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Classic
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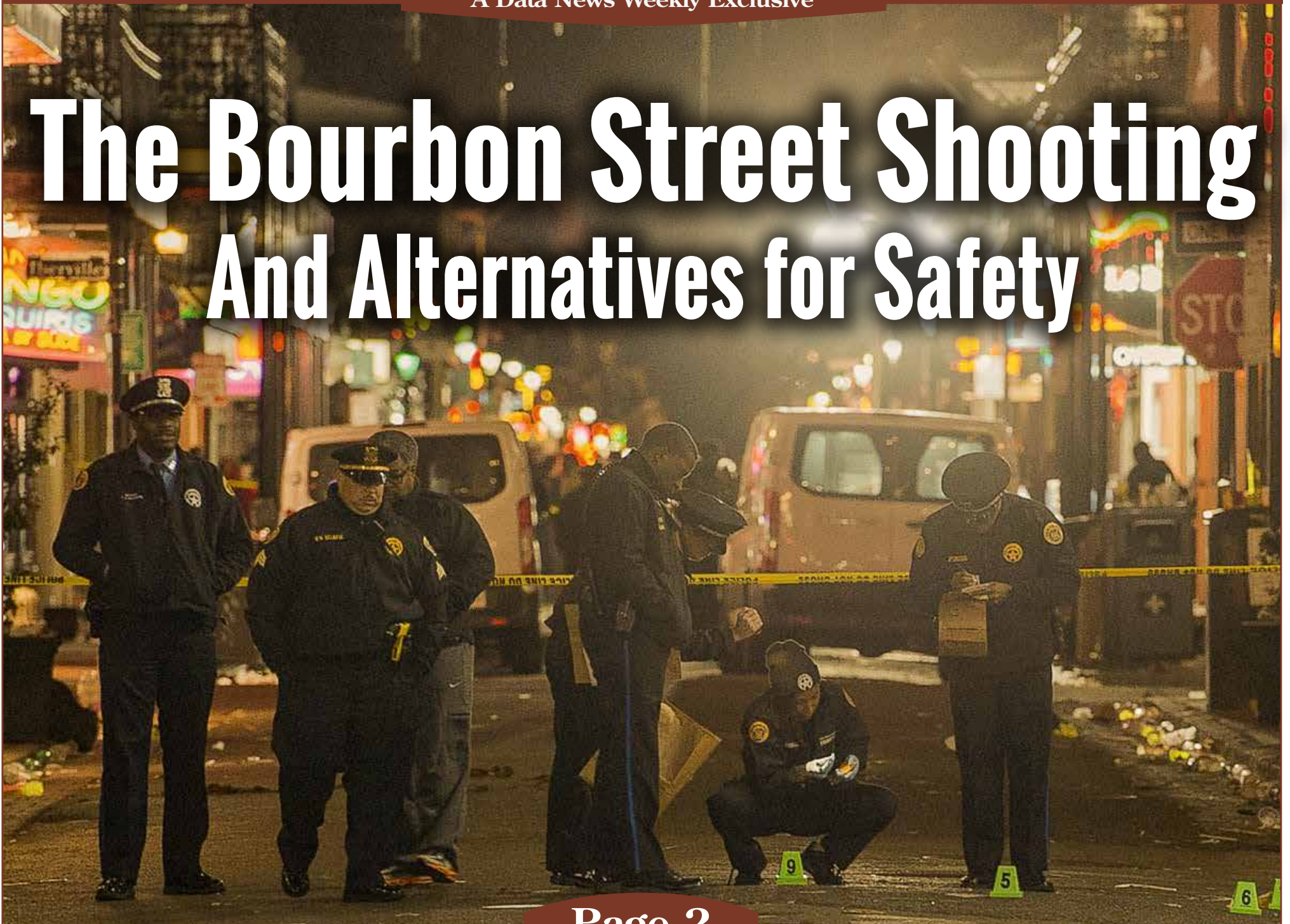
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A Data News Weekly Exclusive

The Bourbon Street Shooting And Alternatives for Safety



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Guns in the French Quarter And Alternatives for Safety



Sydney Torres IV, founder of the French Quarter Task Force



Demontris Toliver, 25, was killed during the shooting on Sunday.

Eric Craig
Multimedia Editor

Recap of Sunday's Shooting

New Orleans has a gun problem and it is not getting better.

On Sunday, Nov. 27, nine people were wounded and one person was killed during an argument between two people that erupted in gunfire, according to City officials. Both of the suspects are said to have fired at

each other. The New Orleans Police Department have arrest 11 suspects as of Sunday afternoon, but they have not found the two-people responsible for Sunday's shooting.

The gunfire killed a 25-year-old tattoo artist, Demontris Toliver, from Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

"We have been able to obtain what we believe to be strong information on who these suspects may be and we're pursuing every lead at this moment," said NOPD Superintendent Michael Harrison at a news press conference.

