she watched President Barack Obama lay out his jobs plan for the nation and repeatedly challenge Congress to address the issue immediately, Madelyn Broadus was thinking "finally, somebody is for the people."

"It seems like for the past 12 years, (the government) is always for corporations and big fat cats. I

really feel like he said it right for how we can begin again, the hard-working American people," explained Broadus, one of the 14 million unemployed people that the President was speaking of during his speech.

A sheet metal worker who specializes in installing heating and air conditioning in commercial and industrial buildings, Broadus has not worked a job since November 2009.

"I went to a five-year apprentice program, and when I was about to come out that's when the con-

struction industry went flat," said Broadus, who has existed on unemployment since her last job.

Broadus is not alone as she struggles through long-term unemployment; nor is her situation unique . . . in the Black community.

In fact, a look at employment numbers back to when the United States Department of Labor (DOL) first began segmenting out statistics by race (1972) yields the data that shows the Black unemployment rate has consistently been at least double the national average. In 1982 and 1983, for example, Black

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unemployment ranged from 17 to 21 percent, while the national rate for that same period ranged from 8.6 to 10.8 percent.

And these numbers, just as today's 16.7 percent rate for Blacks probably understated the number of jobless, believes Sociologist Michael Hodge, Ph.D. He said the numbers do not count those who have just stopped looking.

In fact, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics produces a report called U6, which is a broader measure of labor under-utilization. For example, in June of last year, the DOL unemployment rate was 15.7 percent in July of 2010 while the U6 rate (which includes the officially unemployed, discouraged workers, the marginally attached who have fallen out of the labor force and those working part-time because they cannot find full-time work) was 23.6 percent.

The long-term nature of African-American unemployment is one of the reasons Hodge believes there are some deeply embedded causes for the problem in the Black community.

"There are some structural issues that are causes of the high rate of Black unemployment," said the Chair of the Morehouse College Department of Sociology. "I don't want to discount discrimination, because (it) is still a factor in the high unemployment of African-Americans, but there are some structural factors at work as well. One of which is Education. We have a lower rate of high school completion and college graduation, and that is particularly true among Black men today."

Hodge said the lower educational attainment is directly tied to a lower rate of employment. Another structural challenge is the shifting of the U.S. economy away from a manufacturing to a service one. He noted that these were the types of well-paid jobs African-American males could get without a college degree.

"Black America has always had an alternate vision of work and work opportunities . . . and has had an informal, underground economy that's always been a factor in their lives," points out Alford Young Jr., a Professor of Sociology and African-American Studies and Chair of the Sociology Department of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. This alternative work often leads to constant thoughts about how to supplement your income, noted Young.

"This is very much a stressor and provides an interesting spin on the long-standing notion that Black people, particularly lower income folk only live for today . . . and have an inability to think about the long run and are not prepared for delayed gratification," said Young.

In actuality, the Sociologist said these individuals are in almost continual survivor mode. Young added that in this situation there is a cognitive dissonance when it comes to understanding mainstream work.

"When, for a good portion of your adult life, you exist on the margin, you lose our sense of understanding of the work environment, and what social ties matter most for work," Young said. Consequently, if they do get a job, in order to preserve their dignity on the job such individuals may take actions that are antithetical to keeping the job.

Hodge, of Morehouse, said the other long-term impacts include an increase in crime, and with more

people interacting with the Criminal Justice System, that means more people accruing a record which exacerbates the problem of obtaining a job.

"You see a decline in the value of the community . . . people are losing their homes. Renters move in, who tend not to take care of homes like homeowners."

But the impact goes even deeper than that, say researchers. "We are still gender-oriented . . . Males are supposed to be the breadwinners. When they can't perform . . . stress is created in a household," said Morehouse's Hodge. This can lead to high rates of divorce and domestic violence.

According to Professor Barbara Carter, Ph.D., at Spelman College, economically unstable Black men are less likely to enter into formal marriages and create stable families.

"The pattern of high male unemployment helps to promote single-female-headed houses with fewer economic resources. (Women earn less than men in part because the 'gendered' jobs they occupy typically pay less.)

"Many Black women simply don't assume that Black men will be able to support them (even if that is still their ideal) and families often socialize their girls to expect to be economically independent. Other women choose to raise their children alone rather than have an official/legal marriage with an economically unstable man," noted Carter, who is in the Anthropology and Sociology Department at Spelman.

