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New Orleans

Data

News Weekly

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Kwanzaa Coalition & NORD Umoja 2020

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A Data News Weekly Exclusive

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Looking to 2020

Put Your Vote to WORK!



Despite record-low unemployment, workers' rights, the income wage gap and the movement towards a living wage are issues at the forefront of the 2020 Presidential Election.

Ray Curry
Secretary-Treasurer, UAW

If you work for a living but are somewhat up in the air about who to vote for in 2020 or for that matter, if you should even bother getting to that crowded polling place, I'd like to ask that you indulge me for a minute.

Because I've got a story to tell you that might help with your decision. A story of working people and politicians who are working against all of us — every day. I'd like to go back to 1980, the year that Ronald Reagan was campaigning to the 40th president of the United States. Much of his rhetoric was designed to appeal to labor and the working men and women of

this country, promising to protect jobs, to support policies that would create more jobs and put unemployed Americans back to work.
Promises betrayed
The reality of his presidency and his policies came down somewhat differently.

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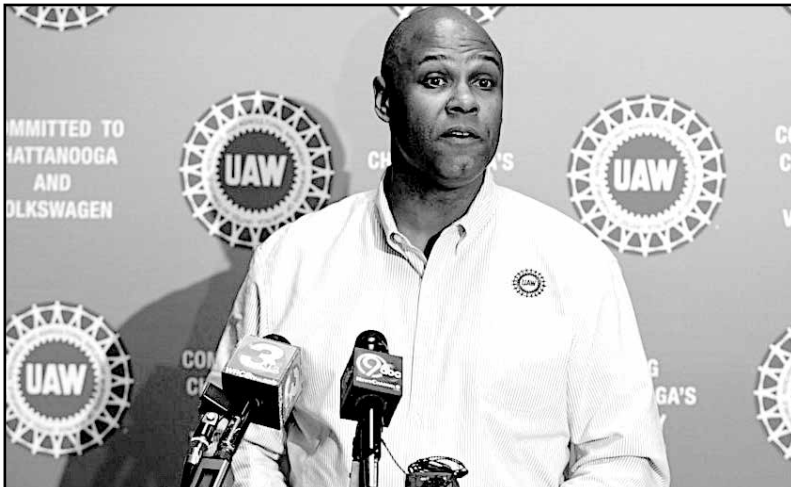
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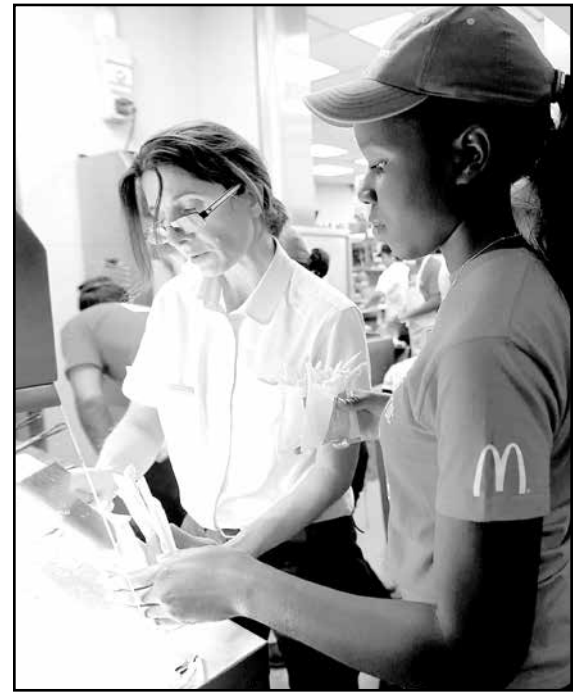
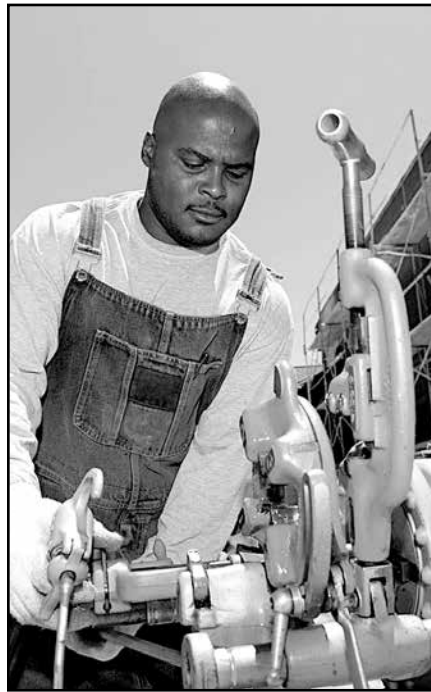
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Ray Curry, Secretary-Treasurer of the United Auto Workers (UAW)



Many service industry workers across America do not make a living wage to support their families. This problem is causing workers to strike for better pay and working conditions.



