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A Data News Weekly Exclusive

# Recap of White Supremacy in Charlottesville



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# White Supremacists' Rally Turns Violent, 19 Injured, One Dead

*White Supremacist Murder Suspect Jailed after Charlottesville Attack*



The race riot started as a White Supremacy Group protested the removal of the Confederate Robert E. Lee Monument located at Lee Park.

**Freddie Allen**  
Managing Editor, NNPA Newswire

James Alex Fields Jr., a 20 year-old from Ohio, who drove his dark gray Dodge Challenger into a crowd of people protesting a White nationalist march in Charlottesville, Va., on Saturday, August 12 showed a deep

interest in Nazism and Adolph Hitler in high school. Fields is being held on suspicion of second-degree murder, malicious wounding and failure to stop in an accident that resulted in death, according to CNN.

ABC News reported that Derek Weimer, Fields' former world history teacher at Randall K. Cooper High School in Union, Kentucky, said that Fields was "fairly

quiet," "smart," and also an open admirer of Adolf Hitler and the Nazis.

Weimer also told ABC News that Fields thought the Nazis "were pretty cool guys."

According to ABC News, "Some of Fields' classmates at the school recalled a trip to Europe a group of students took after graduation in 2015, when they visit-

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## Cover Story, Continued from page 2.

ed the Dachau concentration camp. Two of the students on the trip said when they arrived at the concentration camp, Fields said, "This is where the magic happened."

The ABC News report continued: "Weimer noted that Randall K. Cooper High School is not particularly diverse, and said that as a result, he didn't have many opportunities to see Fields interact with many non-whites or Jewish people."

Weimer told ABC News that the student body at Randall K. Cooper High School was about four percent Black.

Last weekend, White nationalists descended on the college town to protest the removal of a statue of Robert E. Lee, the infamous general of the Confederacy.

"A career army officer, Lee didn't have much wealth, but he inherited a few slaves from his mother. Still, Lee married into one of the wealthiest slave-holding families in Virginia—the Custis family of Arlington and descendants of Martha Washington," the Chicago Tribune reported. "When Lee's father-in-law died, he took leave from the U.S. Army to run the struggling estate and met resistance from slaves expecting to be freed."

According to the Tribune, "Documents show Lee was a cruel figure with his slaves and encouraged his overseers to severely beat slaves captured after trying to escape. One slave said Lee was one of the meanest men she had ever met."

Fields' mother, Samantha Bloom, told the Associated Press, that she thought her son was attending a political rally, "that had something to do with Trump" and that she tried to stay out of her son's political views.

Media reports have described Heather Heyer, the lone fatality in Saturday's tragedy, as a 32 year-old paralegal from Greene County, Va., and a supporter of Senator Bernie Sanders (D-Vt.). Heyer was in Charlottesville to protest against the White nationalist rally in Charlottesville.

Charlottesville Mayor Mike Signer called Heyer's killing and the injury of others by a vehicle at a rally in the city a "terrorist attack with a car used as a weapon," according to ABC News.

In a statement about the violence and the White nationalist march in Charlottesville, Neera Tanden, the president and CEO of the Center for American Progress, said that events over the weekend are another stark and disturbing reminder



Pittsburghers gathered together in Schenley Plaza to mourn for the dead and injured while organizing against hate, bigotry, White supremacy, and so much more. Photo by Mark Dixon. License is Creative Commons with Attribution.



James Alex Fields Jr., a 20 year-old from Ohio, is accused of second-degree murder, malicious wounding and failure to stop in an accident that resulted in death. (Albemarle Regional Jail)

that violent extremism continues to exist in our neighborhoods and communities.

"All of us at the Center for Ameri-

ministration from those allied with Nazi sympathizers and the KKK but also to denounce them.

"To be clear, there is only one side that wishes to provoke hate and violence, and there is only one side that committed an apparent act of terrorism [in Charlottesville," said Tanden. "Nazis and White nationalists showed up to cause harm and unrest in Charlottesville. Their racism, hatred, and bigotry have no place in our society."

Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., the president and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) tweeted that the Black Press condemned the racial hatred and violence in Charlottesville.

"Love presupposes justice, equality, freedom, and empowerment. Hate renders only more hatred," Chavis tweeted.