As of Wednesday, Nov. 30, there have been no final

arrest made.

The shooting happened after the conclusion of the 43rd Annual Bayou Classic and the Thanksgiving Holiday, which increased the crowd flow in the City.

According to the NOPD, the department prepared for the event by adding additional street lighting, foot-patrol officers, horseback officers and undercover officers throughout the City.

Over 40 officers were near the block of the incident on Sunday morning, Harrison said.

The average response time of NOPD throughout

Cover Story, Continued on page 4.

On the Cover: Photo by Associated Press

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Cover Story

Cover Story, Continued from page 2.

the City of New Orleans in 2015 is 73 minutes, as reported by Nola.com.

Mayor Mitch Landrieu said that NOPD partnered with the State Trooper for the past five days before the incident to ensure the safety and security of people during the holiday festivities.

"To say the least, this is an incalculable act that is unacceptable," Mayor Mitch Landrieu said at a news conference regarding the shooting.

"It continues to put an exclamation point on the death, destruction and gun violence that plague the streets of New Orleans. It's almost impossible to understand," he added.

In June of 2014, ten people were wounded by gunfire on Bourbon Street.

Solutions to Gun Issues in the French Quarter

On Monday, Nov. 29th, Real Estate Mogul and SDT Waste and Debris Management founder Sidney Torres IV, told the New Orleans Advocate that he was disappointed on how the City handles public safety during special events.

Torres said that the City needs to

use mobile metal detection technology, and have checkpoints throughout the City during special events.

"It's a very simple problem to

cate that if the City does not take the proper steps to improve public safety within the City, it could hurt the City's tourism industry.

Bourbon Street, according to Torres, is the top tourism genera-

founders of the French Quarter Task Force, which is a privately-owned force, partnered with the City of New Orleans, that uses off-duty cops to tackle crime in the French Quarter.

age.

Additionally, in 2014, New Orleans ranked 41/50 (higher is worse) for the murder capital of the United States, according to the Independent Journal Review.



Mayor Mitch Landrieu signed the new Gun Safety Ordinance in September of 2016.

fix, just like they have in the Superdome. Just like they do on Beale Street" in Memphis," Torres told The Advocate.

Torres also warned The Advo-

tor for the City.

However, this is not Torres first time dealing with new ways to handle crime in the French Quarter.

Torres is also one of the lead



The French Quarter Task Force, a privately owned force, has partnered with the City of New Orleans, to use off duty police officers to prevent crime in the Quarter.

The Task Force uses efficient mobile transport to navigate the French Quarter. The Task Force also has a mobile app that allows the people to report crime happening around them, allowing them to submit photos and to write short descriptions to nearby offices.

According to the Task Force's website, the use of the French Quarter Task Force has reduced crime by 45 percent and has lowered officer response time to two minutes.

In June of 2016, Torres donated \$100,000 to update the task force's fleet with three new smart cars.

The French Quarters continues to use the French Quarter Task Force, but the company is funded by New Orleans Convention and Visitor Bureau.

Statistics in New Orleans

According to a 2014 Analysis conducted by the Center of Disease Control and Prevention, 890 people died from firearms related deaths in Louisiana. The CDC continued to report, stating that nearly 19 people out of every 100,000-per capita died from firearms reports in Louisiana. Louisiana has a higher firearm related death than the national aver-

In 2015, New Orleans had 164 murders by the end of the year, according to City statistics. By the end of the third-quarter in 2016, New Orleans had 144 murders.

In 2016, Violence Policy Center said the State of Louisiana has the highest recorded death by firearms. 19 out of every 100,000 people die from gun violence, and over 49 percent of people in the state own a gun.

The Gun Debate Remains Open

As of today, New Orleans does not have a law that makes the French Quarter a gun free zone. However, some City, and private buildings have designated gun-free zones.

In September of 2016, New Orleans City Council passed a new Gun Safety Ordinance which created new requirements for reporting stolen weapons, turning all NORDC Facilities into firearm free zones, and the punishment and fine of carrying a firearm unsafely.

However, there has not been any City or state legislation that has assessed the growing gun issue in New Orleans.

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Activist, Musician, Dooky Chase, Jr., Passes

Data News Staff Edited Report

On Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2016, the City of New Orleans lost a famed Musician, Civil Rights Activist, and an Iconic Restaurant Owner.

Edgar Lawrence "Dooky" Chase, Jr., passed away at 88 years old in New Orleans on Nov. 22nd.

Dooky, Jr. was born March 23, 1928, in New Orleans. He was most notably known for his family restaurant, Dooky Chase's Restaurant, which was originally owned by his Father Edgar Lawrence and Emily Tenette "Dooky" Chase, Sr. While Dooky, Jr.'s, parent originally opened a sandwich shop in 1939 after years of saving, the Dooky Chase Restaurant officially opened in 1941 at 2301 Orleans Avenue.