In fact, President Reagan's eight years in office were devastating for labor and the middle class. He was a champion of deregulation, which systematically weakened workplace safety standards and record-keeping. He specifically went after labor by appointing three management-friendly National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) members, causing the NLRB to depart from its legal obligation to actively promote collective bargaining — the constitutional right and underlying principle for the existence of unions. During his presidency, NLRB caseloads were drastically cut and the cases that did go forward went from the recent 33 percent finding in favor of employers to 75 percent favoring employers.

His economic policies shifted the tax burden away from the wealthy and onto the back of middle-class Americans.

So, why am I bringing up this sad history here in the last days of 2019?

Because Ronald Reagan, who turned his back on organized labor and started America's middle-class into a tailspin from which it has never recovered, has recently been voted by this administration's hand-picked NLRB into the Labor Hall of Fame. I think that speaks volumes. Clearly, they have taken a page

from the Old Gipper's playbook. And clearly, it should serve as a dire warning of what is to come should we continue with the status quo.

Stacked against us

Today, an NLRB even more conservative than President Reagan's has moved as fast as it could to make it more difficult for unions to organize.

In December of 2017, the board overturned a rule that had made it easier to organize smaller units of workers in big factories and stores.

Another decision made it tougher for workers at fast-food restaurants and other franchised operations to unionize. What's more, this board is further encroaching on labor by looking to slow unionization elections, a move that, as we all know too well, would give corporations more time to pressure workers to vote NO.

Here at the UAW, we saw those stalling hijinks in action in Chattanooga this summer with the effort to organize Volkswagen and give its workers a real say in their work lives.

This administration hasn't stopped at turning the NLRB into the Chamber of Commerce. Let's look at the Supreme Court.

Justice Neil Gorsuch was confirmed in the first few months of this administration and he deliv-

ered the conservative anti-labor edge to the Janus Case almost as soon as he was installed. Gorsuch, who had close ties with groups that bankrolled Janus, cast the deciding vote in a decision that prohibited public-sector unions from collecting fees from non-members.

This devastating decision reversed 41 years of precedent and overturned laws in the 22 states that have not adopted "Right-to-Work" policies. And all signs indicate that, when he is not drinking beer, the administration's second appointee, Justice Brett Kavanaugh will be just as awful.

The Huffington Post in sizing him up as anti-labor recounted the time when a New York manufacturer created a new spinoff company to avoid bargaining with unionized workers. Federal regulators and a panel of appellate judges said the manufacturer broke the law and violated its employees' rights.

There was, however, one judge who dissented in the appeals decision and sided with the employer: Brett Kavanaugh.

Say no more.

Supremely anti-labor

Legal Aid lawyer put it this way, "Along with [Justice Neil] Gorsuch, [Brett Kavanaugh] is the ideal of a Koch brothers judge. He'll be anti-labor and anti-worker."

Of course, just as disturbing when it comes to the courts is this fact: While the Supreme Court gets the attention, it's the lower courts that decide the bulk of the cases. In lockstep with the anti-worker overhaul of our courts, more pro-management judges have been appointed to the Federal Appeals Courts than at any other time in our recent history, and one out of every four circuit court judges have been installed by the current administration.

And the latest anti-labor move? The nomination and seating of Eugene Scalia as Secretary of Labor, a position that historically enforces workers' rights and U.S. labor laws. This includes laws meant to protect workers from unsafe workplaces, overtime violations, and employee misclassification. I quite honestly cannot think of anyone less likely to safeguard these protections.

Here is a highlight reel:

Back in 2006, he helped Walmart and other corporations win a lawsuit against the State of Maryland, stopping large companies from having to contribute to their employees' health care plans or Medicaid. In 2011, he got behind Boeing's threats to move jobs to a "Right-to-Work" state during union contract negotiations. Additionally, he defended casino boss Steve Wynn in

his efforts to force casino card dealers to split their tips with pit bosses.

