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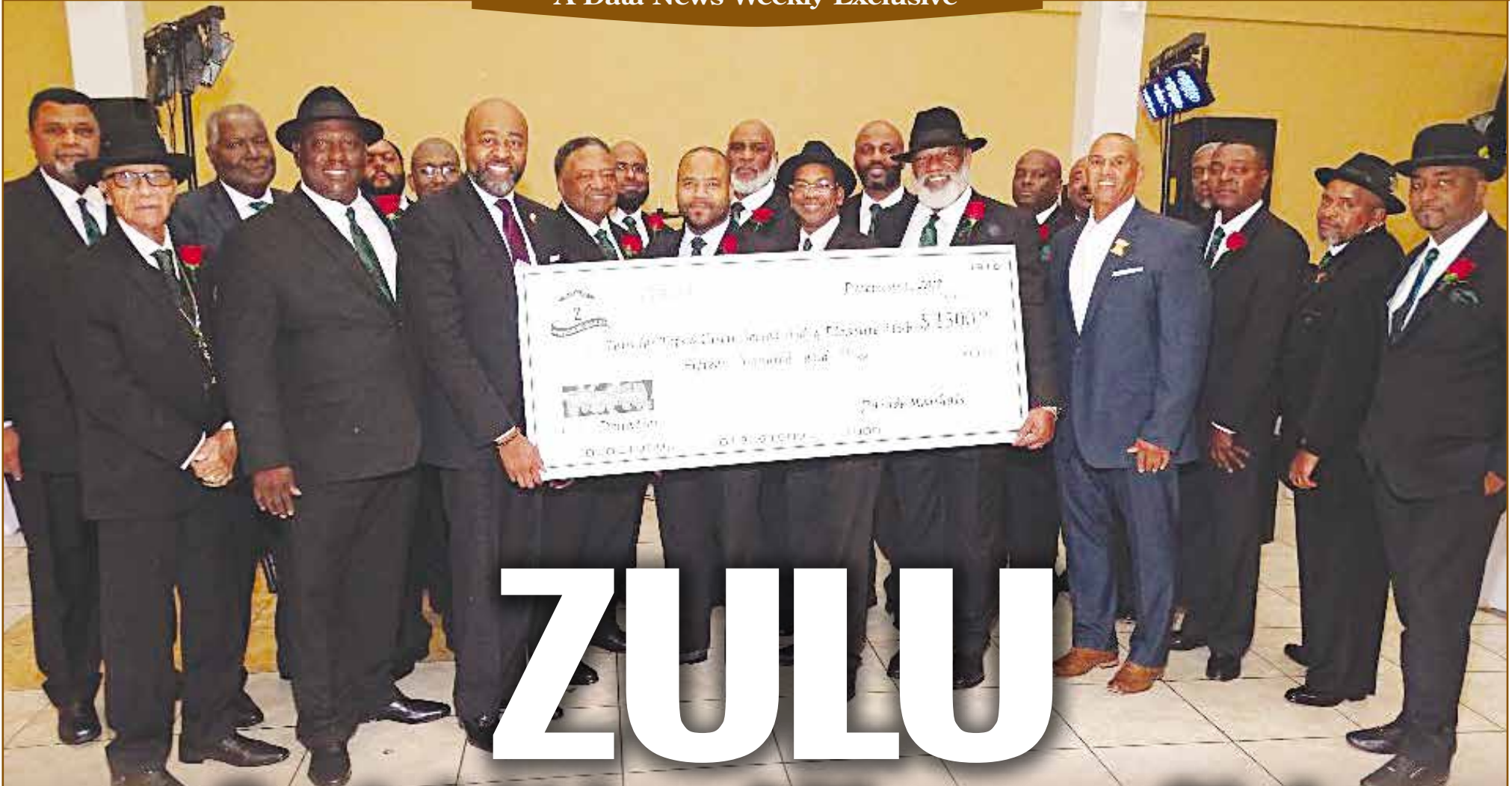
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A Data News Weekly Exclusive



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Zulu Social Aid and Pleasure Club Gives Back During Holiday Season



(Left to right) Beginning with Windell Bean, Chairman of Zulu Parade Marshals, second person, front row, Elroy James, President, Zulu President, in the center is Tracy Coleman, the Co-Chair Zulu Parade Marshals, then on the other side of the check is Terry Scott, Co-Chair Zulu Parade Marshals, then Alvin Labat, Chairman of Zulu Toys for Tots Committee presenting a check for 1500 dollars to Toys for Tots.