Dooky, Jr. worked closely with his parents at the new Chase restaurant. While working at the establishment, he pursued his dreams of



Edgar Lawrence Dooky Chase, Jr., and his wife, Leah Chase

becoming a Jazz Musician. During his late teen and early adulthood, Dooky, Jr., performed in the Dooky Chase Orchestra, which was a big band group. He managed the band,

and was an exceptional fundraiser according to his peers.

While Dooky's big band career came to an end, he continued to work side-by-side his parents by

maintaining the Chase Restaurant. Dooky, Jr., briefly worked as a promoter for jazz musicians, and quickly becoming close friends with music icons such as Duke Ellington and Quincy Jones.

He also remained a strong advocate of Civil Rights, and encouraged many African-Americans to vote during the Civil Rights Movement. Dooky, Jr., transformed the Dooky Chase Restaurant into a stronghold and haven for many progressive groups fighting for Civil Rights, and prominent African-American Musicians in the New Orleans.

The Chase Restaurant housed Duke Ellington, Nat King Cole, Sarah Vaughn and Comedians Timmy Rodgers, and Paterson and Jackson.

Dooky, Jr., along with his wife Leah Chase, were both strong supporters of Black Art in New Or-

leans and showcased various performances and visual pieces at their restaurant.

Chase, Jr., was also a leader in his community. Dooky, Jr., served as Vice-President of the New Orleans Tourist Commission in 1978 to 1983, a board member of the Jazz and Heritage Festival during its creation and a member of the Committee for the 1984 World Fair.

In 1957, Chase took over the Family business in 1957 after his father passed. Chase worked with his wife, Leah Chase and his mother until his mother passed in 1995. The couple continued to run the restaurant together until Chase Jr. passed on November 22nd.

Dooky, Jr., leaves behind his wife, Leah Chase, three children, 15 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren, and many in-law relations.

U.S. Senate Runoff Election on Dec. 10th



Louisiana State Treasurer John Kennedy



Louisiana State Senator Foster Campbell

Data News Staff Edited Report

On Saturday, Dec. 10, 2016, New Orleans will have a runoff election for U.S. Senate. Former State Treasurer John Kennedy (R), is running against former Louisiana State Senator Foster Campbell (D). Both candidates are competing for Senator David Vitter's (R) seat, which is now unfilled.

During the past election, no candidate received the majority of the vote. Kennedy (R), received 25 percent of the Louisianan vote. Campbell trailed behind with 17.5 percent. Charles Boustany (R), fell third with 15.4 percent, and Caroline Fayard (D) came in fourth with 12.5 percent.

Kennedy and Campbell have two opposing campaigns.

Kennedy's platform includes cutting taxes and regulations for businesses and opposing Obamacare. The candidate has also been a strong supporter of president-elect Trump throughout his presidential campaign.

On the opposing end, Foster (D) supports increase funding for education services, equal pay for women and Obamacare. To aid the U.S. economy, Foster has advocated for tax cuts for small business owners and middle-class citizens in the United States.

To find your voting location visit the Louisiana Secretary of State's Voter Portal at <https://voterportal.sos.la.gov/>.

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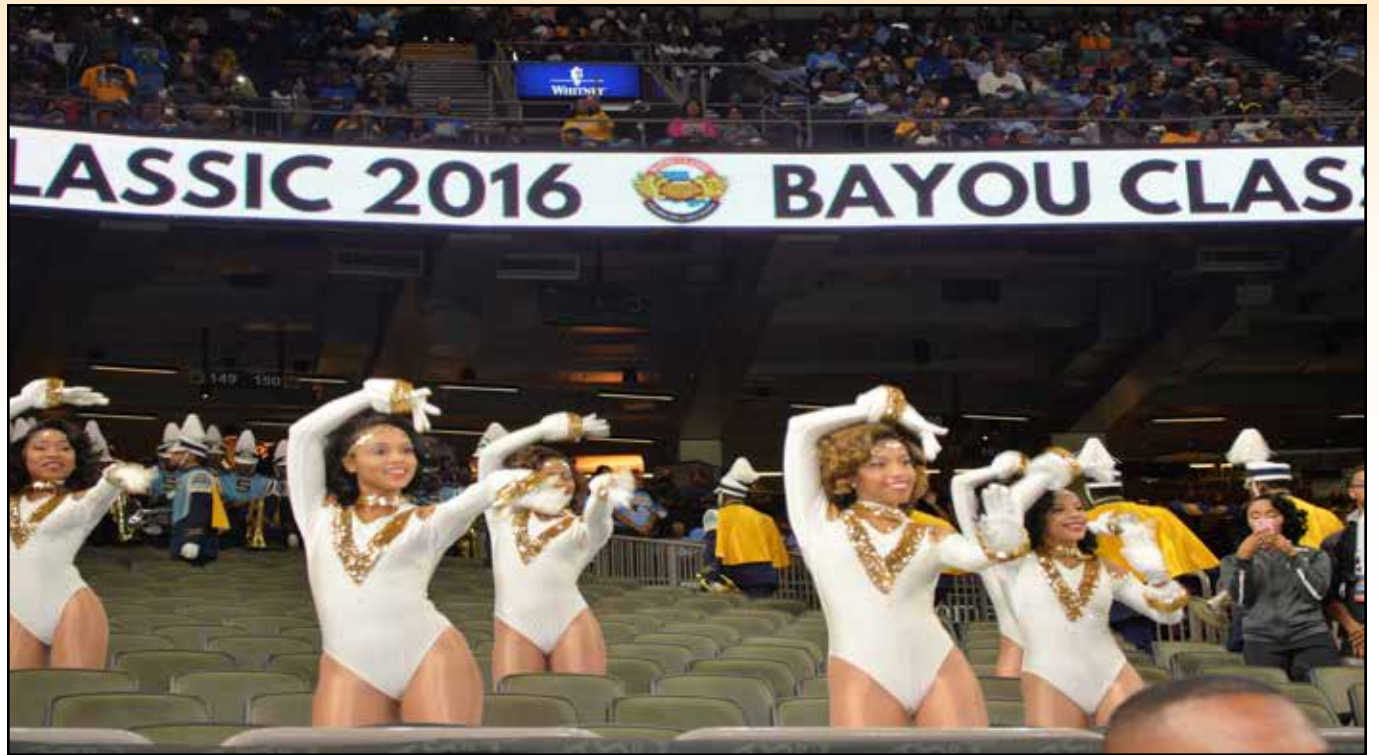
Bayou Classic Recap

