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#### **Cover Story**

## Satchmo Summer Fest 2019

#### Do You Know What It Means to be from New Orleans



Bill Summers when speaking of the Crescent City says, "New Orleans is where I live. I have chosen to live here for one reason, because there is no other place like New Orleans in the world. It has its own food, dances, culture, music and so much more. New Orleans gives the world an example on how to live a full life.'



Kermit Ruffins

Edwin Buggage **Editor-in-Chief** 

#### Celebrating the Life and Legacy of Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong

It is that time again where the City celebrates the Life and Legacy of Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong, an icon who was an innovator bringing the music and culture of New Orleans to the world.

Satchmo SummerFest will take place at the New Orleans Jazz Museum at the Mint on August 2-4, 2019. In a City where many festivals are out of reach of locals, this is one of the more affordable festivals costing \$6 for adults with children 12 and under are getting in free.

The proceeds from the festival helps support local musicians and pay for the event. Admission also provides access to the Jazz Museum's Collection and Exhibitions plus indoor activities like Pops' Playhouse for Kids powered by Entergy, Hilton Satchmo Legacy Stage featuring discussions, and presentations by renowned Armstrong Scholars.

Cover Story, Continued on page 3.

On The Cover: Official 2019 Satchmo SummerFest Poster, 'Reflections of King Louie' by Ayo Scott.

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**Courier Services** 

Please call 504-309-9913 for subscription information or to obtain a back issue of the paper ONLY. Dated material two weeks in advance. Not responsible for publishing or return of unsolicited manuscripts or photos

#### **Cover Story**

Cover Story, Continued from page 2.

#### What is A New Orleans Festival without Food and Music?

The 2019 Festival Lineup includes more than 30 acts, ranging from traditional jazz to swing, brass and marching bands, funk, R&B, jazz fusion, and more performing on two tented stages over three days.

And what is a New Orleans Festival without food. The culinary lineup features include many of its regulars as well as newcomers to the fest. Dorignac's Food Center has been added to its culinary lineup; the beloved local grocer will serve Armstrong's famously favorite dish, Red Beans and Rice. Another debut, Gulf Tacos will offer up pork belly, shrimp, and fish tacos, along with street corn, and attendees can look forward to Jambalaya from debut Rusty Pelican. Returning favorites include Big Cheezy, Café Dauphine, Company Burger, Plum Street Snoballs, Quintin's Ice Cream, just to name a few of the many choices' festival goers will be able to sample during the weekend dedicated to Satchmo.

#### **New Orleans the Most** Musical City in America

One of the performers that is a staple at the event is world renowned Vocalist Charmaine Neville, "I love this festival," she says excitedly. "I don't know why it took so long to dedicate a festival to the number one son of New Orleans. He did so much for our City and putting it on the musical map."

The festival almost two decades old is still a small intimate affair by New Orleans standards, but it continues to grow. "I appreciate being asked to play every year. I am glad to see more young people learning more about who he is and his significance. That is what I do when I go into the schools tell who Louis was." Says Neville.

Another performer at the fest is legendary Percussionist Bill Summers, feels equally good about hitting the stage, "I always enjoy playing Satchmo Fest. During our set we will feature some of the music of Herbie Hancock and music from a guy named Gregory Porter." Summers, who believes that music has a much deeper purpose will be inviting some homeless people to attend giving voice to their plight. "There are two tunes in particular I am moved by Porter, Take me to the Alley and Holding On." Continuing he says, "We are going to invite some homeless people and Trombonist and Singer Michael Watson is going to sing to the homeless. It is my hope that we can work toward solving this problem not just in New Orleans, but all over the world."



**Robin Barnes** 



Louis Armstrong may be the single most influential person to be born in New Orleans," says Artist Ayo Scott. "I'm humbled to be able to create a tribute to such a man. I'm excited to share 'Reflections of King Louie', the 2019 Satchmo SummerFest Poster.

#### Art and Soul

year is no different; this year's poster is by Artist Ayo Scott, son of the late Scholar and Artist John Scott. "It is my profound honor to be chosen as the official poster artist for this year's Satchmo SummerFest and have the chance to pay tribute to a musical legend," said Scott. "When looking at the impact of jazz music on the world, Louis Armstrong may be the single most influential person to be

born in New Orleans," Scott said. As is many festivals in New Or- "I'm humbled to be able to create leans, the commemorative poster a tribute to such a man. I'm exis always a collector's item. This cited to share 'Reflections of King Louie', the 2019 Satchmo SummerFest Poster."