Edwin Buggage
Editor-in-Chief
Photos by Glenn Summers

The Zulu Organization is one that many know for their parade, which is an amazing spectacle on Mardi Gras Day. Additionally, their Annual Coronation Ball;

where people come out dressed to the nines' have become the premier ball during the Carnival Season. But what does not get as much attention is the long tradition in which the organization was founded and that is, they are committed to service and giving back to the community. Recently, the Zulu Parade Marshals, who are mem-

bers that monitor all float rider activity and ensure decorum of Float Riders are orderly. In its early incarnation Ernest Brumfield, Parade Chairman provided guidance to the Parade Marshals for several years until a Chairman was selected. Today, the Zulu Parade Marshal's duties and responsibilities have increased and their visibility on

Cover Photo by Glenn Summers

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Cover Story, Continued from page 2.



"The Zulu Social Aid and Pleasure Club Parade Marshals are committed to community service activity. We raise money for UNCF, have clothing drives, and other events to help our community," says Parade Marshal, co-chair Terry Scott.



Over the past 3 years under the leadership of Chairman Windell Bean the Zulu Parade Marshals have donated several thousands of dollars, toys, and bikes! Further, the Zulu Organization is committed to the spirit of giving not just during the holiday season but year round.

Mardi Gras Day adds to the beauty of the Zulu Parade.

Further, they are now known for what has become a great event is their Annual Christmas Gala, which raises money and donates gifts to Toys for Tots.

Windell Bean is the Chairman of the Parade Marshals, he originated the event. With help from his co-chairmen Terry Scott and Tracey Coleman began putting on this event three years ago.

"We who serve as Parade Marshals are made up of regular members and associate members. My chairman is Windell Bean, and it was his idea of doing more than just the parades and being out there with gold jackets. So, he recruited me as his co-chair and we got together, sat down and came up with ways to give back and the Christmas Gala was just one of those things," Scott told Data News Weekly.



Speaking of their gift-giving efforts he says, "Over the past 3 years under the leadership of Chairman Windell Bean we have donated several thousands of dollars, toys, and

bikes! Also, people who come to the gala make cash and toy donations."

Their spirit of giving is not only simply limited to the holiday season, but a year-round affair.



People who came out to support the Zulu Parade Marshals Annual Christmas Gala.



"The Zulu Social Aid and Pleasure Club Parade Marshals are committed to community service activity. We raise money for UNCF, have clothing drives, and other events to help our community."

This is only one of many fundraisers Zulu committees do according to Scott.

"Characters (King, Big Shot, etc.) and Krewes within Zulu, host fundraisers for Toys For Tots and other worthy causes."

During this season of giving The Zulu Social Aid and Pleasure Club will give back to the community on

December 21st with a toy and bike giveaway that will be held at the Zulu Club on North Broad.

In the spirit of the season and the tradition of the social aid part of the Zulu, its President Elroy James reminds us of the purpose of Zulu beyond the parade and the ball, but one of community uplift.

"I like to say, many folks know us from our parade and coronation ball, but it's important for us to let the community know that we are doing things throughout the year to give back and serve others."

LSU Wins SEC Title Headed to College Football Playoffs

Quarterback Joe Burrow Favorite to Win the Heisman Trophy

E. Benjamin
Data News Weekly
Contributor

Behind the arm of Heisman favorite Joe Burrow's four touchdown passes, No. 1-ranked LSU won its 12th SEC Championship, 37-10, defeating No. 4 Georgia on their home turf.