Battle of the Bands.

Terry B Jones
Publisher

**Photos by Terry B. Jones, Publisher,
Glenn Summers and Kichea S. Burt**

During the Thanksgiving Holiday, New Orleans hosted one of its largest events in the city: The Bayou Classic. This year, the Classic celebrated 43 years of rivalry, with 25 of those years celebrated in New Orleans at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome. This year, the Classic had several festivities leading up to Game Day, including Old School in the park, featuring the new partnership between Cumulus Radio and Data News Weekly; The Battle of the Bands, and Game Day to only name a few others. Over 60,000 people were present, including Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards, at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome on November 26. Hundreds of thousands tuned in over the air to watch the amazing game. While Game Day is over, and Grambling won the series tie-break 52 to 30, we look forward to next year's Classic in New Orleans.



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Bayou Classic Continued

Nick Canon at the Metro with Power 102.5



Skybox and Field on Game Day



Doug Williams and his wife.



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Kanye West Needs Real Help, But It's Likely That He Won't Get It.



Julianne Malveaux
NNPA Columnist

Kanye West is melting down. He didn't perform to expectations at two concert dates, declaring, at one, that he would have voted for Donald Trump for President and generating boos for his statement. In a subsequent concert he performed just a couple of songs, and

abruptly ended a performance that should have lasted at least an hour. A couple of days later, he was hospitalized in a "psychiatric hold." Some say he is simply exhausted, sleep-deprived and stressed. Some say it is more. His mother, Dr. Donda West, died in November 2007. Nine years later, is he especially vulnerable to outbursts and erratic behavior on that anniversary? In any case, even as many of us have admired Kanye West as a boldly audacious entertainer, we are also concerned about his very public meltdown and its implications.

African American people don't pay enough attention to the challenges that mental health issues face. We are more likely than

Whites to experience mental health challenges, but far less likely than Whites to seek help. We minimize mental health challenges, laughing and calling those who are challenged crazy and cray-cray (I confess, I do this from time to time). We don't respond to their very public cry for help. Yes, Kanye West was crying for help. His inappropriate public behavior could have been interpreted as an ask for someone to take him, hold him, comfort him, hear him. Instead, he had a challenging concert schedule, a schedule that would have brought him millions of dollars. Cancelling the schedule may have saved his health, but it has cost him millions of dollars. Imagine the pressure

he must have felt; he might have thought, "Can I go on and save the day? Must I step aside and take a hit?"

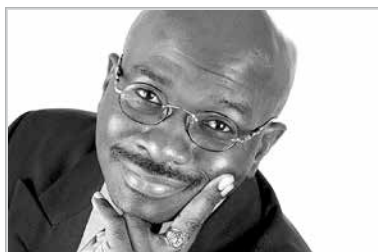
Most African Americans who face mental health challenges face some of the same concerns Kanye West must have. If you share your mental anguish, you are cray-cray, the object of jokes and ridicule. If you hide it, you are eaten alive by an anguish that forces you to say "fine," or "okay," when people ask you how you are doing. Just like we tell people to take an annual physical, to feel their breasts for lumps, to get the prostate check, we need to encourage folks who are a bit erratic to check in with their doctors about their mental health.