#### New Orleans a Heritage Worth Celebrating

Louis "Satchmo Armstrong" is only one ingredient in the rich gumbo that is New Orleans Music, culture and heritage. Charmaine Neville, who is from a family that many consider New Orleans First Family of Funk speaks of the specialness

of New Orleans music and culture, "My family is just one of many fabulous families that come from this city. It is a wonderful legacy to say to people I am from New Orleans. It is an honor. In my many years as a performer traveling around the world, I am representing my city."

Laughing she also says of the City's uniqueness and many talented people, "It must be something in the water or chicory in the coffee that makes New Orleans and the people like no other on the planet. There are so many families just generations of ge-

niuses in music: Batiste, Boutte', the French family and so many others."

Bill Summers also revers the Crescent City and its heritage and is proud to call it home, "New Orleans is where I live. I have chosen to live here for one reason, because there is no other place like New Orleans in the world."

Commenting on the international flair of the city he says, "It's not in the U.S. because I have been around the world many times and this is a foreign country. It has its own food, dances, culture, music and so much more. New Orleans gives the world an example on how to live a full life."

#### I'll Fly Away: Satchmo and **New Orleans Greats Going** through the Pearly Gates

Like Satchmo, many of the greats of New Orleans Music and Heritage have transitioned leaving their mark on the world. "There are so many lineages that make our city great I lost my father Charles Neville and we are about to bury my uncle Art," Neville says of the musical greats of New Orleans. "We have loss so many great people in our city, but I know the faith we have as a people and our faith and the spiritual roots that connect us all we will get to see those people again and it is going to be a celebration because that's who we are as New Orleanians."



Satchmo was a gift to the world; bringing the music of New Orleans music to the world, where today people are still singing his songs and celebrating his marvelous and impactful life.

He is a great figure who showed the world that a little City on the Mississippi is the home to so many great and talented people. But what makes the City great and people coming from around the world to experience it is much deeper, "I am proud of everything about New Orleans, we have the best food, the best weather, the friendliest people you ever want to meet in the world. I always tell people New Orleans is the biggest lil neighborhood in the whole wide world," says Charmaine Neville.

Summing up what's so special about New Orleans and its people she continues, "It is our welcoming spirit, we want people to know when they come here we are your neighbors, we are your friends, we are your family, that's what New Orleans is to me. We are so blessed that God decided we should be born here and not somewhere else. Everything else is as we say lagniappe."



I love this festival," says Charmaine Neville. "I don't know why it took so long to dedicate a festival to the number one son of New Orleans. He did so much for our City and putting it on the

#### Newsmaker

# Goodell, Title Game Officials to Face Questions on 'No-Call'

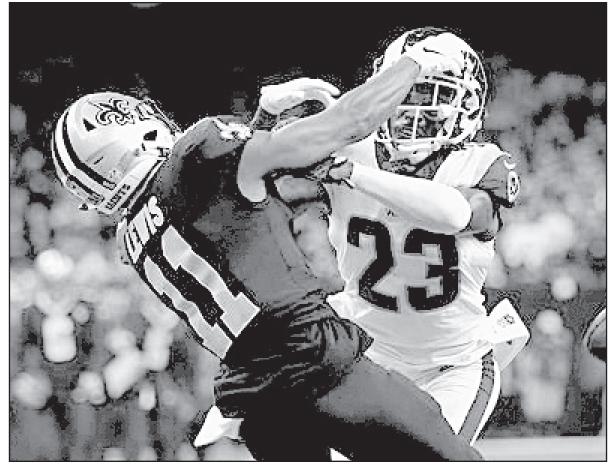
#### Kevin McGill Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) – A Louisiana judge ordered that NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell and three officials from January's NFC title game be questioned under oath in September about the infamous "nocall" that helped the Los Angeles Rams beat the New Orleans Saints in January's NFC title game, a lawyer said Monday.

Attorney Antonio LeMon, who filed a lawsuit over the game that advanced the Rams to the Super Bowl, said he and league attorneys will pick a mutually agreeable date for depositions in New Orleans -barring any league appeals that might delay or cancel the questioning.

