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News Weekly

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**Homegoing:
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the Life of 5th
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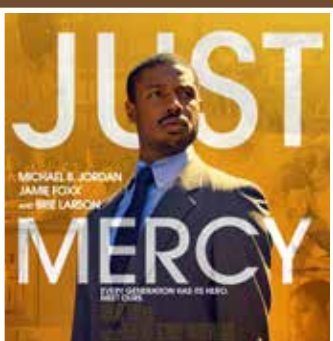
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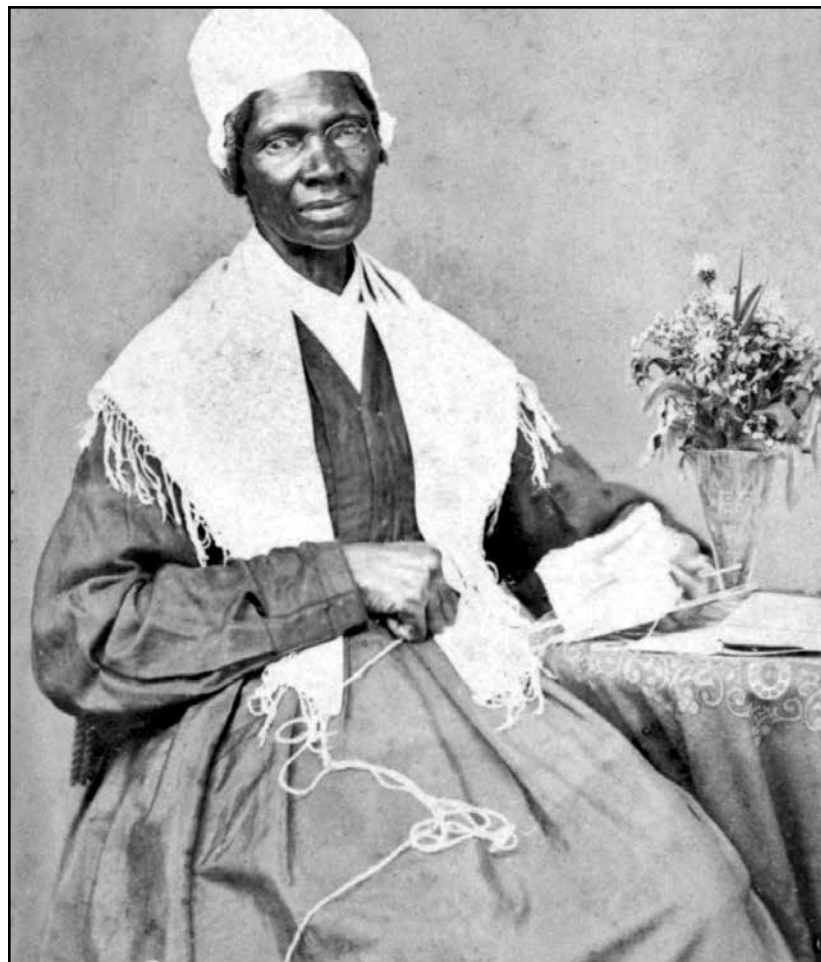


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Redefining Suffrage, Unerasing Black Women



Ida B. Wells



Sojourner Truth

Gwen McKinney
Campaign Director, *Suffrage. Race. Power: Unerased Black Women*

Sojourner Truth. Harriet Tubman. Ida B. Wells. Shirley Chisholm. Rosa Parks.

These household names, spanning a couple of cen-

turies, qualify for the Suffrage Hall of Fame.

Almost a buzz word synonymous with the Year of the Woman, in 2020 the centerpiece of suffrage will be marked by the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment granting women's voting rights. Referred to as a bold justice movement, suffrage will be celebrated as America's march to full democracy.

In popular parlance, can we unpack the significance of suffrage and inclusive democracy for Black women? Words matter. But the impact and impetus of their meaning matter more.

Here's a composite definition from online dictionaries:

Suffrage is the right to vote in public elections. Uni-

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Shirley Chisholm



Harriet Tubman



Fannie Lou Hamer

versal suffrage means everyone gets to vote, as opposed to only men or property holders...

For example, after trying for about a hundred years, American women were granted suffrage and voted for the first time in 1920.