We don't do that and, indeed, many health plans limit access to mental health professionals. But the mental health status of African Americans too often collides with the law enforcement system when "erratic" behavior on the part of some African Americans is seen as simply criminal. People who are mentally ill and need help are too often incarcerated or killed because some police forces lack the tools to manage a mental health crisis that is likely growing.

Consider the case of Anthony Hill, a naked and unarmed Atlanta Air Force veteran who was act-

Commentary, Continued on page 9.

President Donald Trump Will Make The Middle East Great Again, Too



Armstrong Williams
NNPA Columnist

The election of Donald J. Trump signals very dark days ahead. Not for the American people, of course, but for our nation's enemies and adversaries in the Middle East.

The American people turned out to the polls in record numbers for the election, and they delivered the future President Trump an undeniable and strong mandate to lead. With the Republican Party in control of both the House and the Senate, Trump is poised to avoid the gridlock that has perpetually plagued Washington, and actually get things done.

It's a new day in America, and we should expect tremendous changes when it comes to how America approaches conflict in the Middle East. President Obama withdrew from the region, minimizing American power and diminishing our much-needed presence and leadership. President Trump will bring that indispensable leadership back

to the Middle East, and the world will be better for it.

Notably, the presidency of Donald Trump signals a rekindling of the historic ties that have bound America to its closest ally and the only true democracy in the region, the Jewish state of Israel.

Trump has a strong affinity for the Jewish people. It's not just politics—it's personal. His daughter Ivanka is a convert to Judaism, and his Orthodox Jewish son-in-law Jared Kushner has been a trusted advisor on the campaign trail. Trump has spoken with pride about his Jewish grandchildren.

His affection for Israel will be reflected in his policies, too. Trump's Israel advisors recently issued a position paper noting that his administration will veto any United Nations vote that unfairly singles out Israel. It shames UNESCO for its clear egregious bias against Israel. It pledges that he will move the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem and recognize the holy city as the uncontested capital of Israel. Trump has also derided the idea that a solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict can be imposed from outside parties, including the UN.

And Trump is not the only rock solid pro-Israel leader on his ticket. During his time serving in Congress, Vice President-elect Mike Pence was one of the most stalwart

supporters of the U.S.-Israel relationship.

A devout Christian, Pence has said that his support for Israel is rooted deeply in his faith. Among his many laudable achievements in office, Pence signed one of the strongest laws against the anti-Semitic Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement. He advocated for robust military aid to Israel, and he led bids to place conditions on funding for the Palestinian Authority.

With Donald Trump in the White House, Israel can be assured that the United States will fight alongside it to protect the Jewish state from the many perils of its neighborhood.

Both Trump and Pence have repeatedly spoken of the dangers of the disgraceful Iran deal. Both have opposed the agreement, which hands \$150 billion to a thugish, terrorist regime. Trump has pledged to revisit this misguided and dangerous deal and address its many shortcomings.

While negotiating this deeply flawed agreement, Obama bent over backwards to give Iran concession after concession and Secretary of State John Kerry was outfoxed and maneuvered, time and again. The unelected mullahs in Iran must surely feel much more uneasy about the future.

Donald Trump has been making deals throughout his entire illustrious career, and he is a master of negotiation. With him in the Oval Office, the world should expect an end to America's bad deals with tyrannical dictatorships that put our allies in danger. Now, America's interests will be put first.

Meanwhile, U.S. allies in the Middle East should be breathing a collective sigh of relief. No longer will our country be so quick to turn its back on long-time friends. Countries like Egypt that are fighting terrorists should be gratified that the most powerful country in the world will be led by someone who understands, and is unafraid to confront, the existential threat that radical Islamic terrorism poses to the democratic way of life. In fact, Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi was among the first foreign leaders to call and congratulate the President-elect.

Moving forward, America is going to be smarter and more strategic in the choices it makes in the international arena. Gone are the days when America draws a red line in Syria and backs away from it, showing dangerous and blood-thirsty regimes that America is afraid to live up to our commitments and that we lack the moral courage to follow through on our pledges.

A lack of leadership in the Mid-

dle East created a vacuum filled by nefarious actors, including ISIS. We will not make that mistake again. There's a new Commander-in-Chief in town, and our enemies should be frightened.

As President Trump looks to "Make America Great Again," that includes demonstrating to our closest allies in the Middle East that we stand with them. It will mean showing them that America is not just a paper tiger, and that we are unafraid to stand strong against tyranny.

The Obama Administration purposefully and irresponsibly showed hostility toward allies, including Israel, and that damaged our standing in the world. As we transition to the Trump Administration, our friendships across the globe will be restored. Americans should take comfort in knowing that President Trump will boldly lead, and that our essential relationship with our partner Israel will be stronger than ever.