#### A league spokesman declined comment.

LeMon's lawsuit seeks \$75,000 in damages - to be donated to charity - over the failure to flag a pass interference or roughness penalty against Rams cornerback Nickell Robey-Coleman for his helmet-to-helmet hit on receiver Tommylee Lewis well before a pass arrived. The no-call came at a crucial point



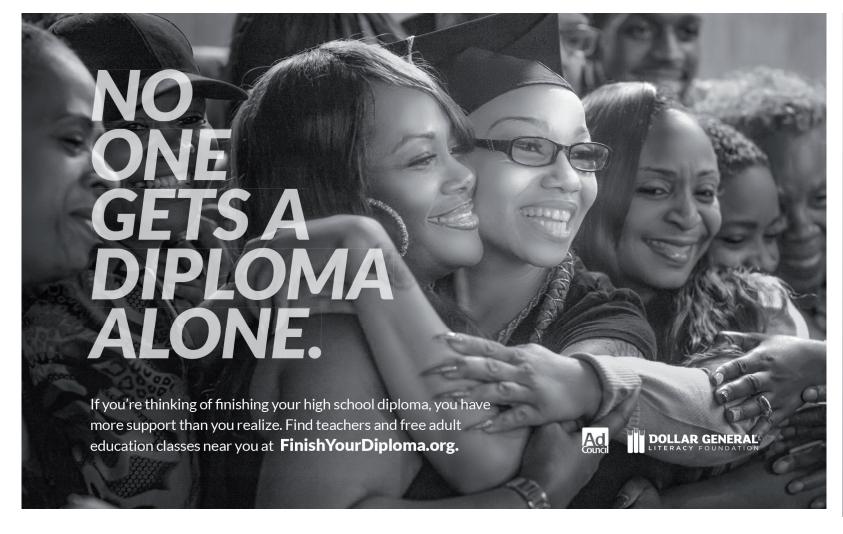
In this Jan. 20, 2019, file photo, Los Angeles Rams' Nickell Robey-Coleman breaks up a pass intended for New Orleans Saints' Tommylee Lewis during the second half of the NFL Football NFC Championship Game in New Orleans. A Louisiana Judge has ordered that NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell and three officials from January's NFC Title Game be questioned under oath in September about an infamous "no-call" that helped the Los Angeles Rams beat the New Orleans Saints in January's NFC Title Game, an attorney said Monday, July 29, 2019. (AP Photo/Gerald Herbert, File)

in the game against the New Orleans Saints. The Rams won and advanced to the Super Bowl.

State Civil District Court Judge Nicole Sheppard of New Orleans ruled earlier this month that LeMon's lawsuit could proceed. She also ruled then that LeMon can request documents and ask questions of NFL officials. She said Monday that depositions should take place in September. She also set Aug. 22 for the next hearing in the lawsuit, according to LeMon.

Other suits dealing with the blown call have wound up in federal court, where they have failed. They included one long-shot effort to have the game or a crucial part of it played over before the Rams met the New England Patriots in the Super Bowl, which the Patriots won.

LeMon, whose lawsuit alleges fraud by NFL officials, has crafted his lawsuit to avoid having it taken over by a federal court, in part by keeping the damages sought low. He said Monday that he intends for any money won to go to former Saints star Steve Gleason's charity to aid people with neuromuscular diseases. Gleason was diagnosed with ALS in 2011.





**State & Local News** 

## City Begins Testing New Parking Technology that Could Improve Enforcement

#### Press Release by the City of New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS – Beginning this week, the City of New Orleans, Department of Public Works will begin implementing a Pilot Parking Program to gather data about infractions and determine if the technology offers a viable option for more efficient parking enforcement. Municipal Parking Services, Inc. is providing the electronic parking monitoring demonstration until Aug. 31, 2019 at no cost to the city.