The 19th Amendment was adopted Aug. 18, 1920, after the required number of states ratified the constitutional measure. Though many Black women-led suffrage campaigns, the 19th Amendment put White women on an empowerment tract to electoral engagement. Interestingly, the suffrage movement, festooned in the symbolic color white, is often portrayed through a narrow window uncomplicated by the strictures of race and power that framed the Amendment then and now.

Look no further than the historical landscape of that moment. Congressional approval of the Act in 1919 was the same year as the infamous Red Summer, a tumultuous White supremacist reign of terror and lynching in Black communities across the country. One year after the 19th Amendment was adopted in 1921 racist mobs set ablaze Tulsa, OK, decimating what was revered as Black Wall Street.

The Year of the Woman battle cry is perversely at odds with Black women's unbroken quest for liberation. Although lauded today as the most reliable and consistent voting bloc for democratic change, we've historically endured being marginalized, dismissed and erased.

Black women's demand to be equal and heard extends beyond the century run-up to the 19th Amendment. It was intersectional and linked with abolition of slavery, anti-lynching battles, literacy drives, sharecropper land rights



Ella Baker

campaigns and the establishment of a radical Black press that was led by many Black women suffragists.

Our suffrage quest continued through the Civil Rights Era and passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 which finally, for the first time, delivered the franchise to Black people in the South.

Rewind centuries earlier.

Our demand to self-govern predates the formation of this republic, beginning in 1619 when the first Africans, snatched from their ancestral home, landed on these shores. Those nameless suffrage pioneers joined with their men to

resist and carry the torch for all people – Native Americans, Chinese immigrants and even Irish indentured servants – denied fundamental liberty. Then and now, we wage claims to own our bodies, voices and choices.

We build on that truth by redefining suffrage beyond the limited act of casting a ballot. For Black women, the narrative is rooted in telling herstory, unerasing the achievements of yesterday and the possibilities for the future.

This centennial year is an appropriate time to redefine universal suffrage through the prism of triumphs and tragedies. Trust



Mary McLeod Bethune

Black women must be more than a cliché.

Unerased Black Women promises to create brave spaces and in alliance with Black newspapers across the country, unfurl a frank public conversation about Suffrage, Race, and Power.

Through a digital destination, we'll turn our ear to a beating heart of resilience, resistance, words and deed. Daughter of slaves, descendants of warriors, writers, journalists, teachers, mentors, activists – universal suffragists all – have something to say.

Frances Ellen Watkins Harper.

Anna Julia Cooper. Mary Ann Shadd. Harriet Jacobs. Josephine St. Pierre Ruffin. Mary McLeod Bethune. Fannie Lou Hamer. Ella Baker. Gertrude Bustill-Mossell. Charlotta Bass. Marvel Jackson Cooke.

Most of these women can't claim household name status in the traditional suffrage roll call. But their noble stories will be unerased.

Stay tuned as suffrage, redefined, meets our truth.

Gwen McKinney is campaign director of an initiative, "Suffrage. Race. Power: Unerased Black Women," that will launch in March.

Local Activists discuss Injustice at Just Mercy Film Screening

Story and Photos by Brianna Montgomery
Data News Weekly
Contributor

Out of 50 states that make up this country, 29 of them still practice capital punishment. In the film, Just Mercy screened Jan. 16, 2020 at the Broad Theater, Actors Michael B. Jordan and Jamie Foxx bring attention to a true story of Civil Rights Defense Attorney, Bryan Stevenson, who worked to free a wrongly condemned man on death row. The New Orleans screening of the film included a discussion with former inmates who have experienced the hardship of being wrongly accused and condemned to the prison system.

"Persistence will always beat out resistance," said Norris Henderson, a former inmate, who was wrongly convicted in 1976 and released 27 years later in 2003. Henderson is now the founder and executive director of VOTE and Voters Organized to Educate that helps other inmates have a second chance at life.