All three researchers also talk about the impact on the psyche of unemployed Blacks, particularly males.

"What you see around you, impacts how you think, and impacts your way of thinking about the world. It creates this cycle that can perpetuate itself; that can be generational and that can be problematic," said Hodge. "Cornel West, I think, talked about this sense of community hopelessness. And when he talked about that, he talked about how unemployment, no jobs, a low graduation rate and all types of things like this perpetuate this sense of learned hopelessness. And so once that happens, it's very difficult to pull a community out of that downward cycle."

And because Black America has not escaped the ethos of work concept that permeates the national psyche, Hodge adds, lack of employment impacts one's emotional state.

"I'm not going to say that people have less respect, but we react how we are reacted to. When larger society does not treat you well, there is an attitude not so much of lack of respect but of 'I'll get mine the only way I can get mine.'"

Many in the lower socioeconomic levels, who live and operate in communities where joblessness is abundant, are often wholly divorced from work and work opportunities.

"For those in the stable working class, they are in a precarious category," Young said. "There is a lack of comfort and security at work. At one point you focused on how to have your children advance beyond your status, but now the Black middle-class has abandoned that notion. Instead now they are struggling to figure out how to retire."

While the state of unemployment in the African-American community is extremely challenging, researchers retain their optimism for the future in part because of the past resiliency and creativity of the African-American community. That includes "hustling" (whether legitimately or illicitly) to bring in money. They are also optimistic because of actions that new generations of Blacks are taking.

One of those sets of actions is what Hodge sees among the young college students he observes.

"The Black male students I see have a hustle they are trying to create while they are in school. They set up entrepreneurship opportunities for themselves and their colleagues. They do things to promote themselves."

And they are doing this in large part by harnessing the power of technology, adds Hodge. Their goals, like those of Black entrepreneurs of the past are to give back to the community, partially in the guise of jobs.

On the other end of the spectrum—the mass worker side—are organizations like the Los Angeles UCLA Black Workers Center, which Pitts said are doing much like the legendary A. Phillip Randolph: helping to empower Black workers as a group.

"A. Philip Randolph and the movement of sleeping car porters not only built power—meaning developing leaders such as Ed Nixon who could stand up to employers and make the demands of workers and who knew their individual fate were linked to the collective—but Randolph also was a strategist and used research and analysis to understand the political landscape and the dynamics of the power that he was up against. He made sure that the porters understood the railroad industry and how it worked; that they understood the boss, his values and motivation; he explored what political tools he had to fight with and those that were needed; he knew the political landscape of the Black community and the labor movement and where they were willing to go. All of that led to their success," said Lola Smallwood-Cuevas of the UCLA Black Worker Center.

"Today Black workers are on their own and in the dark, like so many American workers, and they are struggling in a complex economy overlaid with enormous systems of oppression and greed," continued Smallwood-Cuevas. "At the Black Worker Center, we believe the organization and development of worker/leaders, community strategic alliances, and smart analysis, strategies as well as an agenda out of the grassroots is what is needed."

Researchers also believe that what is needed is to take the conversation about Black unemployment well beyond job training and creation and deep into an understanding of the future world of work as well as how to meaningfully connect youth and adults (including the formerly incarcerated) to this new and ever-changing employment landscape.

The Black Worker Center, also believes the discussion needs to include looking at the labor market and repairing the structural policies and procedures that facilitate creation of "bad" jobs and employment inequities.

Retail 101 With Macy's

Applications are now being accepted for second Workshop at Macy's

"The Workshop at Macy's", the retailer's minority and women-owned business development program returns to identify and foster up-and-coming vendors

New York, NY – September 28, 2011 – After a highly successful inaugural edition this past Spring, Macy's innovative business of fashion program - The Workshop at Macy's, returns to mentor and foster growth for a new class of up-and-coming minority and women-owned businesses. The retail 101 crash course, aims to take promising enterprises to the next level in order for them to achieve and sustain positive and successful vendor relationships. This industry first initiative reinforces Macy's long-standing commitment to vendor diversity and to providing customers with unique goods and services that meet their lifestyle.

The Workshop at Macy's is a four and a half-day intensive training course developed by a consortium of experts from Macy's Learning & Development, Macy's Multicultural Merchandising and Vendor Development, Babson College, the nation's leading business school for entrepreneurship, and with select Macy's merchants/vendors. The specially designed business development curriculum is aimed at minority and women-owned retail businesses that are poised to succeed on a larger scale, but need real-world business practice information and perspective on large-scale vendor relationships, to move to the next level and sustain growth. A potential goal of this annual program is to help create a pipeline of viable enterprises that will grow to become successful partners within

Macy's own vendor community. First held this past Spring, the inaugural Workshop included 22 businesses that ranged from makeup/skincare companies to confectionaries, home textiles and ready-to-wear designers.