And here's one for you: Scalia argued that SeaWorld had no responsibility for the violent death of one of its Orca trainers and instead blamed the victim!

Unsafe at work

And finally, we must consider the current disregard for worker safety. In 2017, 5,197 workers went to work and never returned home to their families. That is an average of 99 workers a week losing their lives while making the rich, richer. And this number can be added to the 2.8 million on the job non-fatal injuries and illnesses reported, with nearly 900,000 of them resulting in lost workdays. Current administration memorandums and executive orders have frozen new regulatory protections since the 2016 election.

Rules requiring employers to keep accurate injury and illness records and to disclose safety, health, and labor violations to qualify for federal contracts have been repealed.

Consider this: There are about 2,100 inspectors to inspect more than 8 million workplaces around the nation. That is roughly one inspector for every 59,000 workers or

Cover Story, Continued
on page 5.

LSU Heads to College Football Championship Game in New Orleans

E. Benjamin
Data News Weekly
Contributor

It has been quite a year for the LSU Tigers as they breezed past Oklahoma in the Peach Bowl to advance to the College Football Championship Game where they will face Clemson.

This battle of the Tigers for the College Football National Championship will be decided when the pair meet on Jan. 13th in the Mercedes Benz Superdome in New Orleans.

This year, LSU has been getting it done on offense led by Heisman Trophy Winner Joe Burrow. In this entire season, only one team, Auburn, has held the LSU offense under 30 points.

Confidence in LSU winning it all is up as the Tigers are coming off a devastating 63-28 win against Oklahoma, where they put up nearly 700 yards of total offense as a team and a Peach Bowl record, eight total touchdowns from Heisman Trophy-winning quarterback Joe Burrow.

"We have improved every week," said former University of Southern California coach John Robinson, who serves as a senior consultant for LSU coach Ed Orgeron, said in an interview following the Peach victory. "The offensive line has become dominant. Nobody gets close to Joe."

LSU fans across the state and nation are excited and many will be headed to New Orleans for the big game. Others will be tuning in and hoping by game's end the LSU Tigers will be holding the College Football National Championship Trophy.



LSU Tigers led by Coach Ed Orgeron and Heisman Trophy Winning Quarterback Joe Burrow. They will face off against Clemson for the National College Football Championship on January 13, 2019 at the Superdome.



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WDSU Sports Reporter Carley McCord among Five Killed in Plane Crash

Data News Weekly Edited Report

New Orleans-based Sports Reporter Carley McCord was among the five people killed on Saturday when a small plane crashed into the parking lot of a post office in Lafayette, Louisiana, the Associated Press reported.

McCord — who covered the New Orleans Pelicans and the New Orleans Saints and freelanced as a sideline reporter for a number of networks, including ESPN and WDSU — was on her way to Atlanta for the Peach Bowl Game between Louisiana State University and the University of Oklahoma when the plane went down shortly after takeoff.

KATC TV3 reported that the Lafayette Fire Department identified



WDSU Sports Reporter Carley McCord.

McCord as a victim, and her husband, Steven Ensinger Jr. confirmed her death to the AP.

McCord's father-in-law, Steve Ensinger, is the Offensive Coordinator for LSU. Before the start of Saturday's game, he took to the field in tears with members of the team and watched them warm-up.

"We are devastated by the loss of such an amazing talent and valued member of our WDSU family," WDSU President and General Manager Joel Vilmenay said in a statement. "Carley's passion for sports journalism and her deep knowledge of Louisiana sports, from high school to the professional ranks, made her an exceptional journalist. As we reflect on her impressive body of work, we offer our deepest condolences to her family."

Cover Story, Continued from page 3.



enough inspectors to inspect workplaces once every 150 years or so.

I ask you, what do we do with this? Is it expecting too much to go to work in the morning and come home safe to you, loved ones at the end of the day?

I'll tell you what we do. WE VOTE!

And we vote for candidates that support the millions of working men and women in this country. Vote to keep our jobs, to keep workers safe, to protect the right to organize and to have a voice in the workplace.


Take this voting season as an opportunity to tell your own story. The story of millions of hard-working Americans that our country so

desperately needs to hear.

A story of how we rose up in the face of increasing wage inequality, lack of healthcare, job security and threats to a meaningful retirement; rampant corporate greed and a shrinking middle class.