Many of the former inmates who participated in the discussion agreed that the film helps to bring awareness to what they experienced within the justice system. The movie depicts Bryan Stevenson, played by Jordan, as he dedi-



Jason Williams, Checo Yancy, Alanah Odoms Hebert, Norris Henderson and Robert Jones participated in a panel discussion about the Criminal Justice System on Jan. 16, 2020.

cated his life to helping men who were currently on death row have a fair and just trial. Stevenson takes on Walter McMillian's case, played by Foxx, as he was wrongfully sentenced to death for the murder of a White woman in Alabama in 1986. Through his journey, Stevenson, a Harvard Law School graduate, had to go through many obstacles in getting McMillian to receive a fair trial. His career demonstrates how

poor representation and a biased justice system led to wrongful convictions of African Americans, particularly in the South.

"For there to be change within the justice system, there needs to be awareness," said Checo W. Yancy, a former inmate who spent 20 years in Angola. But with his sentence eventually commuted, Yancy, 67, now returns to prisons as a free man counseling and mentoring

some of the 6, 200 men still in there.

Former inmates who have experienced this type of trauma told the audience that this film brought back memories of what they went through while being incarcerated and reminded them of the ones that they left behind. The men talked about how The Innocence Project has been an important initiative to help others that are still in their shoes and need help

fighting for justice.

"How about we take your eyes off of us and focus on someone else? That is where change really begins. That's what has to happen inside of us," said Damarion Davis, a linebacker for the New Orleans Saints, who participated in the event. While Davis is known for his athletic career, he shared how he also contributes to the city to work with programs on prison reform and the wrongly accused in support of The Innocence Project.

The men reminded viewers that this type of treatment in the prison system is more common than they think. Within the last 30 years, over 1,000 people were exonerated in the United States, and the cases keep growing, they noted. The Innocence Project continues to advocate for reform that helps to prevent future injustices and address wrongful convictions. Just Mercy, they said, has brought up a conversation that many feel needs to be heard.

"I promised God that I would go back and help somebody and that's what I do," said Robert Jones, a former Angola inmate, who participated in the panel. "I can't worry about what people think about me, but I found out one thing: when you roll up your sleeve and you do the right thing, no one can ever take that from you," Jones said.

Louisiana State Income Tax filing begins Monday, Jan. 27th

Louisiana Department of Revenue

BATON ROUGE – The Louisiana Department of Revenue will begin accepting 2019 state individual income tax returns on Monday, Jan. 27, 2020. The date coincides with the date the IRS begins accepting 2019 federal income tax returns.

On Jan. 27th, Louisiana taxpayers can begin filing their state income tax returns electronically through Louisiana File Online, the state's free web portal for individual tax filers. Louisiana File Online allows taxpayers to:

- File returns and pay taxes electronically

Form 1040A Department of the Treasury—Internal Revenue Service U.S. Individual Income Tax Return (99)		IRS Use Only—Do not write or staple in this space. OMB No. 1545-0047
Your first name and initial	Last name	Your social security number
If a joint return, spouse's first name and initial	Last name	Spouse's social security number
Home address (number and street). If you have a P.O. box, see instructions.		Apt. no.
City, town or post office, state, and ZIP code. If you have a foreign address, also complete spaces below (see instructions).		Presidential Election Campaign Check here if you, or your spouse if filing jointly, want \$3 to go to this fund. Checking a box below will not change your tax or refund. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse
Foreign country name	Foreign province/state/country	Foreign postal code
Filing status (Check only one box.)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Single <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Married filing jointly (even if only one had income) <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Married filing separately. Enter spouse's SSN above and full name here. <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Head of household (with qualifying person). (See instructions.) If the qualifying person is a child but not your dependent, enter this child's name here. <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Qualifying widow(er) (see instructions)	

- Check the status of individual income tax refunds
- Amend current and prior-year tax returns
- Request a filing extension

Also on Jan. 27th, taxpayers can begin submitting returns to the state through commercially available tax preparation software; or

they can download paper tax forms from the LDR website at www.revenue.louisiana.gov/Forms. Updated printed forms will not be available before Jan. 27th.

2019 Louisiana Individual Income Tax returns and payments are due May 15, 2020.

LDR has implemented enhanced

security measures to protect Louisiana taxpayers from identity theft and other types of tax fraud. If returns do not trigger any fraud indicators, taxpayers due refunds can expect them within 45 days of the filing date if they file electronically and within 14 weeks if they file paper returns.