Echoing Tanden's concerns about the president's dithering remarks about the White nationalist movement, Congressman Cedric Richmond, (D-La.) said that since the campaign, President Trump has encouraged and emboldened the type of racism and violence that occurred in Charlottesville.

"This is a president after all who has two White supremacists working for him in the White House—Steve Bannon and Stephen Miller," said Richmond. "For these reasons, we weren't surprised President Trump couldn't bring himself to say the words 'White supremacy,' 'White supremacists,' and 'domestic terrorism' when he addressed the nation' on Saturday. He instead chose to use racially coded dog whistles like 'law and order' and false equivalencies like 'many sides.'"

Richmond continued: "Where is Attorney General Sessions? Instead of suppressing votes and dismantling affirmative action, he should be working with the Department of Homeland Security to investigate today's crimes. Where is the chairman of the House Committee on Homeland Security?"

Richmond noted that the CBC urged Congressman Michael McCaul (R-Texas), the chairman of the House Committee on Homeland Security to investigate this sort of domestic terrorism, months ago.

"As 49 members who represent and are part of a community who has for centuries been victimized by White supremacists, we strongly condemn what happened in Charlottesville," said Richmond in the statement. "We also condemn the Administration's poor response to it."

can Progress condemn in the strongest possible terms the racist and derogatory rhetoric and behavior on display," said Tanden.

In a statement from his New Jersey golf club, President Donald Trump said that he condemned the "egregious display of hatred, bigotry and violence on many sides, on many sides."

Former Ku Klux Klan leader David Duke said that the White nationalists' protest represented a turning point for this country.

We are determined to take this country back. We're gonna fulfill the promises of Donald Trump. That's what we believed in," Duke said in a video posted to Twitter. "That's why we voted for Donald Trump because he said he's going to take our country back."

Facing sharp criticism for the president's initial response to the tragedy, the White House issued a follow-up statement that included a stronger rebuke of "White supremacists, KKK Neo-Nazi and all extremist groups."

Tanden said that throughout the campaign and in his brief presidency, Trump has had many opportunities to not just fully distance his ad-



# LSU secures \$3.7 Million Grant to Fund Research on Novel Drug Targeting Heart Diseases

## Data News Staff Edited Report

The Exscien Corporation of Louisville, KY, in conjunction with LSU Health New Orleans Cardiovascular Center of Excellence, has been awarded an SBIR Fast-Track Grant in the amount of \$3.7 million over three years by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute. The funding will be used to study the company's first in a new class of drugs that repairs DNA Damage to reduce cardiac tissue injury and improve outcomes in cardiovascular diseases.

The grant will directly fund \$1,441,643 to LSU Health New Orleans to study the potential efficacy of Exscien1-III, a patented three-part fusion protein designed to harness the body's own mechanisms to control and repair dis-



The funding will be used to study the company's first in a new class of drugs that repairs DNA Damage to reduce cardiac tissue injury and improve outcomes in cardiovascular diseases.


Glenn Wilson, and LSU Health New Orleans Cardiovascular Center of Excellence Director, David J. Lefer, PhD, are the grant's principal investigators. They will work alongside LSU Health New Orleans Cardiovascular Center Translational Core Laboratory Director, Traci Goodchild, PhD, to develop a pathway for Exscien1-III to restore fundamental cellular metabolic function and disrupt a root pathway for cardiac disease progression and heart failure.

While at an early stage of overall development, Exscien's proprietary protein leads the way to finding a means to mitigate and repair the underlying tissue damage suffered from these devastating diseases. "Exscien is able to deliver microscopic repair enzymes directly to the root of the damage and thus goes beyond the current standard of care of simply treating downstream symptoms," says Dr. Ker Ferguson, Exscien CEO. "The therapy offers substantial commercial potential and has attracted large 'pharma' interest to date."




"This approach could potentially effect more than 20 million people worldwide with progressive heart failure," notes Dr. David Lefer, Professor of Pharmacology and Director of the Cardiovascular Center of Excellence at LSU Health New Orleans School of Medicine.

ease pathways. The drug has demonstrated significant cardioprotective actions in rodent models of acute myocardial infarction, or heart attack, and the newly funded research will investigate its effectiveness in a model of heart failure. A goal of this research is to move this promising new drug toward human clinical trials.


Exscien CE, Dr. Ker Ferguson and Chief Scientific Officer, Dr.