"The incredible success of our first Workshop this Spring, paves the way for a new set of entrepreneurs who are hungry to learn from our stable of experts about the ways they can grow their ventures," said Shawn Outler, Macy's group vice-president of Multicultural Merchandising and Vendor Development. "The support and information made available to Workshop participants is invaluable in taking these businesses to the next phase of growth."

The Workshop at Macy's allows selected participants to collaborate with fellow aspiring vendors, gain access to industry experts and solicit one-on-one business coaching. The course work includes classes on merchandising and assortment planning, marketing, EDI, financial management, and access to capital.

Of the first Workshop class, Ms. Outler noted, "The entire week served as a revelation for participants, who had many breakthrough moments. You could see things starting to click for them as

the week progressed. While many participants came in focused on pitching their lines, at the conclusion of the course work, they came away understanding how merchants think and how to build that relationship. The financial management sessions led by Elizabeth Thornton of Babson College, were especially eye-opening. Every element of the Workshop at Macy's was designed to enhance and create long-term success for their businesses."

Michelle Tunno Buelow, founder and ceo of Bello Tunno, a previous participant noted, "The Workshop at Macy's challenged us to examine our business on an elevated level. It encouraged us to realistically look at our current infrastructure and strategy, dream bigger, then bridge the gap. The program was planned and executed in such a way that it empowered and inspired our team. We left the week armed with a toolbox for success, a plan for growth and the support of Macy's."

"The opportunity changed my perspective and gave my business the retail insider information it needed to succeed even my own limits," said Kim Roxie, founder and ceo of LAMIK Beauty. "The relationships I was able to build within a week will span a lifetime, cheers to the Magic of Macy's!"

Macy's is now accepting entries for consideration. To be eligible,

an applicant must be the majority (51% or more of equity) owner, co-owner or otherwise have operational control (per applicable status rules) of a business that has been in operation for a least two consecutive years and be its primary decision maker. Eligible applications will include a 250-word biographical statement, look book/line sheets or images of product including costs, resumes on all owners, financial statements for the business for 2 years, fall within the minority and women-owned definition of the program and provide verification of the business as a legal entity (i.e. Corporation, LLC, etc.), among other requirements. Applications must be submitted online or postmarked by Sunday, January 22, 2012 by 11:59pm ET. All information including full program requirements are available online at www.macysinc.com/workshop. All eligible applications will be reviewed and select applicants will be asked to attend an in-person interview. Final selections will be made after all prospective candidates are interviewed. The program will aim to invite at minimum 20 businesses to attend the course which begins in early May of 2012.

For more information on The Workshop at Macy's, please visit www.macysinc.com/workshop.

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VOTE SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22ND

www.JudgeHerbertCade.com

Daughters Of Charity Services Of New Orleans Hosts Health Fair In Bywater

*Annual Event Offers Free Flu Shots,
Dental And Vision Screenings, And More*

Who/What: Daughters of Charity Services of New Orleans (DCSNO), in collaboration with community partners, is hosting its 2nd annual free health fair for New Orleans area residents. At the event participants can take advantage of free flu shots, pregnancy tests, dental and vision screenings,

eyeglass repairs, prescription assessments, and much more. Free food, entertainment, and giveaways will also be available.

When: Saturday, October 22, 2011, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Where: The Health Fair will take place at the health care organization's Bywater/St. Ceci-

lia Health Center, 1030 Lesseps St., New Orleans, LA 70117

Why: DCSNO staff, along with many of the organization's community partners, will provide information and free screenings on a variety of topics in an effort to promote healthy living amongst area adults and children.

WDSU-TV Presents Close Ties: Tying on a New Tradition

By Edwin Buggage

On Saturday October 22nd and Sunday October 23rd local NBC Affiliate WDSU-TV Channel 6 is the sole sponsor of a major television event. The premiere of "Close Ties: Tying on a New Tradition" is a thirty minute documentary that chronicles the collaborative effort of Entrepreneur Wilbert "Chill" Wilson, Educator Dr. Andre Perry, and Film-Maker Gemal Woods to mentor urban youth in New Orleans through a tie tying ceremony. "This is one of the highest points of my career as a filmmaker to have "Close Ties" on broadcast television and

I would like to thank all those who contributed to the project and most of all Dr. Andre Perry, Wilbert "Chill" Wilson and WDSU-TV, this is a dream come true," says Filmmaker and Executive Producer Gemal Woods.