Taxpayers can minimize delays in receiving their refunds by updating their contact information with LDR, including name, address and telephone number. If you have moved or changed your name since your last tax filing, update your contact information at www.revenue.louisiana.gov/AddressChange.



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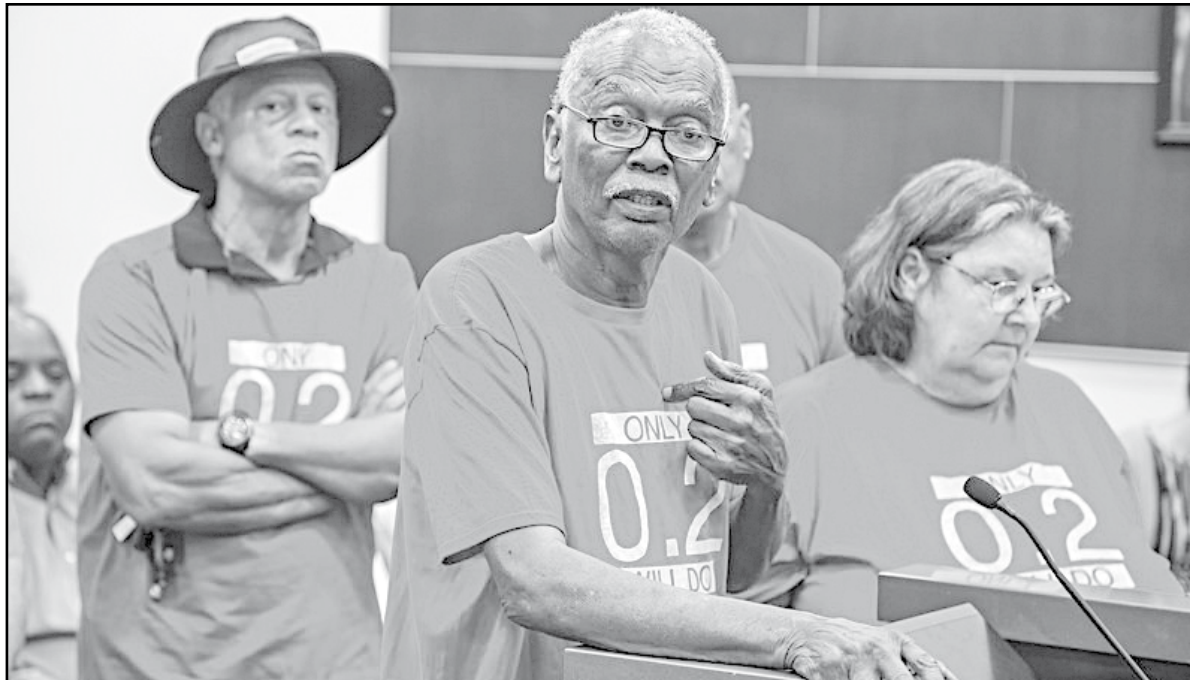
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Rep. Richmond's Letter Addressing Air Quality Testing in Communities Surrounding Louisiana Chemical Plant

Data News Weekly Staff Edited Report

WASHINGTON, DC (NEW ORLEANS) - Congressman Cedric Richmond (LA-02) recently sent a letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Regional Administrator Ken McQueen and Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality Secretary Chuck Carr Brown addressing the new Air Quality Data Collection System for the Denka Performance Elastomer Plant in LaPlace, Louisiana.

"I write to commend the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) decision to implement a new Air Quality Data Collection System for the Denka Performance Elastomer Plant and to reiterate the importance of closely monitoring dangerously high chloroprene emissions moving forward," said Rep. Richmond.



Robert Taylor (center) speaks at a St. John the Baptist Parish Council Meeting in 2017. He and the other members of the citizens' group around him wear T-shirts that reference the safety limit for the chemical chloroprene. Photo Julie Dermansky

of a new phase of air monitoring around the Denka facility, I am requesting that a community meeting be convened to explain the new Air Quality Monitoring Program. Considering the community's lack of trust in Denka, they must be able to trust the accuracy and results of this change. Providing such a forum will give community stakeholders an opportunity to get the answers they deserve. Specifically, it is imperative for them to know what this new data collection practice is expected to achieve and what the next steps will be taken moving forward."