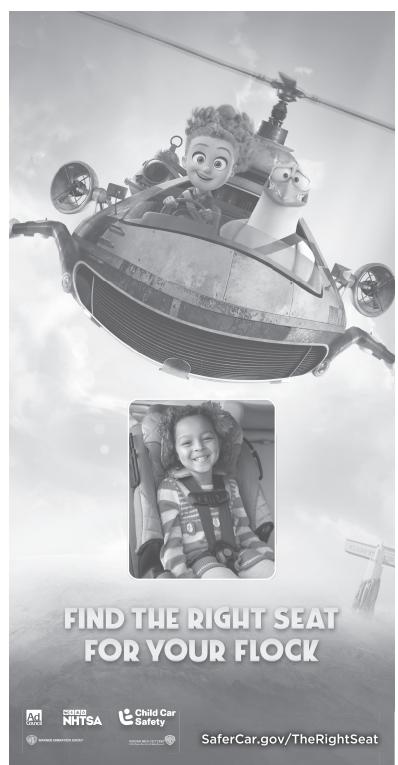
There are two locations in the

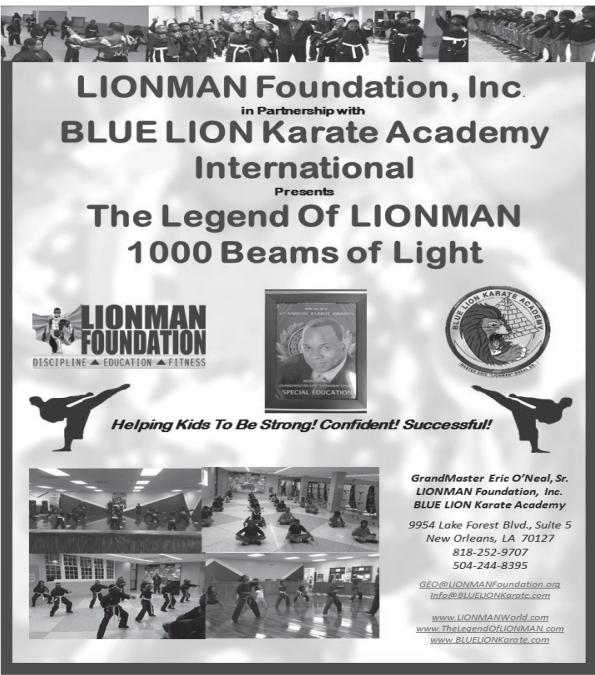




downtown area featured in the pilot program: 701 Baronne St. adjacent to the Rouses Market and on the north side of Andrew Higgins Boulevard at South Peters Street.

Hardware for the system features SafetySticks, which are electronically tethered to monitor parking spaces, no parking areas and a bike parking area. Pay stations will be located within the footprint of the Pilot Parking Program area. All current parking restrictions and penalties will remain in place throughout the duration of the program.







#### Data Zone

## The Spears Group Announces 2019 Millennial Award Winners at 7th Annual Event

#### **Photos by Spears Group Staff**

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NEW ORLEANS - The Spears Group, in partnership with GNO, Inc., announced 21 winners at its Seventh Annual Millennial Awards Ceremony on Friday, July 26th at the Ace Hotel in New Orleans. The evening kicked off at 6 p.m. with the "Best Millennial Restaurant Competition," where guests sampled and voted for their favorite dishes from local finalists We Dat's Chicken & Shrimp, Nonna Mia Cafe & Pizzeria, Mambo's, and Josephine Estelle.

Following the conclusion of the restaurant competition, the youngest representatives of the Spears Group, Brittany Doucette and Mathew Pashby, kicked off the Awards Program with opening remarks before handing things off to this year's emcees: Emmynominated Journalist and WWLTV Anchor, Charisse Gibson, and previous Changemaker Category Award Winner and River Parishes Tourist Commission Executive Director, Buddy Boe.



Spears Group Founder & CEO Cleveland Spears, III, (front row left) and Staff provided by The Spears Group



2019 Millennial Award emcees Charisse Gibson and Buddy Boe with 2018 Millennial Award emcee April Dupre provided by Charisse Gibson via Instagram @eeliezahjayne



(from left to right) 2019 Millennial Award nominee Fresh Johnson, Spears Group Junior Associate Darnell Sharperson, 2019 Millennial Award Winners Tarriona "Tank" Ball and Sevetri Wilson provided by The Spears Group



Former Spears Group employee WIII Thompson with current Spears Group VP of Public Relations Malana Joseph Mitchell provided by The Spears Group



Spears (middle) and Colleagues enjoy Millennial Awards



Tarriona "Tank" Ball (R) with



Christian Davenport, AKA Cubs the Poet and Darnell Sharperson



2019 Millennial Award winners (from left to right) Erica Rogers, Ayame Dinkler, and Kimberly Novod with friends. Provided by Saul's Light via Instagram @sauls\_light