Armstrong Williams is Manager / Sole Owner of Howard Stirk Holdings I & II Broadcast Television Stations and the 2016 Multicultural Media Broadcast Owner of the year. Join the discussion live at 6-8 p.m. and 4-6 a.m. est. on Sirius/XM UrbanView 126, Become a fan on Facebook, and follow him on Twitter

Are You Eligible For New Medicare Benefits? Find Out Today

Data Staff Report

Your health needs change from year to year. And, your health plan may change its benefits and costs each year too. That's why it's important to review your Medicare choices each fall. Compare your current plan to new options and see if you can lower your costs or find a plan better suited to your needs. Open Enrollment is the one time of year when Medicare beneficiaries can see what new benefits options Medicare has to offer and make changes to their coverage.

Whether you have Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, you'll still have many of the same benefits and security you have now, including:

- Preventive benefits – including certain cancer screenings – available at no cost to you when pro-



It's worth it to take the time to review and compare your Medicare coverage options, but you don't have to do it alone. Medicare is available to help.

vided by qualified and participating health professionals. The annual wellness visit lets you sit

down with your doctor to discuss your health care needs and the best ways to stay healthy.

- Medicare will notify you about plan performance and the ability to use its online Plan Finder to compare and enroll in quality plans.
- In 2017, if you reach the "donut hole" in Medicare's prescription drug benefit, you'll save 60 percent on covered brand-name drugs and see increased savings on generic drugs while in the donut hole.
- It's worth it to take the time to review and compare your Medicare coverage options, but you don't have to do it alone. Medicare is available to help.
- Visit Medicare.gov/find-a-plan to compare your current coverage with all of the options that are available in your area, and enroll in a new plan if you decide to make a change.
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-

633-4227) 24-hours a day/7 days a week to find out more about your coverage options. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

- Review the Medicare & You 2017 handbook. It's mailed to people with Medicare in September and is also available online at Medicare.gov.
- If you have limited income and resources, you may be able to get Extra Help paying your prescription drug coverage costs. For more information, visit socialsecurity.gov/i1020 or call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213. TTY users should call 1-800-325-0778.
- Get one-on-one help from your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP). Visit Medicare.gov/contacts or call 1-800-MEDICARE to get the phone number for your local SHIP.

Commentary, Continued from page 8.

ing erratically in his apartment complex in early March. Someone called 911, because a naked man was knocking on doors and "acting deranged." When DeKalb police officer Robert Olsen encountered Hill, he asked him to stop, and when he did not, he was shot twice. Mr. Hill didn't have a weapon, and anybody who is hanging out naked is clearly mentally impaired. Meanwhile, Officer Olsen had a Taser, but he chose to use his gun, but he chose to use his gun against a naked, weaponless man.

Olsen was charged with murder and indicted and, in October, was ordered to stand trial. The trial may begin late this year or early next year. Meanwhile, it is significant to note that Anthony Hill was believed to be bipolar, and suffering from post-traumatic stress syndrome. He served our country in Afghanistan, and tried unsuccessfully to get an appointment, and some help, from the veteran affairs hospital in Atlanta. Might the outcome of his erratic episode have been different if mental health professionals, not a trigger-happy officer, were deployed to intervene?

Should mental illness be a death sentence? It was for Anthony Hill, and for many others who don't get the help they need. Even as the incoming President attempts to reverse some aspects of the Af-

fordable Care Act, conscious health advocates must insist that mental health coverage is as important as physical health coverage. It is disgraceful that a veteran should be shot, because his mental illness got the better of him. It is disgusting that dozens of others who are unarmed and mentally ill are shot, because people untrained to manage mental illness are sent to communities, gun ready, and oblivious to alternatives.

And it is disturbing that Kanye West is melting down in plain sight, drowning his pain in angry vitriol. When can we, African Americans, talk about the mental health crisis that exists in our community? It isn't going to get better, as hate crime escalates and swastikas begin to adorn our city walls. Some of us will want to fight, and others will be driven to despair. We must speak of mental health and healing, and we must speak of it often. One of Kanye West's colleagues, 9th Wonder said, "Been knowing the brother upwards of 13 years. Mental healing is a serious thing, no matter what. Stay strong Kanye West." Ashe'.

Julianne Malveaux is an author and economist. Her latest book "Are We Better Off? Race, Obama and Public Policy" is available via www.amazon.com for booking, wholesale inquiries or for more info visit www.juliannealveaux.com.

Doc Griggs Corner

Healthy Party Tips



Eric Griggs, MD
Data News Columnist

Michael Tran, Xiang Jiang, Emmanuel Kouagou, Dr. Kirchain

Every major holiday comes with a party. The food that are presented might be a bit overwhelming if you are looking to stay on the healthier side of the plate. There are ways that you can cut out all the unhealthy items and still throw a great party that everyone would remember years in the future.