The documentary explores the intricate relationship between mentor and mentees during a tie tying event hosted by Wilbert "Chill" Wilson and Dr. Andre Perry to combat rising crimes rates and negative media coverage of Black males. The film celebrates the positives influences of successful Black males, who range from bankers to telecasters, as

they mentor a group of New Orleans teenage males who navigate growing up in New Orleans with their goals of attending college. "I am excited WDSU-TV has decided to highlight a film that shows Black men working together to educate, mentor and help young people build the skills to be successful in the future; this is something that doesn't always happen in schools, so I feel good that the film will put the spotlight on what good people are doing in the City of New Orleans," says Dr. Andre Perry, who is also one of the film's co-producers.

Of the event Wilbert "Chill"

Wilson, who is also the film co-producer says, "The tie tying ceremony was a great opportunity for the students to see how the values of hard-work have led the mentors to become successful. I feel, the students have gained a sense of higher purpose-one that now propels them to aim for higher goals they may have once not thought possible." As someone who has invested much of his time inspiring the youth of New Orleans post-Katrina, Wilson feels that more people need to be involved in community initiatives such as the tie-tying event, "With this project it was an opportunity

for kids to live in the dream of Wilbert "Chill" Wilson, to experience and witness the transformation of someone who took from society and is now giving back, to actually see someone real and be able to touch them and I feel these young people's encounters with myself and the other mentors was a life changing experience for them and I hope people enjoy the film."

"Close Ties" airs on WDSU-TV Saturday October 22nd at 6 P.M. and Sunday October 23rd at 11:30 P.M.

The Gift of Song: St. Luke Episcopal Church Choir in Concert

By Eric Connerly

Spirituality has been one of the things that have been the cornerstone of the African-American Experience, in 1804 Absalom Jones became the first African-American ordained priest in the Episcopal Church in the U.S. This form of Christianity has become one of the many forms of worship adding to African-Americans collective voices of struggle and survival.

One of the things that have given solace, guidance and inspiration to a people is the gift of song. St. Luke's Episcopal Church located on 1222 North Dorgenois is dedicated to this tradition. On October 22 at 6:30 P.M. they will be holding a concert featuring their choir who will perform songs that inspire and uplift. The Rev. Keith Johnson is Rector of the church, Carolyn O. Bryant is the Choir Director and Tia Vice is the Pianist. Choir President Gloria M. Thomas says, "We invite the public to come out and worship with us and glorify God through song."



Dear Neighbor:

This past January you sent me to Baton Rouge to fight to bring our district back to full life again. Since then I have worked hard to make that happen.

As an attorney and educator, I built my career fighting for what is good for our community. As your State Representative, I fought hard to defeat the measure which sought to merge SUNO and UNO. I fought hard to get 8.1 million dollars to rebuild Methodist Hospital and I won't stop fighting until I bring full-service quality healthcare to New Orleans East and Gentilly. Lastly, I am fighting right now to assure that a state-of-the-art high school is built in the Lower Ninth Ward that is second-to-none. The election this Saturday is about making this happen for District 99. Please know that I count it a privilege to serve as your State Representative and pledge to spend the next four years fighting for District 99.

I appreciate the trust you have placed in me and I am asking for your vote this Saturday, October 22, 2011 so I can keep on fighting for you.

United for Wesley Bishop. Trusted by the People you Trust.



PLEASE VOTE OCTOBER 22, 2011



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Autocrat Club Circle of Friends

The Autocrat Social and Pleasure Club held it's Annual Circle of Friends Fundraiser on Saturday Night. Performances by The Mystics and other local talent provided the attendees with a great evening.


A large advertisement for Coca-Cola. It features a man and a young boy smiling and playing with red and blue balloons. In the foreground, there are two bottles of Coca-Cola on a table. The text "open happiness™" is written in red, and the Coca-Cola logo is in a red circle. At the bottom, there is a "mycoke rewards.com" logo and a "EVERYBODY DANCE" logo with a PlayStation Move icon.

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Photos by Christopher Mercadel

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EARLY VOTING OCTOBER 8-15

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Martin Luther King, Jr.