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# Big Chief Kenny "Klik" Young Black Seminole

Glenn Jones  
Data News Weekly

## Timeline:

1998 – present- Cyrill Green Big Chief Iron Horse (deceased)  
1998 – Present – Kenneth Young Big Chief klik - 2nd Chief

To date Chief Klik is the first chief that we have interviewed that can trace his bloodline back to Aboriginal America, not only that, but his family still owns their land where he is the modern-day Chief of his village. That land is in Bayou Lacombe and surrounding areas in Louisiana and that aboriginal tribe has many names. To say the least I was past intrigued and could hardly contain my composure. They were a million and one questions going through my mind! Unfortunately, this is an article and not a novel, so what I reveal will only touch the surface. I urge all that read this article to do more research about America, before Columbus. More than a majority of New Orleans Blacks are of Aboriginal or Indian Heritage. Yes, your history books were false. Now they use the term outdated. The late Big Chief Cyril Green named the tribe the Black Seminoles to pay respect to the Indigenous Tribes of the area. Also taking his name Iron Horse from the Black Seminole freedman Chief John Horse.

In late 1700's, early 1800's many tribes in the West Florida, now known as Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and Florida were named Seminole meaning Renegade, by the Whites in the cavalry of the northern first colonies. As Osceola was the Chief of the Seminole, John Horse was for freed or escaped slaves known as the Black Seminoles or Maroons. As many of us have heard the stories of the Maroons occupying the



Big Chief Kenny "Klik" Young

areas outside the City. Well the City was only the French Quarter. That means present day 7th Ward, 9th Ward and especially uptown which was later developed was their territories. Because of the shared names and of tribes and the renaming of Indians by Americans, allow me to clarify what that means for Black Masking Culture and the Aboriginal Blacks of this area. The Black Seminoles were a tribe comprised of free Blacks (aboriginals) and fugitive slaves that forged a strategic alliance. This alliance created the community of Congo Square. This is the culture; Black Masking is celebrating on St. Joseph Night and Mardi Gras. Biblically, it can be asserted that the tribe of Gad and Judah unite in the City of New Orleans.

Q) I asked Chief if what I read was true, did the Aboriginal Indians of this land first speak a form of Hebrew?

A) Yes, originally that's true. That's going back biblically. It goes to everyone being a part of one of the tribes. You know the 12 tribes. I come from Gad, I know exactly where I come from, where my ancestors come from. People don't know who they are and don't want to know. It's a choice.

Q) How long have you been the Big Chief of the tribe?

A) Well I'm not the Chief. I'm the second Chief. Since Big Chief Iron Horse passed away I've been keeping things going, keeping the tribe alive. Being a Chief was not my goal. I play my position, I was appointed and I'm still that. Second Chief to honor him.

Q) What is the spirit of your tribe?

A) The spirit of my Tribe is to keep our community together. That's the reason why I became very interested in be-

coming a member of the tribe because my Chief had a real connection to our neighborhood, to our family to the kids, to people in the community who needed and still need that type of guidance. Our goal is to be a strong tribe that's being an example to kids giving them a way out. Thirteen and 14 year olds are getting their hands on guns. My main goal is to make sure I'm available for the community so they will have somewhere to go, some events to be involved in. It's not only that, spiritually everything else will do its work in the process.

Q) Style of beading

A) I like different styles, I love uptown, I love downtown styles. I prefer beaded patches. A lot of people do 3d work. I can do those too, but I prefer to do beaded patches.

Q) What does it mean to be a Chief on both sides of your life, Blood and culture?

A) Being Chief is not just being a person of status. It's a lot of work. You have to get your word out to your family. Get your people together you gotta know who there are, it's whole other lifestyle. There's a whole lot of ways that we all have learned even down to profanity and different things that we didn't even speak. There's a whole bunch spiritually to being involved if that's the way you wanna go.

Q) What are your thoughts on the Name Mardi Gras Indians opposed to Black Masking Culture?

A) The Name Mardi Gras Belongs to the City of New Orleans. The original Mardi Gras started in Alabama, so if you are looking at the word play of names, if we start addressing ourselves correctly than the money will start coming where it should be.