First of all, let's think of the drinks that you will be serving. Soda, juice, alcohol, and other holiday themed drinks. Just one 12 oz. can of coke or orange juice contains



Water is a healthy alternative drink during the holiday festivities.

about 39g of sugar. A replacement could be to get a pitcher of cold water and place pieces of fruits, such as peaches or oranges and let those flavor the water. When you consume too much sugar, it will increase your blood sugar levels, and over work your body. At some point in time, your body will become so overworked and you can develop into what we call diabetes. This will lead to weight gain, excess thirst,

and frequent urination.

Other items that are likely to be at your party are chips and dips. A serving of tortilla chips contains more than 110 mg of salt and 7 g of fat, that's only 7 chips per serving. One serving of dips or salsa contains over 280mg of salt per serving. If you were to substitute it with some baked chips or some vegetable chips, you can greatly reduce the amount of fat and salt content.

NNPA President Benjamin Chavis Recalls Fidel Castro's Fight Against Apartheid

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA News Wire Contributor

The death of Fidel Castro has been met with varying reactions, including condolences to the fallen Cuban leader's family by former President Jimmy Carter and President Barack Obama.

For some, like Dr. Benjamin Chavis, the president and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association, remembrance of Castro's reign will always include his support of the imprisoned Nelson Mandela.

Chavis vividly recalled the Cuban leader's fearless intervention against Apartheid South Africa.

"Fidel Castro's unprecedented contribution to liberate humanity from imperialism will live forever," Chavis said on Sunday.

A lifelong and dedicated civil rights activist, Chavis knew firsthand the battles of Apartheid and what Castro did to assist the oppressed in South Africa. Chavis recalled the time he spent shoulder-to-shoulder with Cuban and African troops as they fought against the oppressive South African government during the 1988 "Battle of Cuito Cuanavale."

In the 1980s, the frontline African nations that bordered South Africa were periodically being militarily violated with the brutal violence and repression that became routine of the Apartheid regime, said Chavis who first wrote about his experience three years ago, in a column published by the L.A. Watts Times.

South African military attacks directly on the African National Congress (ANC) inside South Africa and in Angola, South West Africa and in other areas of southern Africa had escalated.

South Africa invaded South West Africa – which is now Namibia – and the Republic of Angola.

"Castro urgently dispatched more than three hundred thousand Cuban soldiers to Angola over several years to help stop and to eventually defeat the South Africa military on the ground in Angola in 1988," Chavis said, noting that, by con-



Cuban President Fidel Castro (second from left) and former Nigerian presidential Adviser Onyema Ugochukwu (center) at Havana, Cuba (Circa 1999). (Wikimedia Commons)

trast, U.S. President Ronald Reagan tacitly supported Apartheid South Africa and tried unsuccessfully to have a "constructive engagement" with Apartheid under the guise of preventing communism in southern Africa.

Chavis traveled to Angola in 1988 on more than one occasion to witness how Cuba was helping the MLPA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) in Angola and the ANC as well as SWAPO (South West Africa Peoples Organization).

"I visited the battleground area in the aftermath of the Battle of Cuito Cuanavale that took place during a six-month period from the end of 1987 to the spring of 1988," he said, noting that that battle was the largest, single armed conventional warfare on African soil since World War II. "I went down into the foxholes with Cubans, Angolans, Namibians and native South Africans, all fighting together heroically to liberate southern Africa from oppression, colonialism and imperialism."

"One of the key commanders of all the Cuban troops in southern Af-

rica was Raul Castro Ruz, Castro's younger brother," he said.

In a statement issued this weekend, the Nelson Mandela Foundation noted its sympathies for the government and people of Cuba in the wake of Castro's death, calling him "The revolutionary father of the South American country."

"On behalf of our Chairman, Trustees and Staff, the Nelson Mandela Foundation would like to send our deepest condolences to the people and government of Cuba on the passing of Fidel Castro," Foundation officials said.

"President Mandela had a close relationship with President Castro and always remembered his solidarity with the anti-apartheid movement. He even went so far as to suggest those who criticized his relationship with Cuba and Libya, for instance should jump in the pool."

In 1998, Mandela and Castro met during the Non-Aligned Movement Summit in Durban, South Africa where 60 Heads of State attended two days of meetings.

Later, Castro was accompanied by Mandela as he addressed the

South African Parliament and the Cuban leader visited Mandela's old cell at the Robben Island Prison.

In 2001, Fidel Castro again traveled to South Africa, meeting Mandela at the Civil Rights Icon's home in Houghton, Johannesburg.

Because of his declining health, Castro did not attend Mandela's 2013 funeral, but Raul Castro did.

Foundation officials quoted Mandela talking about his solidarity with the Cuban government in a 1990 documentary.

"The first country we approached was the United States of America. We could not even succeed to come close to the government, and they refused to assist us," Mandela said. "But Cuba, the moment we appealed for assistance they were ready to do so and they did so. Why would we now listen to the Western world when they say we should have nothing to do with Cuba? It is just unreasonable."