Militant of the Century

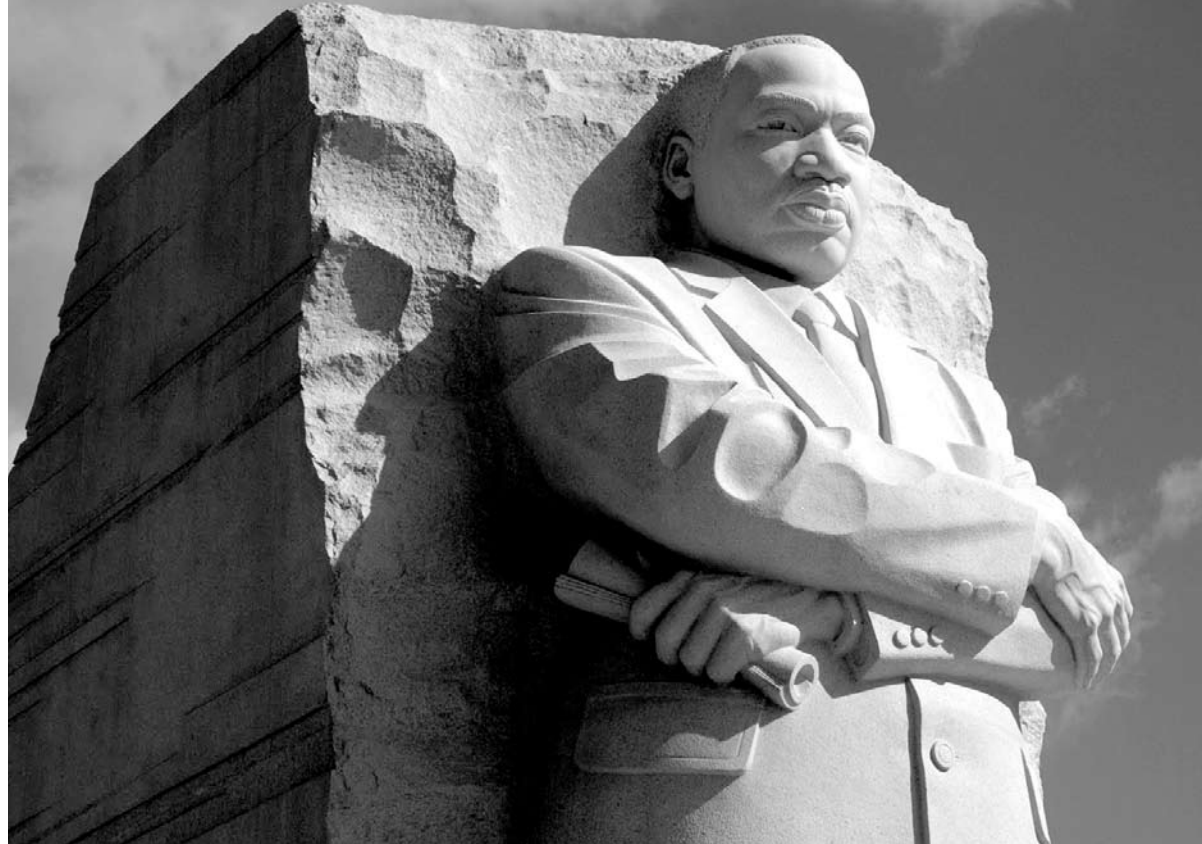


Lee A. Daniels
NAACP Legal
Defense Fund

Washington – I suspect that one thing the huge stone sculpture of Martin Luther King, Jr. at the Memorial dedicated to him Sunday in a quiet, contemplative corner of the National Mall will do for many visitors is help bring him to life and help rid the world of the Martin Luther King, Jr.-lite gambit — that seemingly uplifting, false narrative of the man and his times that rests on the hijacking of the “content of their character” sentence from the Dream Speech — the narrative that minimizes all of the violence levied against the Movement and reduces the intensity of the struggle for civil rights to something akin to a gentlemen’s disagreement.

Of course, it was far more than that. The Civil Rights Movement fought mightily against White violence in the South and a pervasive White indifference everywhere else.