While Burrow is the field general, none of this would be possible without the leadership of Coach Ed Orgeron, who in his third full season at LSU have the Tigers with a record of 13-0 and headed to the College football playoffs Dec. 28th against Oklahoma. If they win this game, they will head to the national championship game that will be held in the Louisiana Superdome on Jan. 13th.

This has been an incredible run for the Tigers this season who have defeated five top-10 teams this year



Joe Burrow, is the odds-on favorite to win the Heisman Trophy when the announcement is made on Sat. December 14, 2019 in New York. He is proving he is an all-purpose player making it happen in every way. Photo by Rebecca Warren



as they try to win their first national championship since 2011.

In other LSU News, Joe Burrow is the odds-on favorite to win the Heisman Trophy when the announcement is made on Sat. December 14, 2019, in New York.

He is proving he is an all-purpose player making it happen in every way. Along with a great defense and Orgeron coaching, they seemed poised to not only make it to but win the College Football National Championship.

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Mayor Cantrell Congratulates RTA on Selection of New Ferry Operator

City of New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS – Mayor LaToya Cantrell today congratulated the New Orleans Regional Transit Authority (RTA) Board of Commissioners on its approval of the contract award for the Ferry Maintenance and Operations, including the provision of charter service to Labmar Ferry Services, LLC not to exceed \$6.3 million annually.

“I want to commend the RTA leadership for acting swiftly to select Labmar Ferry Service, LLC, as the contractor to handle Ferry Service and Operations. We understand that our residents deserve high-quality and efficient day-to-day operations services for the public ferries that cross the Mississippi River and provide vital connections between New Orleans, Algiers and Chalmette. I also want to thank the RTA Evaluation Com-



“Providing reliable and convenient transportation requires coordination and advocacy at all levels and today’s actions would not be possible without Rep. Gary Carter and Sen. Troy Carter’s advocacy for permanent ferry funding from the State,” Flozell Daniels, Jr., Chair, RTA Board of Commissioners.

“Today, is an important milestone in the long journey to addressing ongoing issues with RTA Ferry Service,” said Alex Z. Wiggins, RTA CEO. “As an Algiers native, I know firsthand the importance of a reliable and convenient ferry service for families.

permanent ferry funding from the State,” Flozell Daniels, Jr., Chair, RTA Board of Commissioners. “Today marks a new beginning on the path to advancing the mission of the RTA. We will work closely and diligently with our new partners to ensure that world-class ferry service is not only an expectation but an imperative.”

“Today, is an important milestone in the long journey to addressing ongoing issues with RTA Ferry Service,” said Alex Z. Wiggins, RTA CEO. “As an Algiers native, I know firsthand the importance of a reliable and convenient ferry service for families and I am pleased to announce the award of the Ferry Operations and Maintenance Contract which allows Labmar to immediately take over ferry operations and enter negotiations for charter service.”



Fozell Daniels Jr.



Alex Wiggins

mittee for doing the hard work to help get this right. We will continue to work together with RTA to improve service and prevent these issues from occurring in the future,” said Mayor Cantrell.

Mayor’s Office of Transportation Director Laura Bryan and Intergovernmental Relations Director Art Walton serve on the RTA Board.

As the result of a competitive procurement process, Labmar Ferry Services, LLC was selected to perform all day to day operational, maintenance, and other support functions for the Canal Street-Algiers Point and Chalmette ferries and provide staff necessary to operate and maintain the ferry services and the associated movable and immovable assets, including the nec-

essary administrative and managerial staff.

Shortly after beginning his tenure as RTA CEO, Alex Wiggins, recognizing systematic issues with RTA Ferry Operations, began the process — in concurrence with the Board of Commissioners — to re-bid the Ferry Maintenance and Operations Contract. Following today’s award, Labmar Ferry and the RTA will commence contract negotiations and will immediately transition service from Transdev, the current contractor.