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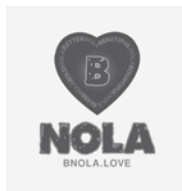
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# NABJ Hall of Fame Luncheon

**Eric M. Craig**  
Editor

On Friday, August 11th, the National Association of Black Journalists held a luncheon in honor of several journalists around the nation. Among the honorees was Jocelyn K. Allen of the Allen Lewis Agency (red dress), which services the NNPA; Garth Reeves, Sr., publisher of the Miami Times, and the oldest living founder of NNPA; and journalists Michael Days, Rev. Aisha Karma, and John Jenkins.

New Orleans Data News Weekly congratulates all journalists honored at the annual luncheon.



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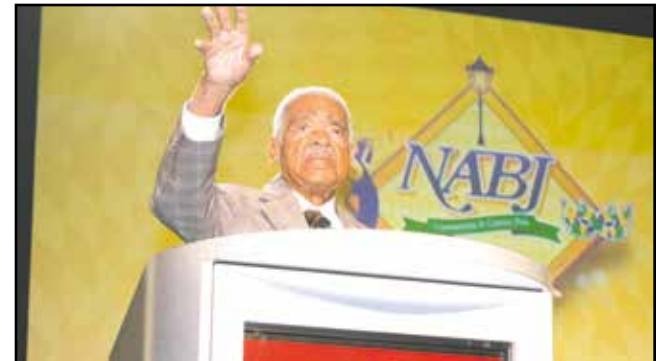
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# The Battle of Charlottesville



By Edwin Buggage  
Features Writer

We have seen the seeds of racial chaos ensue the other day in Virginia as members of the Alt-Right came together to protest the City of Charlottesville to protest the City Council deciding to remove a Statue of Confederate General Robert E. Lee. This makes me think about the controversy that arose in the City when New Orleans decided to remove several confederate monuments. A still divisive and controversial issue where there is a wide divide between Blacks and Whites in the Crescent City.

Today people from an array of backgrounds around the nation are speaking up against White Supremacy, Racism, Nazism and the KKK. This horrendous incident has the conversation of race on the front burner as to how to deal with questions of how to deal with

racial intolerance in America.

But what we must note is that this is nothing new for our country; there has always been a backlash against forward progress for minorities in America. Let's not forget that the most well-known White terrorist group the Ku Klux Klan was founded after the Civil War by former confederates seeking to thwart the gains of newly freed slaves and to end Reconstruction, where Blacks were allowed to vote, hold office and participate in many areas of civic life unfettered.

Let's not forget that in our own backyard that Plessy v. Ferguson once it reached the Supreme Court in 1896 was a major decision that made "separate but equal" the law of the land. And today we're at a stage where our nation is facing similar circumstances where the seeds of intolerance have been planted threatening the future of our nation. What happened in Charlottesville is akin to the Battle of Ft. Sumter in 1861 that was the beginning of the Civil War.

Today, we have what I argue is the Un-Civil War, one that is characterized by polarization, demonization, destroying and the delegitimizing of opposing viewpoints. And this war is much more dangerous



Today people from an array of backgrounds around the nation are speaking up against White Supremacy, Racism, Nazism and the KKK. Photo by Thivier/Wikimedia Commons

than the violence that we saw in the streets of Virginia. Because in this war there is no clear military victory, for the weapons that are destroying civility in many instances are in the palms of our hands. That misinformation, disinformation and being selective in our diet our information threatens the hearts and souls of our nation one founded on the principle that all are created equal.

While this has not always been the case, we have amended our way into becoming a more perfect union. And in this time where we

need the healing voice of calm we cannot expect our divider-in-chief Donald Trump to give anything close to a Gettysburg Address to bring calm and perspective to our nation. So, it is up to us to realize that this cancer of racism, bigotry and the worse of intolerance by a cadre of misinformed, misguided, misanthropic individuals are the exception not the norm. That the American people in spite of our differences are a decent people.

It is in our great history as a nation that we have amended our way into becoming a great nation and

that many have fought and died to make this a more perfect union. This happens to be one of those times where those who are about continuing moving this country must resume the fight. And that those who are fossils who want to hang onto the horrible past of yesteryear does not have a place in a more inclusive America. Also, that together we can as Abraham Lincoln, in his first Inaugural Address, remember what he said on the Eve of the Civil War "That we are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory will swell when again touched as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature."

It is then we will continue to make our great nation even greater. And in the age where our head of state cannot be relied on to provide the moral leadership and compass to this promise land; it is the words of another great president; John F. Kennedy who in his first Inaugural Address 100 years after Abraham Lincoln in 1961 and in the throes of the Civil Rights Movement said

**Commentary, Continued on page 10.**

## It's Time to Show "Middle Neighborhoods" Love



Congressman Dwight Evans  
(PA-02)

What do countries, states and neighborhoods have in common? People. They all compete for people.