In fact, as Richard Reeves pointed out in his account of Pres-



ident John F. Kennedy’s thousand days in office, a mid-1963 Gallup Poll found that “63 percent of (White) Americans disapproved of the [March on Washington], and that 38 percent thought he was pushing too fast on integration. At the same time, the Harris Poll estimated that Kennedy, who had won election by roughly 118,000 votes, was currently losing 4.5 million votes because of his stands on civil rights, most of them in the South and border

states, and could expect to pick up fewer than 600,000 new Negro voters, even including those allowed to register for the first time.”

That’s why the inscriptions on the low wall that flank the massive “Mountain of Despair” portal to the site are so important. These quotations from King’s various speeches sketch the arc of his stunningly brief public life — just thirteen years. More important, they suggest his courage and determination to be a committed leftist Christian radical even as his own life became more filled with danger.

Martin Luther King, Jr. died on April 4, 1968, slain by an assassin’s bullet. He was murdered because he had become even more of a disturber of the peace than he had been helping lead the fight to destroy the legalized racism of the Jim Crow South during the 1950s and early 1960s.

It was after being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964 that King began to directly attack not only anti-Black racism in the North but also the structural foundations of economic inequality that made it so effective. Soon, he began to lose support among White, and Black, Northern politicians and the editorial boards of Northern White newspapers.

It was after King, in 1967, spoke out against the War in Vietnam — infuriating President Lyndon Johnson and much of the liberal establishment — that the leadership of the established civil rights organizations openly criticized him and liberal and conservative pundits excoriated him for involving himself in foreign policy.

It was in early 1968 when King immersed himself in a complex strike by Black sanitation workers in Memphis for better pay and working conditions and announced plans to bring a multi-racial Poor People’s Campaign to

Washington to lobby Congress and the White House that critics declared he had made an immense strategic mistake and largely exhausted his capital as a “leader.”

But we’ve known for some time now that those years were his finest hours.

That Martin Luther King, Jr. didn’t submit to the seductive post-Nobel offers from the Johnson White House and the Establishment to keep his reformist rhetoric and activism within conventional bounds.

That Martin Luther King, Jr. didn’t back down when erstwhile allies abandoned him and government operatives, taping his telephone calls and shadowing his every move, threatened to expose his great personal weakness: his apparently relentless philandering.

That Martin Luther King, Jr. pressed on, despite knowing that contributions to his organization, the Southern Christian Leadership Organization, were drying up; that more Black Americans themselves were questioning the relevance of non-violent activism; and that the exposure of his sexual wanderlust would surely wreck his reputation.

It is that Martin Luther King, Jr. whose work over the last three years of his life deserves at least an equal share of our admiration. The Reverent Hosea Williams, one of King’s close aides through the years of struggle, called him “the militant of the century.” Williams was referring to the Twentieth Century. But I’d be willing to bet he’ll hold that title for a good part of this century as well.

Lee A. Daniels is Director of Communications for the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund and Editor In Chief of TheDefendersOnline.com

RE-ELECT SENATOR

CYNTHIA
WILLARD-LEWIS



Senator Willard Lewis was the only Senator to dedicate 100% of her discretionary funds to help re-open Methodist Hospital

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Publisher's Commentary



Terry B. Jones
Publisher

We have finally gotten to the finish line, it is again Election Day. Now citizens can go to the polls to vote, and staying true to our mission as "The People's Paper" over the past several issues we have given our readers information about several races to better inform their decisions at the polls.

In these changing times for our City we must become more civically involved. And voting is only one of the many ways we can affect change.

This is necessary because so many before us have sacrificed that we could live with dignity, so it is incumbent upon us to let our voices be heard that we cannot continue to be absent or have our voices muted at the polls. After Hurricane Katrina there was an effort on the part of citizens to get involved. It was after those days people fought to have a place in the City when they felt there was no longer a place for them. The people stood up and during the Mayor's Election of 2006. The number of people making it to the polls in the run-off vs. the

primary increased from 108,348 to 113,591. To go even further back in 1994 Marc Morial placed second in the primary to candidate Donald Mintz but because of increased turnout in the runoff Morial was able to be victorious; showing that there is strength in numbers when we vote.

We need to change the way we engage when choosing our leaders, we cannot continue to only get involved when there are elections that peak voters interest then rushing to the polls. We have to come to a place where every election is important. In our community we tend to mobilize and that is good in the short term, but we have to be more strategic and organize for the long term. For example, in August 2009 there

were several races for Judge and a State Representative race where voters in total numbers decreased to 19,000. These types of numbers are unacceptable.