“Providing reliable and convenient transportation requires coordination and advocacy at all levels and today’s actions would not be possible without Rep. Gary Carter and Sen. Troy Carter’s advocacy for

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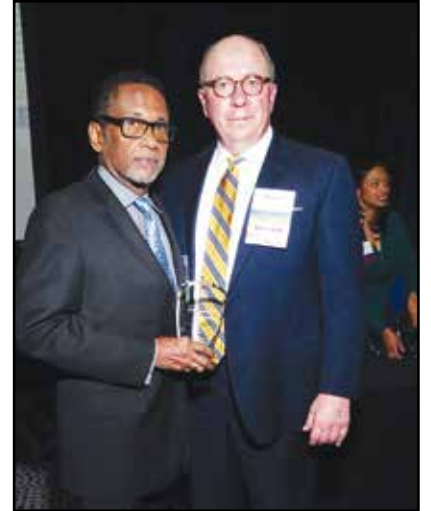
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The New Orleans Chamber of Commerce Annual Board Luncheon

Photos by Glenn Summers

The Annual Board Luncheon of the New Orleans Chamber of Commerce was on December 4th at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Celestin Ballroom. Governor John Bel Edwards was the Key-note Speaker. The event was well-attended by both members and their guests. Publisher Terry Jones received the Ambassador Award for Data's participation and support of the New Orleans Chamber. Some notable leaders were in attendance such as Senator Mary Landrieu, Judge Kern Reese, State Senator Joseph Bouie and local corporations such as AT&T, Blue Cross Blue Shield, and Lamar Advertising. It was a great success.



Visit www.ladatanews.com for more photos from these events

Zulu Social Aid and Pleasure Club Parade Marshals 3rd Annual Christmas Gala Celebration

Photos by Glenn Summers

The Zulu Social Aid and Pleasure Club Parade Marshals recently held its 3rd Annual Christmas Gala to benefit Toys For Tots. It was great night of food, fun and entertainment from Connie G. and Creole Soul with a special performance by Tina.

The night was filled with love and the spirit of giving. Data News Weekly was there for this amazing event.



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Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Sigma Lambda Chapter holds Annual Scholarship Fundraiser



Members of the Sigma Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha

Photos by Bernie Saul

One objective of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. is to develop future leaders. The Sigma Lambda Chapter has worked hard to do that by mentoring and investing in the lives of young Black males in New Orleans for over 94 years. This historic chapter is home to many exemplary leaders such as former mayors Dutch and Marc H. Morial; university Presidents Dr. Norman C. Francis, Dr. Emmett W. Bashful and Dr. Walter Kimbrough; judges Ivan Lemelle, Kern Reese, Omar Mason, and Harry Cantrell; and elected officials and business leaders such as Erroll Williams, Charles C. Teamer, Sr. and Terry Scott.

The Sigma Lambda Scholarship Foundation is 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable area of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Sigma Lambda Chapter which focuses on providing scholarships and educational development opportunities to the community. The Scholarship Foundation held its Annual Fundraiser at Capulet on Friday, December 6, 2019. The event was chaired by Justin Woods. The event was attended by members of Sigma Lambda, elected officials Honorable Rachel Johnson Civil District Court, Honorable Terri F. Love Louisiana Court of Appeal, and Jefferson Parish



Telly Madina, Judge Rachel Johnson, Gilbert Jones, Candace Stewart, Robert Carter III



Standing: Eddie Francis, Blair Condoll, Roland Bullard, Jeff Benjamin, Yolanda Page, David Page. Seated: Halima Francis, Nicole Condoll, Rachel Bullard, Brook Duplessis.



Chairman Justin Woods & Chef Jason Lewis



Sigma Lambda Chapter President Jonathan Stewart, Joe Shorter, Craig & Kiana Mitchell (Sponsor Mitchell & Associates, APLC)

Councilman-Elect Byron Lee. The presenting sponsor of the event was Jonathan B. Stewart Insurance Agency other sponsors included Glago Williams, Dillard University, Chehardy Sherman Williams, Mitchell & Associates, Cer-

veau, Liberty Bank, Madina Group, and Justin Woods. The catering was provided by Chef Jason Lewis. The guest enjoyed live musical performance from Royal Essence. The speculator décor was provided by Ware M Porter & Co.