Labor also faces challenges at the ballot box despite rallying their membership base. Look no further than the Presidential election of 2000 with hanging chads, deleted registered voter rolls in the 2018 Georgia Governor's race, and the 2018 Florida Governor's race won by a 50% to 49% margin after a recount. All three races lost by the final vote count and all three were labor-endorsed candidates.

Think your vote doesn't count? Please think again.



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Kwanzaa Coalition & NORD Presents

Umoja 2020 Strategizing for Survival

Photos by Walter Black

On December 26th, The New Orleans Kwanzaa Coalition and NORD hosted the first night of Kwanzaa-UMOJA (Unity) at Tremé Community Center. Community leaders were recognized with the Nguzo Saba Award. The recipients were Educator Tayari Kwa Salaam, Genealogist Dr. Antoinette Harrell, Historian Leon Waters, and Activist Sekou Fela. A panel discussion facilitated by Oliver Thomas with Dr. Raynard Sanders, Dr. Ernest Johnson, John Slade, and Adele London.

2020 Strategies For Survival. Performances by Claude Bryant & The Allstars, Nkiruka, Nkafu, Kumbuka & Bamboula Dance Companies. Audiences viewed the film short "Like A Ship Without a Sail" produced by SciHigh Academy. Additional nights of Kwanzaa were hosted by Black Social Workers (Kujichagulia) Umoja Committee & Culu & Community Recallers (Ujima) and Nfungola Siba (Imani). Daily Kwanzaa observations held at Studio Be. New Orleans Kwanzaa Coalition is a collective of organizations and community people, including Community Book Center, Kumbuka African Drum & Dance Collective and Sabrina Mays. For more info contact New Orleans Kwanzaa Coalition on FaceBook.



From our family to yours wishing you and your loved ones a wonderful Holiday Season.

May you be blessed with good health, peace, and happiness in the New Year.



Happy Holidays!
The Cantrell's



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

Just Fellas Social & Pleasure Club 2019 Christmas Gala & Toy Drive at the VFW Post 3267 Hall

Photos
by Glenn
Summers

Just Fellas Social Aid and Pleasure Club held their Annual Holiday Party and Data News Weekly was there.



Data donates Tickets to People's UMC for the Children

Photos by Glenn Summers

Data News Weekly in conjunction with the Audubon Zoo and Juan LaFonta presented tickets for the Audubon Zoo Lights at People's United Methodist Church on Sunday, December 29th, 2019 to Rev. Kermit Roberson. They were presented to the pastor for the kids by Data's Publisher, Terry Jones.



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To Be Equal #50

Remembering Gary Mayor Richard Hatcher

First of Firsts



Marc Morial
President and CEO
National Urban League

NEW YORK - "He literally opened the door to Black political empowerment on the local level, state level and federal level. He sent a message across the country and he gave rise to other Black mayors in small and big cities."

When Richard Hatcher was inaugurated as mayor of Gary, Indiana, in 1968 one of the nation's first Black mayors of a big city, he insisted upon inviting a little-known "youth group" to perform alongside

the major stars.

"Nobody wanted to hear the youth group," Rev. Jesse Jackson told radio station WBZE. "They wanted to see the stars."

The "youth group" was Gary's own Jackson 5, who went on that year to sign with Motown Records.

Richard Hatcher, who passed this week at the age of 86, was a visionary in more ways than one.

A graduate of Indiana University and Valparaiso University School of Law, he served as deputy county prosecutor in the early 1960s until his election to Gary City Council in 1963. In 1967, he defeated the incumbent mayor in a primary and overcame resistance from the local Democratic machine to win with the support of national political figures like Sen. Robert Kennedy and Vice President Hubert Humphrey.

During his swearing in ceremony, Hatcher promised that,



Historical Firsts as Gary Indiana First Black Mayor Richard Hatcher pictured with Detroit's First Black Mayor Coleman Young and Atlanta's First Black Mayor Maynard Jackson.

"together, we shall beat a way; together we shall turn darkness into light, despair into hope and promise into progress. For God's sake,

for Gary's sake, let's get ourselves together."