Today we must look at new ways to organize our community into action. To use our collective voices to affect change; we can no longer afford to sit on the sidelines and play Monday morning quarterbacks. We can no longer afford to not get involved. We must do what we can to have a hand in shaping the future of our City. This can only be accomplished together with our citizens being engaged. For only in this way can we have the City we desire. Let your voice be heard, get out to the polls and vote.

Even after Hurricane Katrina

we are still the majority of the citizens of New Orleans and we still have the power to put people in office if we get involved. If we use our collective voices to show we are a force to be reckoned with and not ignored. That we can have the type of representation we deserve. For as we rebuild we must ask more from our elected leaders, for these are times that we put our best players on the field to play in the big game of rebuilding our City. And it is our voices that will make the difference in settling for mediocrity or expecting excellence from our leaders. The future and its fate are in our hands, so I ask please go out and vote and get involved in the rebuilding of our City. Together we can make a difference.



An Important Message from Medicare

Open Enrollment is Earlier This Year. October 15th to December 7th

Even if you are happy with your Medicare Plan, Open Enrollment is the time to compare what you have to all the choices available next year. If you're happy with your current plan, stick with it. Or you might find a new one with better coverage, lower costs, or both. Be sure to check out all the benefits provided by the healthcare law. Most people with Medicare will get free cancer screenings, yearly wellness visits, preventive care and 50% off brand name prescription drugs when you're in the donut hole. This law also provides better fraud protection, making Medicare stronger.

Visit us online to review your plan at medicare.gov.

Call to get help from a trained Medicare representative or learn where you can get help locally at 1-800-MEDICARE (TTY 1-877-486-2048).

Check your mail for the 2012 Medicare & You handbook to review available Medicare plans.

"I spend more than 100 nights on stage, performing from coast to coast. But each fall, I take a break from my busy schedule to review my Medicare. I might be able to save money, get better coverage or both."

Now that's something to sing about."

— Shirley Caesar



Scan to learn more.



Anti-Wall Street Protests Gain Momentum

MSNBC is reporting that support for the New York-based Occupy Wall Street has gained momentum nationwide.

Protests with names like Occupy Los Angeles, Occupy Portland, Occupy Chicago and Occupy Boston were staged in front of Federal Reserve buildings and city halls this week. More actions are anticipated.

Occupy Wall Street started with fewer than a dozen college students spending days and nights in Zuccotti Park, a plaza near New York's financial center. But protesters have joined in in other cities.

In Los Angeles on Thursday,

hundreds of protesters took over an intersection in the downtown financial district. Police arrested about 10 demonstrators who entered a Bank of America and refused to leave.

In Portland, Ore., thousands of protesters marched Thursday from Waterfront Park through downtown. Hundreds also gathered in Portland's Pioneer Courthouse Square. Baltimore, parts of New Jersey, D.C. and even Canada are just a few places joining the movement to end greed on Wall Street.

Frustration over the state of the economy and the lack of jobs, while Wall Street and mem-



Rev Jesse Jackson visited Occupy Wall Street in New York to support the movement this week.

bers of Congress conduct business as usual, is spreading, so it stands to reason that the anti-Wall Street movement would spread as well.

The refusal of some GOP members to even consider President Obama's jobs bills is adding fuel to the fire. Why not tax the wealthy? They have the money to contribute. Why should those who have the least suffer the most? If we're doing our part, which includes being chronically unemployed, then why can't they do their part, which might mean fewer bonuses? It's not rocket science – it's common sense and decency.

ladatanews.com

Clare Jupiter For Judge #61 Civil Court "Division E"



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Life Organization



The Times-Picayune



MLK Dedication Sets Tone for Fight for Justice



President Obama addressed the crowd by satellite at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Dedication Rally in Washington, D.C.

By George Barnette
Special to the NNPA
from the AFRO-American
Newspaper

People of all hues came from all over to pay tribute to the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial, the only one on the mall for someone other than an American President. Charles Arterson and Baron Lewis who say they marched with Dr. King, had no intention of missing this grand reunion. It was truly a long time coming.

The crowd, decked out in commemorative Tommy Hilfiger white hats, was mostly positive, cheering the speak-

ers and singing along with the musicians.

However, there were moments in the ceremony that seemed more like a rally against today's ills than a celebration of the work of Dr. King. Several speakers used the podium as an opportunity to take on today's injustices.

"This is a marker of the fight for justice today and a projection of the fight for justice in the future because we will not stop until we get the equal justice Dr. King fought for," said Rev. Al Sharpton.