#### Sisters of the Holy Family Presents Annual Fundraiser

Heavenly Host of Stars Gala featuring Powerful Line-Up with Headliners The Whispers, Sharon Martin, Wanda Rouzan, Naydja CoJoe, Dwight and Connie Fitch, Quiet Storm and Others

#### Data News Staff Edited Report

New Orleans get ready, on August 18th the Grammy-nominated and legendary Hall of Fame Group The Whispers will take to the stage at the Hyatt Regency New Orleans in a benefit performance for the Sisters of the Holy Family. The Annual "Heavenly Host of Stars Gala" is a major fundraising event to help sustain the long-standing ministries of the Sisters of the Holy Family as well as retirement needs of elderly Sisters. The patron party begins at 5:30 pm and the gala starts at 7 pm. Serving as Honorary Gala Co-Chairs are Frank and Paulette Stewart.

The Heavenly Host of Stars Gala will include performances by popular local artists Sharon Martin, Wanda Rouzan, Naydja CoJoe, and Dwight and Connie Fitch. This year we have been blessed to have the evening's culinary delights generously donated and prepared by Chef Yvan Didelot of the Hyatt Regency New Orleans Hotel. The gala is a great way to give back and say thank-you to the Sisters of the Holy Family for their hard work and dedication in our community.

The Holy Family Order was founded in 1842 by Henriette Delille, a free woman of color who is currently on the Liturgical Path to Sainthood. For over 177 years the Holy Family Congregation has been an important part of the Catholic Archdiocese. The order founded St. Mary's Academy, Lafon Nursing Home, St. John Berchman's Manor, St. John Berchman's Early Childhood Development Center and Delille Inn Apartments for low income seniors. The Sisters of the Holy Family have devoted their time and services to numerous communities, dedicated to education, housing and nursing care.



Legendary R&B Group The Whispers



New Orleans Vocalist Wanda Rouzan



Showstopping Performer Sharon Martin

#### Commentary

# A Recipe for Success this School Year



**Charles Dickerson**Data News Weekly Columnist

As we are preparing for the upcoming school year, it is important that we all play a part in ensuring our children get the most out of their educational experience. Therefore, I propose we get back to the basics as a community.

I feel we as a community have gotten too lax in the rearing of our children and what we expect from them. More importantly, we as a community are dropping the ball in respect to our young people who are slipping through the cracks with detrimental results for our city. I have witnessed firsthand New Orleans post Katrina becoming an educational Petri Dish for educational experiments where some have been successful, while others are dismal failures.

Undoubtedly, school reform efforts have netted mixed results; but it is my feeling that the key to success for our children are not the sole responsibility of schools and administrators. In this new day, it is my view that we must take a holistic approach where there is an effort from the entire community. We together must decide that our children are important and unite in investing the resources necessary

to guarantee their success.

Contrary to what some believe, when speaking of resources, I am not talking about money, but spending quality time with your children. Meeting with their children's teachers and administrators, in addition to working with other parents to make sure their kids are getting a quality education. Research shows that parental involvement is one factor that differentiates some of the better performing schools from those that do not perform well.