Hatcher's election was the first in a historic string of victories for

Black mayors across the nation, and the beginning of a trend that would put Gary at the center of Black political power. Four years later, Hatcher would bring the historic National Black Political Convention to Gary. More than 10,000 delegates and attendees gathered to formulate a political strategy for Black America, including Rev. Jackson, Coretta Scott King, Shirley Chisholm, Amiri Baraka, Louis Farrakhan, Bobby Seale, and Betty Shabazz.

In his speech at the convention, Hatcher warned that if the two major political parties continued to neglect their concerns, Black Americans would create a third party, and "we shall take with us the best of White America...many a white youth nauseated by the corrupt values rotting the innards of this society...many of the white poor..."

Hatcher, Continued on page 9.

Twitter Fingers on Fleek

How Black Twitter Changed the World

Felice Leon
Columnist TheRoot.com

When you can change the way companies market and brand their products because you are in this collective, that's power. When you can swing votes. That's power. There are so many things that Black people—Black Twitter—has been able to do as a collective that reflect the power that we have just as a people."—Feminista Jones

I think that we all can agree that Black Twitter is the most popping space on Al Gore's internet. (Disagreements?! Let's fight. OK, OK—I'm [mostly] a lover, not a fighter. Stop it, guys. Back to business).

From its cultural commentary to its humor and ability to create social justice movements, Black



Twitter is a space fueled by the ingenuity of Black folks. And while we know that the online community emerged roughly a decade ago—what kind of legacy has it created?

Professor Meredith D. Clark is a former Journalist and Assistant Professor at the University of Virginia. She's working on a forthcoming book about Black Twitter and says that the community created by Black folks on Twitter has had a tremendous

influence on the Twittersphere, and beyond. "I'd say that Black Twitter has shaped the culture of Twitter the same way that Black culture has shaped American culture for years. The things that happen on Black Twitter and the people who take note of them are just like so-called culture vultures in other subsets of culture," Clark told The Root.

As a writer, activist, and author, George M. Johnson is another

prominent voice on Twitter. Johnson uses his platform to speak up for Black and queer people. While, overall, his experiences on the app have been positive, they haven't all been easy. "So, it's like if I talk about the fact that I'm HIV positive, right. If I talk about some of the things I've been through, when I'm in a moment where people disagree, they oftentimes will use that to attack me." But John-

son says, to some extent these attacks on twitter come with the territory of being visible and unapologetically vocal on Twitter.

Feminista Jones is an author and feminist. A "Twitter OG," she has been on the app for over a decade. Jones says that while she is unsure as to whether or not Twitter will exist in another decade, she's certain that the online community of Black people will live on.

"We were on MySpace, we were on Black Planet," Jones continued. "We were, we are on YouTube, Facebook. We're everywhere. We're going to be everywhere because we are a Black community and we are a global community. So, we'll find each other. Whether Twitter exists or not."

A Sharp Tongue Cuts from the Inside Out



James A. Washington
NNPA News Wire
Columnist

Growing up, I was never a student of the Bible even though I grew up surrounded by the best kind of Christians there were: the love-filled family kind.

I believe I am now being constantly moved by the Holy Spirit

(I hope) to see the simplicity in the scripture I now study. As such, I am finding myself gravitating to ministers, pastors and saints as they dissect in sermon and prayer the incredible power of the tongue; yes, that small but dangerously lethal weapon housed in one's mouth.

Without any biblical perspective, history confirms the ability of deceit-filled eloquence to entice weak men to murder, married women to stray, prideful men to war and so-called peace-loving folk to slaughter.

On a daily basis, a reckless tongue can sear forever the spirit of an innocent child, a wanting

spouse, a true friend or a caring co-worker. Evil oratory moves men and women to do evil things.

But oh, how powerful, how wonderful is a well-intentioned 'thank you', a sincere 'I'm sorry' or a genuine 'I believe in you.'

James 3:10 tells us that the tongue wields the power of life and death. Having been the target of ill-intended criticism, and out of momentary anger or hurt having tried to destroy the souls of many I held dear, I know first-hand that James is so right.

I have been trying to correct this character flaw by being as deliberately uplifting as possible, thinking of myself as a vessel of the living

God first before I speak and remembering that man was made in God's own image and cursing any man is tantamount to cursing God.

Could it be that James 1:26 holds a key to salvation? "...If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless..."

I submit to you that if you compare the words of Jesus Christ to any demagogue, you will find that Jesus' words repulse with great power all hatred, gossip, rumor and even innuendo. It is impossible to claim to love God without loving Jesus as the living Word

of God. Saying so merely confirms the truth in this case that the spoken Word will indeed set one free.