Through people, you get innovators, investors, builders, developers, thinkers. Through people, you have the building blocks of your workforce.

Our neighborhoods rely on anchors like great schools, bustling shops and small businesses, and a competitive housing stock in order to attract homebuyers and

increase long-term homeownership.

In my District, the Second District of Pennsylvania, I am fortunate to represent top of the line research institutions such as the University of Pennsylvania, Drexel, Temple, Saint Joseph's, LaSalle and many more, that continue to lead the way in innovation and development, and drive new residents to our neighborhoods across the city of Philadelphia and into the surrounding suburbs like Lower Merion and Narberth, that call the 2nd District home.

Throughout the course of my over three-and-a-half decades of public service, I have always looked for thoughtful ways to "Make Ideas Matter," always strategically searching for that moment when an idea becomes a part of our public policy.

In Congress, I am trying to put a spotlight and raise the dialogue on "Middle Neighborhoods" nationwide.

"Middle Neighborhoods" are caught between growing and declining neighborhoods. They are neighborhoods that are doing "good enough" right now, but are threatened by decline, as the demand to live in these neighborhoods is weakening.

Middle Neighborhoods walk a tightrope. They are solid neighborhoods that are being squeezed, because they aren't poor enough or wealthy enough. We need to show these neighborhoods a little love before it's too late and they tip towards decline.

Right now, our Middle Neighborhoods have no clear lane in our federal policy. To add to this, President Trump and his administration have done little to reinvest in cities nationwide.

Last summer when speaking to the African American community at a rally in Philadelphia, President

Trump said, "What the hell do you have to lose?"

This March, members of the Executive Committee of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) met with President Trump at the White House to discuss the key issues plaguing the African American community.

During the meeting, the CBC Executive Committee delivered a CBC-authored, 130-page policy document titled "We Have A Lot To Lose: Solutions to Advance Black Families in the 21st Century," which includes detailed African-American history, CBC history, 21st century policy solutions for African-American families, and also highlights, three of my key priorities in Congress: "Middle Neighborhoods," "School Rehabilitation" and "Food Insecurity" as key action items for the policy agenda of the CBC.

It's long overdue for the federal

government to come together and stand united to make modernization, development and investment in our neighborhoods a top priority for cities, suburbs and towns nationwide.

We take pride in our neighborhoods. We are proud of the block we live on. We have come to call our neighbors our friends. It's on us to give our neighborhoods the tools they need in their toolbox.

Healthy, strong neighborhoods lead to bustling, vibrant economies.

Congressman Dwight Evans is a member of the Congressional Black Caucus and represents Northwest, West, North, parts of South and Center City Philadelphia, Narberth and the western suburb of Lower Merion Township. He serves on the House Agriculture Committee and House Small Business Committee. To learn more about Congressman Evans' work in Congress please visit his Facebook, Twitter, and congressional websites.



# Trailblazer

## Tony Brual

### *Fighting the Good Fight*

by: Edwin Buggage

Tony Brual is someone who has for more than two decades dedicated his life to serving those in need. He says this quality is something that was implanted in him early by his parents the late Tommy Brual and most importantly, his mother the late Dolores Brual, who he still calls his best friend. "I always give my mom credit for planting the seeds of what would become my life's work of helping people. I remember one of the first things she did for me when I was seven years old, was to buy me a set of Black History Encyclopedias. She wanted me to learn about our culture and our history. Also, she wanted me to learn about the struggles as well, because to get totally invested in something you have to understand how it got started and the issues that we are facing. It is her being active and it is something that influenced me about getting involved in making sure there was equality for my community and my race," he says of his late mother Dolores Brual and her importance in shaping his dedication to civic engagement.

Throughout the years he's served in many ca-

pacities helping communities as a program manager of several initiatives that's served to improve the quality of life of those in need. Presently, he is a Senior Program Manager providing day-to-day oversight of operational activities of marketing, enrollment and communications initiatives for Xavier University's 22 million-dollar National Institutes of Health (NIH) BUILD Grant. "Over the years I've worked with churches pro bono, working with churches writing grants and bringing resources into the community. I also worked with the "Weed and Seed Initiative" which was funded by the Department of Justice that focused on bridging the gap between citizens and law enforcement and my job was to create the forum where the two could meet and start to have some real dialog around important issues. In the program, we did many things including: after school programs, mentoring, job training, life skills training and sometimes counseling and it brought me great joy to see the positive impact it had on the community."