"Alphas in City of New Orleans are committed to ensure we keep providing educational opportunities for young men in the City of New Orleans" ~ Jonathan Stewart Sigma Lambda Chapter President

Black Law Enforcement Speaks Out on Proposed Menthol Ban

Proposed Legislation will have Drastic and Debilitating Impact on Communities of Color

NNPA Newswire

Several state legislatures have recently proposed laws which are being directed towards what may only be viewed as a mephitic approach to issues as they relate to youthful use of e-cigarettes and vaping.

We stress the concept that these proposed legislative acts would, in fact, be antithetical to healthy, robust and productive relationships between law enforcement and those they are sworn to protect as these new laws would presumably provide law enforcement officers with the authority, indeed the responsibility, to stop, interrogate and arrest persons on suspicion of selling or being in possession of untaxed cigarettes.

None of these legislative efforts appear to have considered the obvious detrimental impact on communities of color, where the preferred cigarette is menthol, and approximately 80% of all African Americans who do smoke prefer to smoke menthol cigarettes. They as well



To date, there has been no known input from law enforcement experts, and specifically none from members of any of the nearly thirty organizations representing African American and Latino criminal justice practitioners in the Northern United States who are infinitely aware of the devastating impact of adverse law enforcement interaction with Eric Garner in New York for exactly what these laws would prohibit-the illicit sale and possession of untaxed cigarettes.

seem to have totally disregarded the strong recommendations of the 2009 Federal Tobacco Control Act in reaching out to subject matter experts when developing the

actual language of their legislation. To date, there has been no known input from law enforcement experts, and specifically none from members of any of the nearly thirty

organizations representing African American and Latino criminal justice practitioners in the Northern United States who are infinitely aware of the devastating impact of

adverse law enforcement interaction in communities of color.

And we must not forget the deadly result of law enforcement interaction with Eric Garner in New York for exactly what these laws would prohibit-the illicit sale and possession of untaxed cigarettes.

We strongly urge members of the community to revert to their roots as civil rights activists and make their voices heard on this issue. And we demand that legislators reconsider their proposals and the obvious consequences it will have on a community that is now, again, being adversely targeted.

The National Association of Black Law Enforcement Officers, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit, is a premier national organization representing the interests and concerns of African American, Latino and other criminal justice practitioners of color serving in law enforcement, corrections, and investigative agencies throughout the United States, and the communities in which they serve.

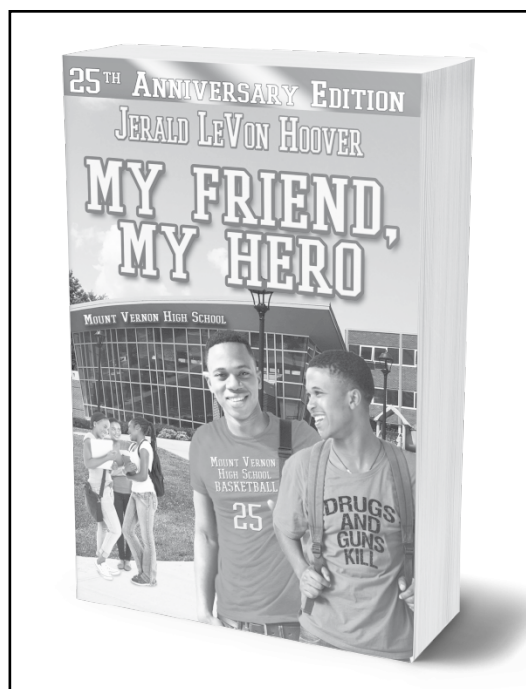
Book Review

Powerful Book for Young Black Boys Celebrates 25 Years with a Pledge to Get 1 Million New Readers

NNPA Newswire

Jerald LeVon Hoover became the published author of a Young Adult (YA) title, one of a few books targeted toward young Black and Brown boys ages 12 and up, My Friend, My Hero. This novella has become a staple, as recommended reading in elementary through high schools across the country and around the world. That is a distinct honor Hoover shares with a shortlist of African American male YA authors including Walter Dean Myers, Kevin Powell, Kwame Alexander, and Ralph Burgess.