Following his death, social media was inundated with posts about Castro, including photos of the fallen leader with Mandela,

African-American political activist Angela Davis, Malcolm X and Muhammad Ali.

"[Castro's] fight for the poor was his religious fulfillment," said the Rev. Jesse Jackson.

Born near Birán, Cuba, in 1926, Castro successfully overthrew the government to take control in 1958.

His communist domestic policies and military and economic relations with the Soviet Union led to strained relations with the United States that culminated in the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis, according to Biography.com.

Castro was also responsible for fomenting communist revolutions in other countries around the world.

Under Castro, improvements were made to health care and education, while civil liberties were severely eroded.

However, the 1991 collapse of communism in the Soviet Union and its negative impact on Cuba's economy led Castro to relax some restrictions over time.

Amidst failing health in 2008, Castro officially handed over power to his brother, but he still wielded some political influence in Cuba and abroad.

His death on November 25 at the age of 90 was met with celebrations in strong Cuban-American populated cities like Miami and New York.

"Rosalynn and I share our sympathies with the Castro family and the Cuban people on the death of Fidel Castro," Carter, the 39th U.S. President said. "We remember fondly our visits with him in Cuba and his love of his country. We wish the Cuban citizens peace and prosperity in the years ahead."

Obama also offered condolences to Castro's family.

"We know that this moment fills Cubans in Cuba and in the United States with powerful emotions, recalling the countless ways in which Fidel Castro altered the course of individual lives, families, and of the Cuban nation," Obama said. "History will record and judge the enormous impact of this singular figure on the people and world around him."

Surviving the Seasons with Style



Delaney George
Columnist

New Orleans weather is one of the most indecisive climates in the country. With winter mimicking the fall and fall the mimicking summer, locals are torn between what their wardrobe of the day will be. Luckily, there are many in between looks and styles to help survive the bipolar Nola weather of the seasons.

Knee-Highs:

Knee-high boots have been in style since the dawn of the swinging 60's and have come back in style today with more colors, shapes and textures. This season, velvet is all the rage: from velvet dresses, hats, and of course knee-high boots. Knee-high boots this time of year are extremely appropriate and versatile. The boots are long enough to shield rain, snow, or any cold climate, yet still temperature friendly to pull off with a summer skirt or dress for the heat.

Fur:

Fur has always been associated with warmth, wealth and class and



Provided by shop.nordstorm.com – Model is wearing a cream sweater paired with a black clutch and gold skirt, complimented by a red fur accent.

still holds that same reputation today. Being fashionably warm and cozy would seem like a challenge, however fur gets the job done each time. This season fur is one of the most popular accessories or clothing components to own. Fur shoes, handbags, coats, even key chains are seen and being sold all throughout the metro area. A fur coat paired with some knee-high boots will put anyone at the perfect body temperature, no matter the forecast. And for the not so chilly days, a fur throw or stole would serve as the perfect



Local model Vantasia Brumfield, poses next to one shell square in her laced up knee-high boots and long sleeve fur coat. Photos by Nelson Cosey and styled by Latino McDowell.

outfit accent that's not too warm.

Dresses:

Dresses are the most neutral article when it comes to clothing. With there being so many options in dresses, such as long sleeves and short hemlines, or long hemlines and short sleeves, dresses are appropriate for any time of the year. For example, on a windy or mildly chilly day, a long, all black, short sleeve dress would fit perfectly into anyone's wardrobe. The dress makes the perfect weather friendly



Local model Mignon Blanc poses in all black t-shirt dress and knee-high velvet boots provided by local boutique Kay's and shot by Daniel Marquez.

outfit by covering the legs from the climate, keeping warm with the black color, and staying cool with shorter sleeves.

Between fur, knee-highs, and dresses, a fashionista or even the everyday commoner could put together an ensemble that could withstand any weather New Orleans throws at them. Whether it be rain, shine, sleet or snow, with these three closet essentials, anyone is guaranteed to be a fashionable survivor of Nola weather.

The Curly Corner

5 Tips for Easy Finger Detangling



Destiny Johnson
Natural Hair Columnist

Like most naturals, detangling is not an easy process. You co-wash your hair with your favorite conditioner to experience soft and clean hair. However, most of your curls will be tangled and

almost matted after the washing and deep conditioning process. These 5 steps will help to insure a painless and healthy finger detangling session to protect every curl you've worked so hard to achieve.

1. Co-wash your hair with a product that provides slip.
2. While you wash your hair, separate your hair with your fingers starting from the ends.
3. Begin detangling large chunks of hair and then work your way to smaller



chunks.

4. Do not pull the hair if it is not breaking apart. This may cause hair breakage.
5. Your fingers are like a comb so be delicate and apply more leave-in product or conditioner if you need to in order to allow more ease while detangling.

Happy Wash Day!

Email Me: Seekyourcurls@gmail.com

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