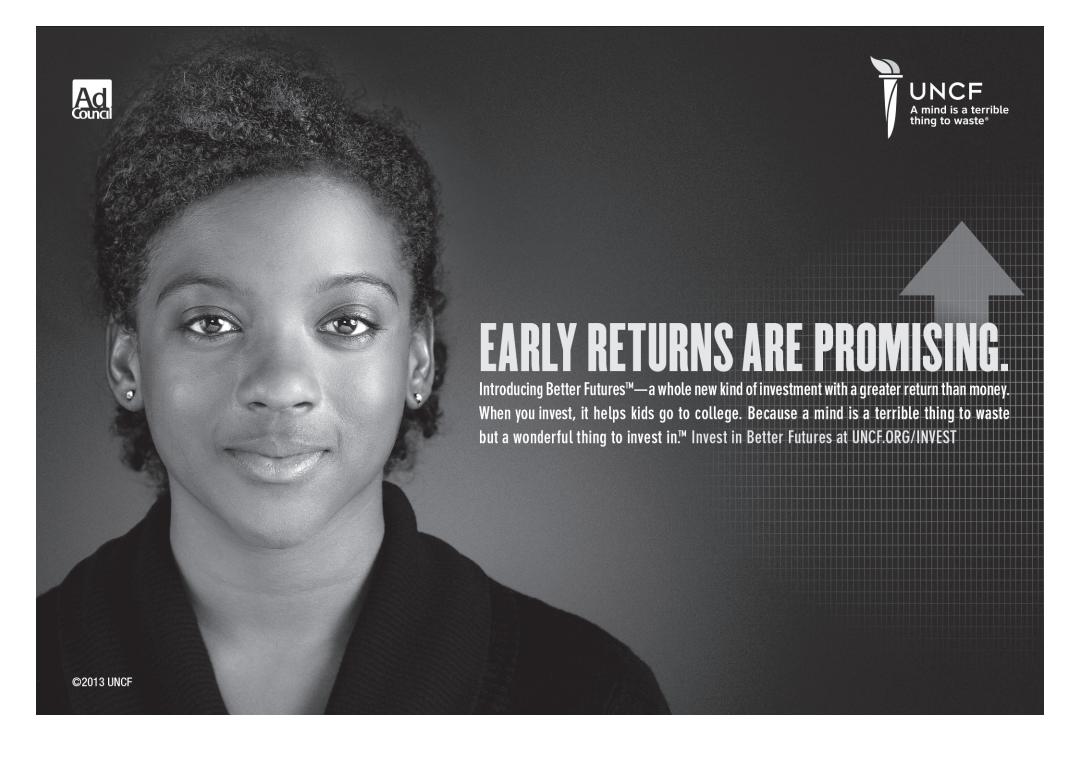
Furthermore, I must say that as a parent myself and educator for almost 20 years I see both sides of this coin daily. I truly empathize and fully understand where parents and teachers can become overwhelmed. But we must think of this endeavor as a team effort where all

hands-on deck is necessary. Parents let me say the solution does not lie in pacifying our kids with electronic devices and passive parenting techniques. Our young people still need their parents and caregivers actively involved as their primary guiding force in their lives; so, take time to have non-technology time to talk or have activities where you interact with them.

Additionally, we as a community must collectively conclude that all kids matter and deserve a quality education no matter their zip code, race, or socioeconomic class. The school to prison must end and we can put a stop to it by promoting education and learning in our community. It is my contention that all kids can achieve at high levels. Also, I believe all our kids are special and

deserve the attention and nurturing to become healthy, functional, successful adults. These young people are our future and we as adults must re-invest and make the sacrifices necessary to this end.

So, as the school year is just beginning, we as a community must get everybody on one page and back to the basics of taking time with our children. Parents get to know your children's teachers and administrators, get involved in school activities and parent groups, help your children with homework or identify resources that are available. Finally, but most importantly, encouraging and inspiring our young people to pursue excellence is key to their success. If we do this then we can all earn an "A" not just this year but every year.



# Black Women Taking on the Fight Against Diabetes

Linda Goler Blount MPH President and CEO, Black Women's Health Imperative

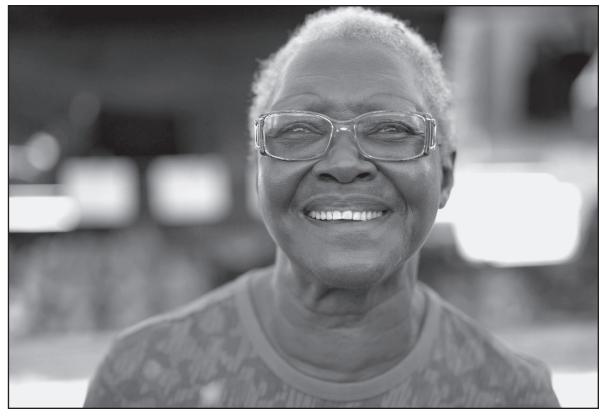
The cost of insulin is skyrocketing and people—especially Black women—are dying because they cannot afford or don't have access to vital medication.

There is not enough being done to lower the prices of prescription medications that could mean life or death for so many African Americans that depend on it to live.

Over 30 million people in the United States have been diagnosed with both Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes—including nearly 13% of all non-Hispanic Black people. According to the Office of Minority Health at the Department of Health and Human Services, African Americans are 80% more likely to be diagnosed with diabetes and the majority of them are women.