My Friend, My Hero, is celebrating its 25th Anniversary with a commemorative edition that includes an addendum of book discussion questions and now available; a full curriculum with a companion Student Success Guidebook, Teacher's Guide, and Unit Assessments containing lesson plans.



The goal is to promote Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) in the classroom by providing strat-

of which carries no shame, but we have other skill sets of significant influence. We are men of honor and

egies for students to make better choices and gain much-needed confidence to support unleashing their inner greatness.

Hoover states, "Exposing Black and Brown children to a barrage of negative imagery and expecting their positive self-image to remain intact is ridiculous, insensitive, unjust, and unfair."

Hoover then adds, "Young Black and Brown men are focused, gifted, driven, intelligent, and masterful at a host of other talents besides rap music and competitive sports;

integrity, regardless of whether we are born into poverty or wealth. But how can young Black and Brown men, or men of any race for that matter, define themselves and live up to their full potential if they only receive distorted representations?"

Hoover continues, "My Friend, My Hero is intended for all youth (races and genders), but I gave the spotlight to young, Black and Brown males because of the dire need for young Black and Brown men to have access to more positive representations of themselves to which they can relate."

Celebrating 25 Years in Print, My Friend, My Hero, is the first in the acclaimed The Hero Book Series by Jerald LeVon Hoover. Other titles from The Hero Book Series are He Was My Hero, Too, A Hopeful Hero, and Hoop Hero. The novella took nine years to get published after forty rejections and sixty drafts.

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The True Defintion of Beauty

For the First Time, Miss America, Miss USA, Miss Teen USA, and Now Miss Universe Are All Black Women

Data News Weekly Staff Edited Report

In the age of Me-Too Beauty Pageants for some are throwbacks to a time where women were objectified. I feel in times past his is a fair criticism. But today, pageants have come to embody much more than only the physical attractiveness of women.

For example, the elimination of the swimsuit competition at the Miss America.

And as pageants have become centered more on the complete woman and the embracing of all types of representations of feminine beauty more Black Women are being crowned winners of these pageants.

2019 has been a historical year because for the first time ever, the titles for Miss America, Miss USA, Miss Teen USA, and Miss Universe are held by Black women.

Last week the newly crowned



(L-R) Miss Universe Zozibini Tunzi, Miss USA Cheslie Kryst, Miss Teen USA Kaliegh Garris, Miss America Nia Franklin

Miss Universe, Zozibini Tunzi of South Africa, joined Miss America Nia Franklin, Miss USA Cheslie Kryst, and Miss Teen USA

Kaliegh Garris.

"I grew up in a world where a woman who looks like me, with my kind of skin and my kind of

hair, was never considered to be beautiful," Tunzi said, according to the BBC. "I think that it is time that that stops today."

This is yet another example of how much representation matters—in the world of pageants and beyond.

Special

Safety Tips for the Holiday Season

Protecting Your Gifts and Yourself

Data News Weekly Staff Edited Report

Between Black Friday and Christmas Eve, shoppers head to stores (in large numbers) to buy their gifts for the holidays. Unfortunately, the season is also an ideal time for thieves to take advantage of holiday shoppers. Because consumers spend so much on gifts, they become irresistible targets for thieves. Luckily, with the right steps, there are ways that consumers can protect their holiday haul. Here are a few tips to Protect Your Holiday Gifts from Thieves!

Porch pirates are responsible for roughly \$20 million dollars' worth of theft every year in the United States alone.