"Reckless words pierce like a sword but the tongue of the wise brings healing." Proverbs 12:14. I'm told God hates a liar and loves the truth. Remember there is no cure for hurt feelings except an honest spoken apology. Hurt feelings fester and infect a person.

Think before you speak. And please don't take my word for it. "He who guards his lips, guards his life, but he who speaks rashly will come to ruin." Proverbs 12:3.

May God bless and keep you always.

Hatcher, Continued from page 8.

many a White G.I....and many of the white working class, too."

Hatcher was instrumental in founding Operation PUSH (People United to Save Humanity) with Rev. Jackson, and later served as chairman of Jackson's presidential campaign in 1984.

He served as the Vice-Chairman of the Democratic National Committee from 1981 to 1985 and as President of the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

"I thought that it was the greatest thing in the world that he was going to be our mayor. He was someone who looked like us and fought for the things we believed in and needed. But the thing that struck me the most about Hatcher was his accessibility. In his 20 years at City Hall, Hatcher was always accessible to everyone. He was a rock star then, but he made sure that he met everyone.

– Karen Freeman Wilson, current mayor of Gary, Indiana TBE-50 Remembering Gary Mayor Richard Hatcher

In 1978, he co-founded TransAfrica, an advocacy group aimed at changing U.S. policy toward Africa and the Caribbean.

Hatcher paved the way for the many Black mayors who would follow, including my own father, Ernest N. "Dutch" Morial, who was elected the first Black mayor of New Orleans in 1977 – and for the later generation mayors that I joined when I was elected in 1994. I was proud that the National Urban League was able to honor Hatcher, on the 50th anniversary of his election, during our 2017 Conference in St. Louis. As I noted at the time, Hatcher aspired to political office at a time that was not so far removed from lynchings, segregated schools, and anti-miscegenation laws. Every step, every vote and every position attained was marred and marked by transparently racial barriers, and every victory was made all the more sweet by overcoming them.



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One Step Closer to the Superbowl for the Black and Gold

Fleur De Lis
Data News Weekly Columnist

What's up my Black and Gold Family? It is that time of year again...yes, it is playoff time. We finished atop the NFC South with a record of 13-3 and seeded number three in the NFC.

While we didn't get to the top two seeds, which would have given us a bye week our first game of the playoffs is a home game against the Minnesota Vikings. I feel Drew and the crew are ready and have what it take to make it to the Superbowl.

We as fans of our Saints who have gotten over the call that kept us out of the Superbowl last year believe this year we will be second lining into Miami and will be bringing "The Lombardi Trophy" back to the N.O.

So, before the big game, we wish the Saints the best of luck and know they have what it takes to get it done.

Until next time this is your peeps, Fleur De Lis, wishing you all a Happy New Year.



The Black and Gold are getting it done on both offense and defense this season.

National News

Trump Signs Future Act to Help HBCUs, Minority-Serving Institutions

Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior
Correspondent

One day after the House impeached him, President Donald Trump took decisive action to support and empower Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) across the country.

The President put his signature on the Future Act, legislation that for the time includes HBCUs in the federal 5-year STEM Education Plan and the National Research and Development Budget Priorities.

"When I took office, I promised to fight for HBCUs, and my Administration continues to deliver," Trump stated.

"A few months ago, funding for HBCUs was in jeopardy. But the White House and Congress came

together and reached a historic agreement. For the first time ever, I signed legislation to permanently fund HBCUs and other institutions that primarily serve first-generation and minority students. This action guarantees more than \$2.5 billion over the next 10 years, including \$850 million specifically for HBCUs," the President stated.

He continued:

"Today's achievement continues my unprecedented commitment to HBCUs. During my first weeks in office, I moved the HBCU initiative, led by Johnathan Holifield, to the White House and worked with Congress to increase funding for HBCUs by more than \$100 million. HBCUs have never had better champions in the White House.

"The bill I signed today also reforms the Free Application for

Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA. The Internal Revenue Service will now seamlessly transfer applicants' records to the Department of Education, so that families can use a simpler, shorter application for financial aid and those with student loans do not have to complete a cumbersome income certification process year after year.

"This is a transformative change that has been talked about in Washington for more than a decade, but everyone always said it could not be done. We got it done."