Many of those suffering from diabetes depend on insulin to regulate their blood sugar to remain healthy so that the food they eat does not threaten their lives. Instead of ensuring that people with diabetes can have access to this lifesaving drug, some political leaders have put up road block after road block to make it harder for patients to receive care, despite bipartisan outrage by the excessively high cost of prescription drugs.

This isn't just bad politics: this



is a life or death issue for working families across the country, and African Americans are disproportionately paying the price.

Instead of focusing on lowering drug costs for all Americans, some lawmakers continue to attack the Affordable Care Act and its health care protections for those that have pre-existing conditions. While they do this, as many as one in four people skips insulin doses or ration prescriptions because of the rising cost. Sadly, some of these people

are dying as a result—and many black women are specifically at risk.

African Americans are more likely to develop Type 2 diabetes and unfortunately suffer fatalities from type 2 diabetes at twice the rate of their white counterparts.

Black people are overwhelmingly more likely to suffer from debilitating complications caused by diabetes such as amputations, blindness and kidney failure more than their white counterparts. Due to lack of health resources in predominately African American communities, black people receive poorer quality care and get care later when the disease has progressed.

The risk for getting type 2 diabetes increases with age with the highest incidence occurring between 65-75. This is precisely the point in life when income decreases. African American women are especially affected. They are likely to be care-givers and spend their hardearned money on ensuring family members are healthy making access to insulin a greater challenge.

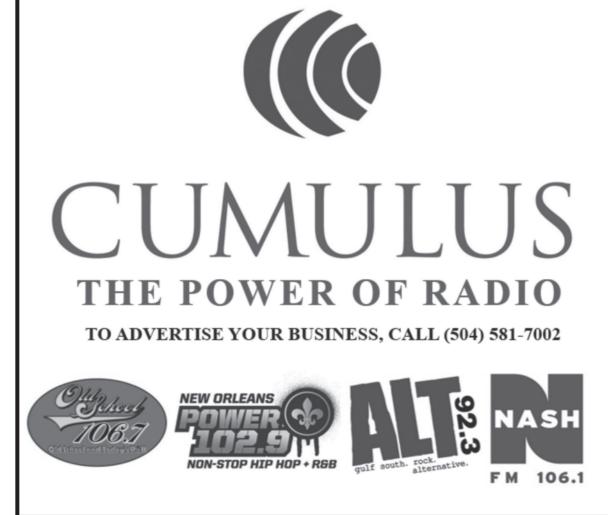
The health and wellness of Black women must be a top priority so we must take action.

Recently, a coalition of health care, social justice, and faith organizations launched "Affordable Insulin NOW," a campaign demanding lower drug costs for those suffering from diabetes.

Together, we are raising our voices, amplifying each other's stories, building on-the-ground teams, and demanding our policymakers and pharmaceutical companies work together to provide access to high quality and affordable insulin.

We need affordable insulin now. Too many lives depend on it.





#### In The Spirit

# For the Last Time God Is Not Schizophrenic



**James A. Washington** NNPA News Wire Columnist

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Let me state up front. This is not new. I heard something recently that has stayed with me and has rapidly become embedded in my spirit, so I thought it was worthy to again pass along to you. "God is not schizophrenic." It sounds simple enough, but, at closer inspection, you might want to seriously consider it implications.

When I looked for a biblical reference point, there were actually too many to quote. I mean the bible is full of confirmation regarding God's consistency. His unwavering faithfulness to us. God does indeed keep His promises and in His unpredictability, He is predictable.

God loves us no matter how hard we try to deny this. We can never remove ourselves from this truth. It/He never changes. Warts and flaws and faults, God loves us. That means you and all your hidden secrets too. Deal with it.

The problem with God's consistency is our inconsistency. When put into that perspective alongside God's steadfastness, our fickleness screams out almost as some kind of bizarre trick.

What I'm saying is our behavior can become unsteady and sinfully shaky. But our faith should not. In the context of our faith, the consistency of God's promise and His covenant with us should flourish. It should provide us with that proverbial 'rock' that we need to lean on.

After all, we're not dealing with trick questions, slight of hand or spiritual illusions when it comes to God's promise of eternal life and everlasting salvation. With faith comes the understanding that "God is not schizophrenic."

Someone once told me that there should be some things and people in life that you can always count on. Folk who will be there for you no matter what! The reason we can relate to this is we know so many

things and people in our lives that we cannot count on, or certainly shouldn't.