"I believe that continued monitoring and engagement on this issue will benefit the people of Louisiana and facilitate dialogue and action in the interest of improved environmental and public health outcomes."



Rep. Richmond's Letter Addressing Air Quality Testing in Communities Surrounding Louisiana Chemical Plant


Speaking of the economic relevance of the state to not just the region, but the nation he says,

"Louisiana has long been an economic engine for the country due to its geography and vast natural resources. Products manufactured in Louisiana are used by companies across the globe and spur economic growth across the country. Many of these goods are produced in plants located along the Mississippi River and play an integral role in bolstering the State's economy, as well as creating good-paying jobs for our residents. However, with that production comes adverse consequences that must be addressed to protect the safety of River Parish communities."


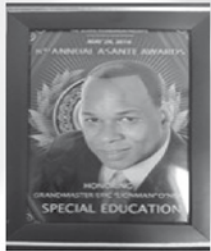

"As a result of such a heavy concentration of production, Louisiana has been disproportionately affected by the detrimental environmental effects of plant emissions. While economic vitality is important, it cannot ignore the reality of deteriorating air quality and the health risks it poses. For far too many years, people in communities along the Mississippi River have repeatedly expressed these very concerns which have prompted the federal government to intervene in the absence of action."

Demanding accountability and addressing citizen concerns Richmond letter states.



"With the recent announcement





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A New Orleans Style Homegoing: Celebrating the Life of 5th Ward Weebie

Story and photos
by Edwin Buggage
Editor-in-Chief

Thousands of people came out to celebrate the life and legacy of the New Orleans Bounce Legend, Entrepreneur and Humanitarian Jerome "5th Ward Weebie" Cozey during his homegoing.

From elected officials that included New Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrell and US Congressman Cedric Richmond, were on hand and spoke about Weebie and his contribution to the City.

In addition, entertainers that included Big Freedia, Mannie Fresh,

Partners-n-Crime, Trombone Shorty and Mia X were there who spoke about Weebie and his impact on music and the City of New Orleans.

The homegoing was a spirit-filled event with moving gospel music and words of comfort from Pastor Lester Love and WQUE Radio Personality Wayne "Wild Wayne" Benjamin was the Master of Ceremonies.

Also in true New Orleans style, while we mourn we celebrate the life that one lived through music and dance. After the funeral, there was a second line parade that went



Thousands came out to celebrate the life and legacy of Legendary Entertainer, Entrepreneur and Humanitarian 5th Ward Weebie.

from the Mahalia Jackson Theater, going up Orleans Ave. and into the 5th Ward where Weebie's ascendance into greatness began.

Then back to Orleans and North Claiborne where people gathered and continued to celebrate the life of one of our musical greats.

We at Data News Weekly would

like to send our condolences to the family and say that we loved Weebie for all he did for our great City and may he rest in eternal and blessed peace.

Data Zone, Continued on page 7.



If I could do one thing, I'd tell the world she counts.

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CHIMENE GRANT SALOY
VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Chimene Grant Saloy's career has been shaped by a deep commitment to public service. When she is not building community relationships and support for Audubon's mission as a member of our executive staff, she dedicates her time to non-profits such as Kingsley House and service organizations such as Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority. Her favorite part of Audubon is fostering a family-like environment while working with coworkers of all expertise and backgrounds to fulfill Audubon's mission.

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War with Iran is Ill-Advised, Thoughtless



Marc Morial
President and CEO
National Urban League

The Trump Administration has said the death of Iran's top military commander, Maj. Gen. Qassim Suleimani, was necessary to prevent American deaths the general was plotting, and the world is safer because of his death.

I don't know a soul in America who feels safer now than we did before January 3rd. And that includes President Trump, who has spent the days since Suleimani's death issuing empty threats on Twitter, some of which are clearly war crimes.

The United States has been in

conflict with Iran since 1979, when students stormed the American embassy in Tehran and held 52 Americans hostage for more than a year. In four decades since the Iranian Revolution, Iran has been the world's leading state sponsor of terrorism. For 22 of those years, the last 40 years, Suleimani has led the Quds Force, a U.S. designated terrorist organization, which has armed and trained terrorist and paramilitary groups throughout the Middle East.