HBCUs will now play an essential part in federal planning to advance bold, transformational leaps in science and technology to ensure America remains the global leader in science and technology for generations to come, White House officials said in a release.

With the bill's signing, Trump also established the inaugural HBCU Colors Day, which encourages HBCU supporters from across the country to wear HBCU apparel to show their support for HBCU institutions.

The Fostering Undergraduate Talent by Unlocking Resources for Education – or Future Act – means that, under the President's administration, investment in HBCU programs has significantly increased under Title III of the Higher Education Action of 1965.

This includes:

- A \$35 million increase in the Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities Program (\$279.6 million);
- A \$9 million increase in the Strengthening Historically Black Graduate Institutions (\$72.3 mil-

lion);

- A \$1 million increase in the Strengthening HBCU Masters Programs (\$8.6 million);
- Meaningful increases investments in student support like Pell Grants, Federal Work-Study, and Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG); and
- Increases in Howard University's annual appropriation by nearly \$11 million, bringing its fiscal year 2018 investment level to \$232.5 million.
- The bill also increased by \$30 million in investments in the HBCU Capital Financing Program, helping eight schools experiencing financial difficulty in redesigning and restructuring to better meet student and community needs

Trump, Continued on page 11.

Civil Rights Icon and Congressman John Lewis Announces Cancer Diagnosis

Lauren Victoria Burke
NNPA Newswire Contributor

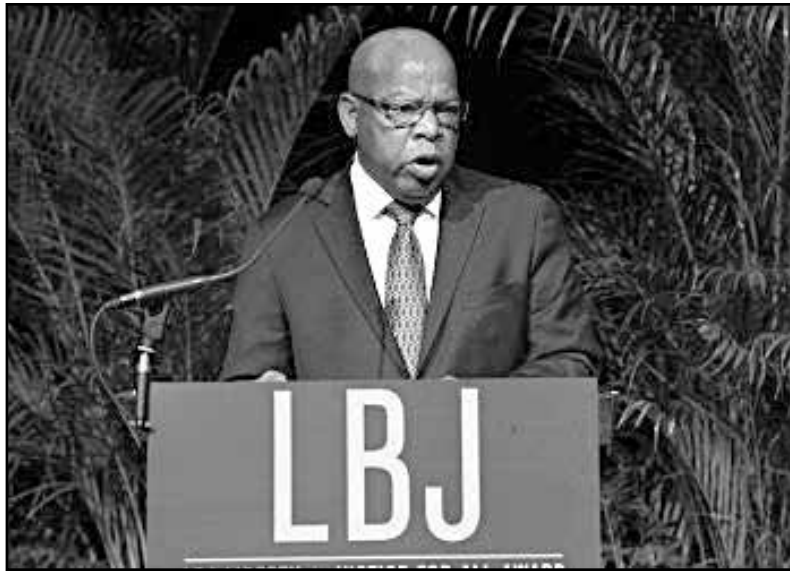
"I am going to fight it," read a statement from Rep. John Lewis on the evening of December 29.

"I may miss a few votes during this period, but with God's grace I will be back on the front lines soon," he added. Lewis announced on the last week of 2019 that he has been diagnosed with stage IV pancreatic cancer.

The news sent shock waves through the political community on the left and right and prompted many to reflect on what Lewis' life has added to American history.

"While I am clear-eyed about the prognosis, doctors have told me that recent medical advances have made this type of cancer treatable in many cases, that treatment options are no longer as debilitating as they once were, and that I have a fighting chance," Lewis continued in his statement.

The Georgia Congressman and civil rights icon was first elected to Georgia's Fifth Congressional District in 1986.



U.S. Congressman and Civil Rights Icon John Lewis.

In a year that sadly saw the end of the lives of Congressional Black Caucus co-founder John Conyers of Michigan and revered Baltimore Congressman Elijah Cummings, Lewis' diagnosis was particularly jarring.

At a time when the country is in need of moral authority many reflected on the diagnosis as a wake-up call.

"John Lewis is one of our great American heroes who reshaped our American Dream into one billions more, at home and abroad, finally felt included them also. His is a priceless gift which leaves us forever in his debt. It's been said that honest public service is the rent we pay to live in America. He pays his rent better than most everyone else and, hopefully, will

remain in Congress long after he beats this cancer, no easy thing as he knows. His guts as a college student inspired me to integrate the campus elective politics of my college and later to help Wilder when no one else in VA who looked like me would. In a country struggling to make Dr. King's a reality for so many far too long, we simply can't afford to be without John Lewis. There are too few of such icons left," wrote Virginia political legend Paul Goldman. Goldman was incremental in electing America's first African American Governor, L. Douglas Wilder.