Brual is committed to helping create access to all. After Hurricane Katrina and into the present he is dedicated to bring-



ing equity and resources that would empower communities, "I worked in disaster recovery after the storm and levee breach helping first responders get housing and bringing people back to the City. I also continue to work with faith based organizations and keeping my finger on the pulse of the community. It's just that I love helping people and reassuring them that it's a process to rebuild and address the issues that affect them and it is something that will not happen overnight, but I let them know if people are working together anything and everything is possible."

He's garnered much

recognition for his work including several years ago receiving the Employee of the Year Award for Community Outreach and Program Development in Jefferson Parish. He says it brings him joy to see many of the people's lives he's touched over the years doing well. "To see young people, succeed is important to the future of our community. It feels good to do work that you know

aligns with your purpose and passion." Continuing he says, "I've always felt you should serve others because if you have found the secret to success that's helping you live a better life share that. There is an old saying, 'if you see a good fight jump in it' and the things that are going on in our community it is necessary to get out there and take part in the fight. This fight is not something that is specifically racial, but a fight for a better quality of life for all people, because at the end of the day it is about all of us."

Brual believes one of the most important things in life is to fulfill one's purpose. Reflecting on his life he feels that is something he's accomplished and wants to pass this spirit of giving to others onto others. "In my view, my purpose has always been about empowering my community. I think back to when I was young and was playing sports. I was not the guy that's going to pick the best player; I

would pick the one nobody wants and try to make him a winner. This approach is symbolic of what I do in the community. If I can help somebody I can do that by empowering them, by helping them overcome obstacles and be their best selves."

In life, many cannot reach their goals because they do not believe they have it in them to maximize their potential. Brual feels this quality is key if one is to succeed. "You have to constantly believe in yourself. The hardest thing to do sometimes when other people are telling you can't do something is to get up every day and look in that mirror and say I believe in myself. This is how I've lived my life saying to myself how can I say it can't be done, when I see other people doing it. So, I know with hard vision, hard work dedication and sometimes help and encouragement from others it can be done and that is what want to pass on to others."

**JMJ**  
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Delaney's Armoire

# Wear Your Nails Like a New Set of Jewelry



Delaney George  
Fashion Columnist

Long, short, sparkly, shiny, pointy or oval, nails have been a fashion statement since the dawn of time. Nails, long nails to be specific, has been a huge component of Black culture and a popular fashion statement that most of the world participates in. Nails come in many varieties, and today they're as innovat-

## PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE ENTERGY NEW ORLEANS, INC. REGARDING NEW ORLEANS POWER STATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ENTERGY NEW ORLEANS, INC. ("ENO") WILL HOST PUBLIC MEETINGS IN ALL FIVE (5) DISTRICTS REPRESENTED BY THE NEW ORLEANS CITY COUNCIL TO PROVIDE INFORMATION AND ANSWER QUESTIONS SURROUNDING ENO'S JULY 6, 2017 SUPPLEMENTAL AND AMENDING APPLICATION TO BUILD THE NEW ORLEANS POWER STATION ("NOPS"). ENO'S SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION PROPOSES TWO ALTERNATIVES FOR THE GENERATION TECHNOLOGY FOR NOPS: (1) A 226 MEGAWATT COMBUSTION TURBINE ("CT") UNIT, OR (2) A 128 MEGAWATT SET OF SEVEN WÄRTSILÄ 18V50SG RECIPROCATING INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINES ("RICE"). BUILDING A LOCAL RESOURCE LIKE NOPS WILL ENHANCE ENO'S ABILITY TO PROVIDE RELIABLE POWER TO THE CITY DURING THE TIMES OF GREATEST NEED. IN THIS PUBLIC MEETING, ENO WILL ADDRESS VARIOUS TOPICS RELATED TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF NOPS, INCLUDING:

- WHAT IS A CT UNIT? WHAT IS A RICE GENERATOR?
- WHY DOES NEW ORLEANS NEED NOPS?
- WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF NOPS?
- WHAT IS THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NOPS?
- WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THE LARGER UNIT?
- HOW DOES NOPS FIT INTO THE INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN?
- WHAT IS THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF NOPS?
- WHAT ABOUT RENEWABLE RESOURCES OR ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS?