Yet Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama – and even Donald Trump, for the first three years of his term – all declined to kill or capture Suleimani, for a very good reason: such a move would be tantamount to a declaration of war, not only with Iran, but with its inestimable network of proxies around the globe – what Iran expert and Carnegie Endowment senior fellow Karim Sadjadpour has called “a Shia foreign legion.”

We don't want this war. We don't



need this war. We cannot afford this war, neither in blood nor in treasure. Nearly half a billion lives have been lost in the conflicts in Iraq, Pakistan and Afghanistan since 9/11, including 15,000 U.S. troops and military contractors. More than 970,000 Iraq and Afghanistan veteran disability claims have been registered with the Veterans Administration.

The United States federal government has spent or obligated \$5.9 trillion dollars on the wars in the Middle East.

As a study by the Watson Institute at Brown University noted, “This total omits many other expenses, such as the macroeconomic costs to the US economy; the opportunity costs of not investing war

dollars in alternative sectors; future interest on war borrowing; and local government and private war costs. The current wars have been paid for almost entirely by borrowing. This borrowing has raised the US budget deficit, increased the national debt, and had other macroeconomic effects, such as raising consumer interest rates. Unless the US immediately repays the money borrowed for war, there will also be future interest payments. We estimate that interest payments could total over \$8 trillion by the 2050s.”

The Trump Administration has not articulated or advanced a strategy with respect to Iran. President Trump cannot keep us safe with a Tweet, as he seems to believe.

The House on Thursday passed a resolution to force President Trump to come to Congress for authorization before taking further military action against Iran, but it will take the forceful involvement of Senate leadership to keep us out of another Middle East quagmire.

It's All Greek to me: After Pushback and a Petition Ralph Lauren Apologizes to Phi Beta Sigma for Chino Gate

Maiysha Kai
Contributor, theRoot.com

When in Rome, do as the Romans do. When in Ralph Lauren, keep our Black Greek iconography off of your chinos. In what was the latest but likely most inadvertent incident of cultural appropriation since Gucci's Black-face-sweater scandal this time last year, American legacy brand Ralph Lauren crossed the line—by demonstrating that no one on their design staff has likely ever crossed a Black Greek line. (True Confession Time: Neither has this writer, which hopefully doesn't disqualify me from commenting what was clearly a very loaded issue, as indicated by The Root's staff conversation.)

The issue at hand initially arose last week, when Ralph Lauren's namesake company decided to take their relentlessly preppy aesthetic to the next level by adding some

Greek lettering to the back of an otherwise mediocre pair of \$334 chinos sold on its French site—except, in this case, the lettering happened to be that of Black fraternity Phi Beta Sigma, which celebrated its 106th Founders' Day on January 9.

Was it blatant and callous appropriation, or the inevitable gaffe of a company that has long benefited from being promoted within Black culture without feeling compelled to pay much attention to it? We all know Black folks have long loved themselves some damned Polo, but if Beyoncé has taught us nothing, it's that Black Greek culture is a force not to be ignored; a point Phi Beta Sigma's membership and allies made abundantly clear, first by digital and social media and soon after by the launch of a Color of Change petition calling out Ralph Lauren for copyright infringement.

“If Polo is using these beloved letters so freely, where are the



royalties going? To whom did they ask & get permission to use these letters, and why did they feel so comfortable doing this?” asked the petition. “We are demanding that Ralph Lauren do the right thing and RECALL, DESTROY, & PUBLICLY APOLOGIZE for trying to capitalize off of Black Culture!”

And as NBC News reports, the label has answered, both pulling the aforementioned pants and issuing an apology, obtained by Black

Greek digital media company Watch the Yard:

The use of these symbols on our products was an oversight for which we deeply apologize. We are immediately taking action to remove the product from our sales channels. While we have a rigorous review process in place for all of our designs, this has prompted us to take another review of our protocols to help ensure that this does not happen again.

As an American brand with more than 50 years of heritage, Ralph Lauren is inspired by many facets of American culture. As part of this, we are firmly committed to respectful and appropriate use of all cultural icons and insignias.