- When you leave a store, you must pay attention to your surroundings outside. Look out for anyone suspicious. If you notice someone following you or making you feel uncomfortable, go back inside the store and alert security. Reporting questionable people hanging around the shop might also protect other shoppers from getting robbed.
- Once you get to your car, lock your purchases in your trunk. If you have an SUV, consider installing a retractable cargo cover to hide items from view. Don't ever leave any items or sacks out in the open in your car.
- Shoppers face another risk on their drive home. Every year there are stories of people follow-



ing shoppers' home and robbing them in their driveway. That's why you should try to pay attention to anyone that looks like they are following you. Call the police if you think someone is following you home.

- Many consumers do a lot of their holiday shopping online. That means a lot of packages get delivered to homes. Thieves will drive around neighborhoods during the day looking for packages outside of homes to steal. Make sure someone is at home to receive any deliveries. However, if no one is at home, arrange to get your packages at work.

decorations to their neighborhood. Unfortunately, this is another way for thieves to see the presents inside your house. If your Christmas tree is visible from outside your home, don't put a lot of gifts under it. That just gives thieves a greater temptation to break into your home.

- Lastly, talk to your neighbors about being vigilant during the holiday season. Everyone can agree to report any suspicious activity in the neighborhood. That way if someone tries to break into your home while you are gone, a neighbor might notice and call the police.



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Serena Williams Builds Schools in Jamaica and Africa



Williams built the Marsh Elementary through a partnership with the nonprofit Helping Hands Jamaica, while the schools in Africa were in conjunction with Build Africa.



"The mission of this charity is to help the individuals or communities affected by violence, and [to ensure] equal access to education," Williams stated.

Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior
Correspondent

While many deep-pocketed philanthropists and celebrities will write checks to support worthy causes, Tennis megastar Serena Williams routinely goes the extra mile.

In a recently released video, Williams donned a pair of jeans, work boots, a hardhat and went to work on Salt Marsh Elementary School in Trelawny Parish, Jamaica.

Williams, who has won a total of 39 Tennis Grand Slams – including Doubles titles, has also built grade schools in Uganda, Kenya, and Zimbabwe.

Williams built the Marsh Elementary through a partnership with the nonprofit Helping Hands Jamaica, while the schools in Africa were in conjunction with Build Africa.

It's part of the mission of Williams' Serena Williams Fund and her other charitable efforts, which include the Serena Williams Venture, where the tennis champion seeks to boost the bottom line of individual companies.

"In 2014, I launched Serena Ventures with the mission of giving opportunities to founders across an array of industries. Serena Ventures invests in companies that embrace diverse leadership, individual empowerment, creativity, and opportunity," Williams said in a statement posted on her organization's website.

"Serena Ventures focuses on early-stage companies and allowing them to be heard. As we grow, we hope to mentor young founders and take burgeoning entrepreneurs to the next level," she stated.

"Serena Ventures extends relationships, encourages collaboration among portfolio companies, and

expands partnership opportunities across my vast network. Similar to many of the companies we have invested in, we are just getting started and are hoping to make a difference."

Also, according to Charity Buzz, the Serena Williams Fund was established to promote equity; through education, gender, race, disability, or anything else that stands in the way of someone achieving their goals and living their best possible life.

"The mission of this charity is to help the individuals or communities affected by violence, and [to ensure] equal access to education," Williams stated.

Knowing the value of creating strong partnerships with organizations with expertise in their fields, Williams counts as a Unicef Goodwill Ambassador. She has partnered with organizations such as Beyond the Boroughs Scholarship

Fund, The Equal Justice Initiative, The Caliber Foundation, and Build Africa Schools.

Jessica Curney of Borgen Magazine reported that before each of her matches, Williams reads and writes affirmations out loud from her diary about wanting to help people, kids, and work in Africa.

"Through the Serena Williams Fund, Williams dedicates her off-season time improving access to education by building schools in underprivileged areas of the world," Gurney reported.

"She has done extraordinary tasks using her own resources and through partnerships with the Serena Williams Fund and other foundations dedicated to providing and improving education for those in difficult conditions or developing countries. Her active role has notably left a mark on those who have had their lives changed significantly through this act of kindness."

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Job Opportunity

Freelance Writers Wanted

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.

Compensation is competitive and great story ideas will be appreciated.

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