"John Lewis is a giant—an icon of the civil rights movement, a leader in Congress and one of the kindest people I know. I'm praying for a speedy and full recovery. We need you making good trouble in the halls of Congress," wrote Freshman Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-MN).

"Our hero. Our shining beacon and standard. Praying for Rep. John Lewis and his family. And for us all," wrote attorney Sherrilyn Iffill, President of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund.

Trump, Continued from page 10.

and fulfill loan obligations.

Trump also has appointed both the Chairman of the President's Board of Advisors on HBCUs and Executive Director of the White House Initiatives on HBCUs.

"What we're talking about is permanent funding for HBCUs, as well as minority-serving institutions, to the tune of \$255 million in the annual formula and competitive funding," said Ja'Ron Smith, the Deputy Assistant to the President for the White House Office of American Innovation.

"That's over ten years, so you're talking about \$2.5 billion, and we didn't just stop there. With the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) simplification that only allows students to answer up to 22 questions on a current basis, we eliminated the burdensome process that will allow low-income students like myself, who had to navigate a FAFSA form without having parents who ever went to college," Smith stated.

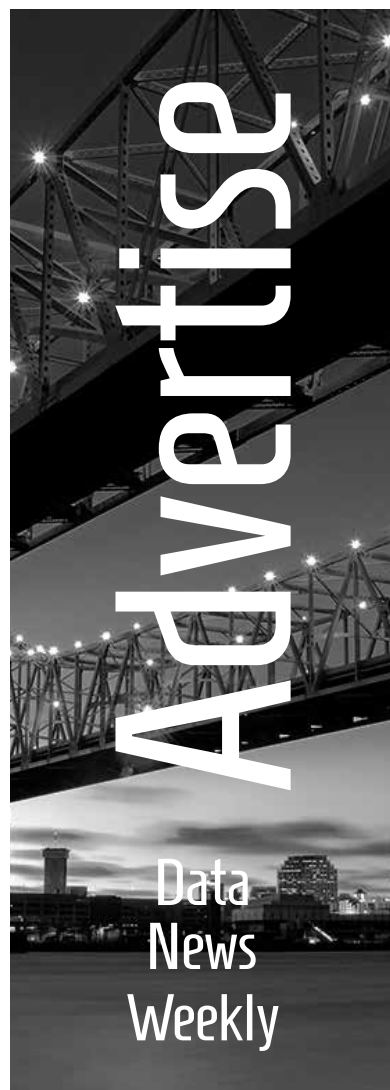
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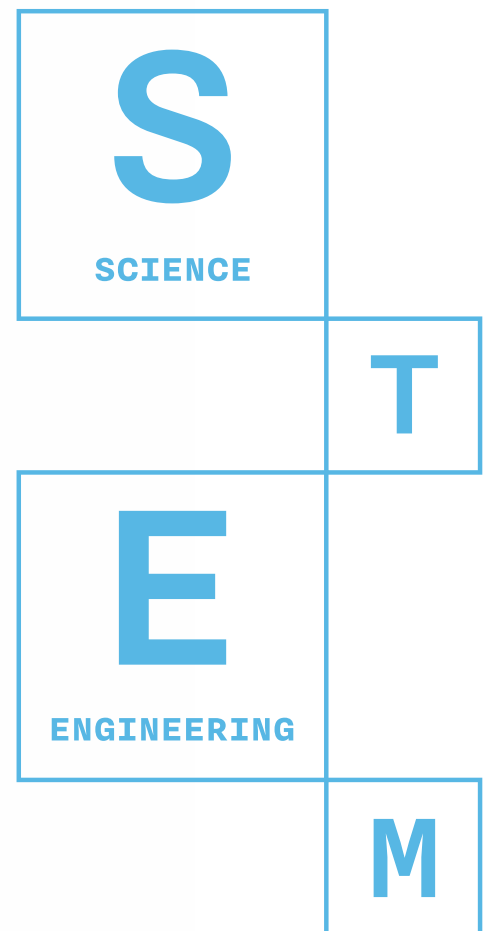
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