So called friends will let you down. Family will fail you. Circumstances will change. Results are inconclusive and fame is fleeting. Being a Christian does not exempt us from everyday and every people challenges. They can be severe and debilitating.

Tests and testimonies are real. Yet God is steadfast. He does require however — or should I say, demands — the discipline of faith.

Unfaithfulness, schizophrenia, relapses, backsliding; all combine to get us into spiritual trouble. Faith, fortunately, always gets us out. That's because God is good all the time. And God is God all the

time, always was, always will be. He is not lost. He has not moved and left no forwarding address. He's at the same place where you originally found Him and blessedly for you, he's patiently waiting for you to acknowledge His presence there again and again and if needed,

My bible says faith proves itself by its obedience to the Lord. The more we accept His steadfastness, the clearer our paths become. When all is said and done, once you know where home is, you're never lost. Because when we acknowledge the Almighty and who we are in relation to Him, we too, will never be lost or forsaken. May God bless and keep you always.

# You have a nice set of wheels but can't find a place to park them.



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If you suspect unfair housing practices, contact HUD or your local Fair Housing Center. Everyone deserves a fair chance.

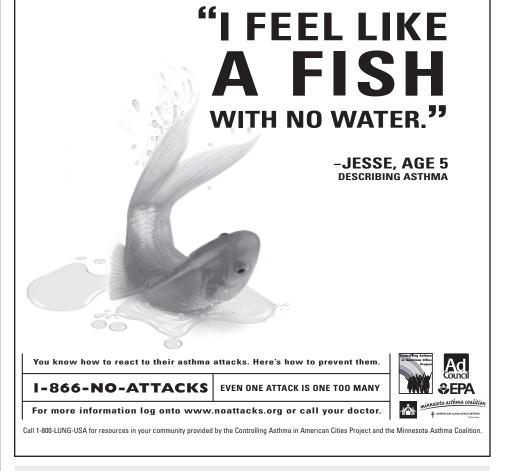


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**National News** 

## Empire Star Taraji P. Henson Speaks on Suicide and Mental Health on Capitol Hill



Award-winning Actress and 'Empire' Star Taraji P. Henson testified before members of Congress on Mental Health Issues in the African American community.

#### Lauren Victoria Burke NNPA Newswire Contributor

"I am here using my celebrity, using my voice, to put a face to this, because I also suffer from depression and anxiety. If you're a human living in today's world, I don't know how you're not suffering in any way."

Award-winning actress and 'Empire' star Taraji P. Henson testified before members of Congress on mental health issues in the African American community.

The Congressional Black Caucus launched a task force on mental health issues in April of this year. They have held hearings on mental health and the increasing number of suicides among black youth. The CBC Emergency Taskforce on Black Youth Suicide and Mental Health is chaired by Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-NJ).

The members of the task force are Reps. Alma Adams (D-NC), Emanuel Cleaver II (D-MO), Danny Davis (D-IL), Alcee Hastings (D-FL), Jahana Hayes (D-CT), Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX), Barbara Lee (D-CA), John Lewis (D-GA), Ilhan Omar (D-MN), Ayanna Pressley (D-MA) and Frederica Wilson (D-FL).

"I'm here to appeal to you because this is a national crisis," Henson said. Henson founded The Boris Lawrence Henson Foundation in 2018 to eradicate the stigma surrounding mental illness in the African American community with a specific emphasis on the suicide rate among Black youth.

"I really don't know how to fix this problem, I just know that the suicide rate is rising," she said. "I just know that ages of the children that are committing suicide are getting younger and younger," the actress added.

"It breaks my heart to know that 5-year-old children are contemplating life and death, I just...I'm sorry. That one is tough for me. So, I'm here to appeal to you, because this is a national crisis. When I hear of kids going into bathrooms, cutting themselves, you're supposed to feel safe in school," Henson told the members of Congress and those in the audience in a hearing room on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Every year, 1 in 5 adults in the U.S. experience a mental illness, but a National Alliance on Mental Illness study discovered that black adults utilize mental health services at half the rate of white adults.

Lauren Victoria Burke is an independent journalist and writer for NNPA as well as a political analyst and strategist as Principal of Win Digital Media LLC. She may be contacted at LBurke007@gmail.com and on twitter at @LVBurke

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