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THESE MEETINGS. THE PUBLIC MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS FROM 6 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.:

DATE	COUNCIL DISTRICT	LOCATION	ADDRESS
MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 2017	DISTRICT D	CORPUS CHRISTI-EPIPHANY COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER	2022 ST. BERNARD AVE. NEW ORLEANS, LA 70119
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2017	DISTRICT E	ST. MARY OF THE ANGELS CHURCH	3501 N. MIRO ST. NEW ORLEANS, LA 70117
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2017	DISTRICT E	SANCHEZ MULTI-SERVICE CENTER-NORDC	1616 CAFFIN AVE. NEW ORLEANS, LA 70117



Holographic & bejeweled nails by local nail artist c.carternails on Instagram.



Details underneath by c.carternails on Instagram.



Multi-colored, glitter, & bejeweled nails by local nail artist c.carternails on Instagram

ing as putting actual diamonds and holographic paint on them. Long time nail wearer and Local Artist Kori James said she had been getting her nails done since she was five or six as if it was a Black rite of passage.

"I began getting acrylic in high school and I just fell in love with it. I get glitter nails, glow

in the dark, coffin style, stiletto style, anything or any color that matches with my outfit or mood for the day" said James.

You can customize your nails to be as shiny as your outfit with bedazzled accents or you can change color at your leisure with acrylics. For some, nails are a huge part of their look.

In most high fashion headshot editorials, nails are a creative aspect in the shot. Even when wearing an all-white look, if your nails are the only thing with color, it will be the finishing touch to a stylish look.

For more info on nails email Delinkey@yahoo.com or DM @ delannii on Instagram.

### Commentary, Continued from page 8.

to his audience, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country." The future of America and what we are to become is up to us; for decency and respect for our fellow citizens is our collective responsibility. It is in this practice that we can end the Un-Civil War and we can as people who came in different ships now sail in the same boat into the sea of freedom, progress, equality and civility.



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## Film Review

# Detroit

**Dwight Brown**  
NNPA Newswire Film Critic

"Detroit" tells a story of racial injustice and police brutality, based on fact, which is easy enough to believe and has parallels with today's problems with police criminality and impunity. But since this important subject is not new, what is the point of the film? What are we learning that is unique? What actionable knowledge are we getting from a tragic, racist event that happened 50 years ago? Unfortunately, "Detroit" fails to deliver on any of these points.

1967 Detroit. The raid of a Black after-hours club, the arrest of its patrons by police and general frustration with discrimination sets off days of riots and looting. One night, Larry Reed (Algee Smith, "The New Edition Story") lead singer of the teen soul group The Dramatics is slated to do a debut performance in a Motown review at a theater that attracts Blacks and whites. Cops close the venue down, due to the imminent danger on the streets outside.

Larry and his buddy Fred Simple (Jacob Latimore, "The Maze Runner") seek refuge at an \$11-a-night motel called the Algiers. There they meet two White girls (Hannah Murray, Kaitlyn Dever) and wind up talking to them in Larry's room. Shots ring out from an Algiers' motel window, which is near a National Guard prep area. The Detroit Police Department, Michigan State Police and Michigan Army National Guard swarm the hotel, which is now under siege. They are led by local White patrolman Philip Krauss (Will Poulter, "The Revenant"), who has just been reamed out by his commanding officer for shooting an unarmed looter in the back.

Krauss instigates an intimidation process, lines up some of the Black male hotel guests and the two White females against a wall in a hall and harass them. Verbal and physical abuse ensues. Krauss institutes a "death game": The cops take a victim into a room, close the door, fire a shot and pretend to kill him. This ruse is designed to instill fear into the others and scare them into ratting on the guy who fired the shot from the window. Before the night is out, the police murder three Black males.

A security guard Melvin Dis-



The story of Detroit is based on records of a real-life incident.

mukes (John Boyega, "Star Wars: The Force Awakens") witnesses the event. Sometimes he's a part of the problem, and sometimes he helps the victims with supportive words: "Don't antagonize the guys. I need you to survive the night." An Air Force veteran named Greene (Anthony Mackie, "The Hurt Locker") is one of the hostages and Army Warrant Officer Roberts (Austin Hébert) is part of the posse. When the sun comes up and the bloodshed is over, the cops are arrested, a lame trial is held, and no one serves any jail time for the misconduct or homicides.