"Just like Dr. King talked about occupying Washington, just like there are those occupying Wall Street; we're going to occupy the voting booth and we're going to

take those in that stand for justice and retire those that stand in the way," he continued

Other speakers talked about the man, Dr. King, with sometimes little known facts. Ambassador Andrew Young, former Atlanta Mayor, spoke of Dr. King's only complex – his height.

"He was really just 5'7" and he was always getting upset with tall people who looked down on him," Young said. "Now he's thirty feet tall looking down on everybody."

There were also several musical selections. Stevie Wonder, Sheryl Crow, Sweet Honey and the Rock and Aretha Franklin were some of the highlighted performers.

However, the highlight of the ceremony was the speech given by President Barack Obama, who took the stage amid chants of "four more years." He spoke of Dr. King's will and how despite the decision in Brown vs. the Board of Education, Dr. King still had to fight to get the Civil Rights Act passed 10 years later in 1964. The President said gumption and determination are what Americans need today to move forward.

"We can't get hung up on what is," Obama said. "We've got to keep pushing towards what ought to be."

Pirate Voodoo

By Kingfish
Data Sports Columnist

The Saints fell under a Buccaneer spell, from the first drive of the game to the last, both ending in turnovers to count for two of four for the day. We all know that as much of a tragedy it is to commit four turnovers in an NFL football game losing the head coach is much worse. Especially for the Saints when that coach is Sean Payton. Payton is known around the league as a virtuoso of play calling. This is why I say Pirate Voodoo is what came over the Saints. How could anyone predict or anticipate such a start and finish to an NFL game. As we all know through history, anything that can't be scientifically explained is chocked up as spiritual, hence the title of this article.

The Saints were riding a four game winning streak coming into this divisional match up. The Bucs were coming off one of the worst losses of the NFL season going down by more than 40 points against the Saints old nemesis the 49ers. To watch the game you would think the roles were reversed. Fumbling and losing the head coach in the first drive the Saints were out of sync for the rest of the game.

Jimmy Graham had another great game besides taking out the head coach. He gained another one hundred yard game and continues to impress the City and the league. Brees threw for a fourth 350 yard game and setting yet another NFL record. Rookie running back Ingram had a nice TD run for 12 yards but still stumbled getting yardage, especially short yardage. It is obvious with the



talent we have and with running backs we have, one would have to deduct that our offensive line is inept. I have criticized the play calling of the Saints in the past but maybe the coaching staff knew there O line couldn't get the job done. The Saints gained only 70 yards on 20 attempts that's less than 4 yards a carry. That's not going to get the job done if your goal is the Super Bowl. I know the Saints have injuries on the O line but they're at the tackle spot. Pro Bowlers hold the guards and center and the Saints aren't getting any push from the inside or outside. Sproles on the toss run play has had the most success

running on the edge, again that won't get the job done even to just get to the playoffs.

Passing, yes the Saints are prolific, but right now it's totally out of sync. I'm not pushing the panic button or condemning the passing attack especially with the numbers the offense has put up this year. The fact still remains that Meachem has not shown the promise he has spotlighted over his tenure in New Orleans. Henderson has caught the ball better this year but has not been the "downfield treat" he is supposed to be. Lance Moore is all that he is billed to be but did not contribute much in this loss. Col-

ston is back healthy and showed promise this game but ultimately Meachem's bobble for an interception and the inability to throw the ball downfield is one of two things. One the non-respect defenses have for our O line and the running game, two the Saints lack the talent to stretch the field and maybe open up the running game.

The Saints with all the turnovers still at the end of the game had a chance to win the game but Brees was locked on Graham and didn't see a wide-open Meachem in the end zone, and threw a game ending interception from the four-yard line. I have to ask the question, is Brees listening to all the media talking about how great Graham is and not seeing his other options or did Brees lose faith in his other receivers? No matter what the answer is, one thing is for sure. It all starts with the O line. Until we fix that, the leagues defenses will know how to shut the Saints down. This was a three game road trip for the Saints and most would say two out of three wins is a success. It is unfortunate that one loss was to a divisional foe that put the Saints in a tie for best record in the division but second place because of the head to head match up.

Next week they are back home against the downward spiraling Indianapolis Colts without the home grown Payton Manning at Quarterback. Just what the doctor ordered for a wounded Saints team.

OK let's fix the holes Saints. Let's Geaux!!!!

Kingfish... peace.

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