In this thinly conceived film, written by Mark Boal ("The Hurt Locker," "Zero Dark Thirty"), Blacks are not bright enough to fight the law or status quo (minus fleeting appearances by Congressman John Conyers, played by Laz Alonso), and Whites are generally one-dimensionally evil or complacent. Any viewer looking for more than a retread of anguishing racial injustice will be sorely disappointed. There is nothing of value here except an epoch of history and a little-known tragedy that corroborates that Black people have been the victims of violence and police brutality for decades, and specifically in the explosive 1960s.

Director Kathryn Bigelow is an expert with action scenes and quick edits. That was her strong suit with "The Hurt Locker" and "Zero Dark Thirty." She choreographs crowd scenes and deployments quite well. She builds tension, dread and suspense. With this film, her glaring flaw is the interrogation scenes, which seem brutally sadistic, way

too long and almost ghoulish, versus authentic.

Newly shot scenes are edited in with archival footage from the 1960s, thanks to editors William Goldenberg (Heat) and Harry Yoon. The visuals, by cinematographer Barry Ackroyd (The Hurt Locker), are not in question. Other technical aspects of the film are on solid ground.

The ensemble acting is universally tepid; that might be, because so much attention was paid to the technical aspects and not the creating or recreating of characters that are three-dimensional. When the dust settles, the only performance that resonates is that of Will Poulter as the despicable killer Krauss. He is a nightmare. If that is the persona that overrides everything, the writer and director have not served this event, cast or the viewer well.

What moviegoers reaffirmed from Lee Daniel's historical African American drama "The Butler" is that the Black community has survived and thrived against great

odds. From Stanley Nelson's documentary "The Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution" audiences found people who stood up against the machinations of local police and the vicious FBI. From Ava Du Vernay's "Selma," which chronicled Martin Luther King's crusade for equal voting rights and the historic march from Selma to Montgomery, viewers discovered that King's message and life achievements trumped the most distressing parts of his short life. In Steve McQueen's "12 Years a Slave," he picked a project that showed a free man who endured after being kidnapped into slavery.

After sitting through Detroit's two hours and twenty-three minutes of incessant tragedy, it is hard to come up with any salvation. It's a well-intentioned, fact-based story based on police records, news reports and the recollections of some of the participants. What the writers could not verify they embellished. (For example, the Krauss character is a composite and not based on a specific person, though Reed and Dismukes are.) If the filmmakers could create new characters and storylines, because the records were skimpy, they could have created one about a lone soul who became a community activist based on his/her experience from this tragedy. They could have given their audience one ray of light. One great, Black hope. But there is none.

The overwhelming feeling you'll likely have after sitting through this urban hell is despair, anger and hopelessness. The makers of "12 Years a Slave" and the other aforementioned films had far more vision than the creators of "Detroit." And, an ordeal without purpose is just an ordeal.

## MCDONOGH 35

The National McDonogh 35 High School Alumni Association is reaching out to all graduates as it begins the celebration of the school's Centennial Celebration (1917 to 2017).

If you are a graduate or if you know of someone who graduated from the school, contact the alumni association at [mcdonogh35alumni-association@yahoo.com](mailto:mcdonogh35alumni-association@yahoo.com), [mcdonogh35alumniassociation.org](http://mcdonogh35alumniassociation.org), or write to McDonogh 35 Alumni Association, P.O. Box 50306, New Orleans, LA 70122, ATT: Alumni Association.

Submit New Orleans school items to [Orleans@nola.com](mailto:Orleans@nola.com). Include contact information.

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Data News Weekly, "The People's Paper," is looking for freelance writers to join our team print and digital team. We want to hear from you if you are a working journalist, or an aspiring journalist who has 2 years or more of newspaper or PR writing experience. We need writers who can cover New Orleans news stories, ranging from local high school sports, community events, City Hall and entertainment. Experience in print is necessary, experience in digital and social media are encouraged.

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If you are interested, please email your resume and 3 writing samples to: [terrybjones@bellsouth.net](mailto:terrybjones@bellsouth.net) and [datanewseditor@bellsouth.net](mailto:datanewseditor@bellsouth.net).

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