Furthermore, Forbes reports that a legal representative for Phi Beta Sigma (identified by NBC as Andrea Hence Evans) emailed her own statement, which read:

We are shocked and appalled that Ralph Lauren, without our client's consent, would violate our client's trademarks by using them on articles of clothing...We are currently investigating this matter and we hope that Ralph Lauren will cooperate in providing relief for their infringing conduct.

No word yet on what “relief” might look like, but we have a feeling it's more than an apology. We'll be watching the yard to see what develops—oh, and Happy Founders' Day to Alpha Kappa Alpha, Inc.

New Orleans Marches to Remember Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Story and Photos by Regiane Moseley
Data News Weekly Contributor

The City called on citizens “To Remember, Celebrate, Act” for its week of official Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative celebrations organized by the M.L.K. Holiday Planning Commission.

The Urban League of Louisiana sponsored the 34th Annual Celebration which was held at the New Orleans Jazz Market on Jan. 20, 2020. A Remembrance March followed the event where community leaders reflected on the life and legacy of Dr. King.

New Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrell served as the Honorary Chair of the Planning Commission and joined marching bands from all over the City and residents who came out to join in the celebration of the life of the Civil Rights Leader.

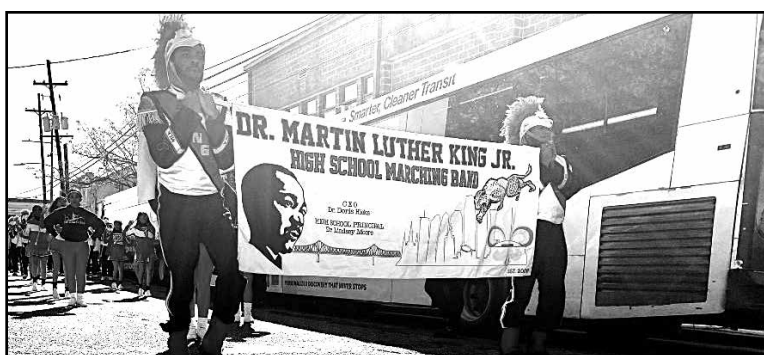
King’s legacy as a unifier is what many residents who attended the Remembrance March said is still needed today.



New Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrell with religious, business, civic and community leader celebrating the life and commitment to Civil Rights Leader, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



The Urban League of Louisiana sponsored the 34th Annual Celebration at the New Orleans Jazz Market.



Celebrating the life and legacy of MLK and his continue struggle for Civil and Human Rights.

NNPA Urges Better U.S.-Cuba Relations

Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior
Correspondent

National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. joined experts and academics from the United States and Cuba in Havana to seek strategies, solutions, and projects they hope would help rekindle relations between the countries.

"The majority of the people of the United States want better relations with Cuba, and that is the will



Pictured, left to right: Dean DeWayne Wickman of Morgan State University, Dr. Tony Draper, Publisher of The Afro, and Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., President and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association.

that must prevail," stated Chavis, who counted among the delegation of 30 American scholars who attended the 18th edition of the Series of Academic Conversations on Cuba in the Foreign Policy of the United States of America.

Sponsored by the Research Center on International Policies and the Raul Roa Higher Institute for International Relations, the conference highlighted how the Trump Administration has setback U.S.-Cuba relations after former President Barack Obama worked toward a more agreeable relationship.

Exclusive: Rep. Ayanna Pressley reveals Beautiful Bald Head and Discusses Alopecia for the First Time

Jessica Moulite Contributor,
theRoot.com

Ayanna Pressley loves playing with her hair. Before she became a Massachusetts Congresswoman (and a high-profile member of "The Squad"), Pressley would experiment with different hairstyles and textures, getting a weave and even cutting her own hair. Lately, she's been experimenting with lace-front wigs.

"One I call 'FLOTUS' because it feels very Michelle Obama to me, [and another] I call 'Tracee,' because it feels very Tracee Ellis Ross to me," Pressley told me in an exclusive interview with The Root earlier this week.

But the wigs are a noticeable departure from her signature Senegalese and bomb twists, which have become synonymous with her political brand and made her the hero of little Black girls across the country. Now, the congresswoman has decided to go public as to her reason why: She has alopecia.

"I think it's important that I'm transparent about this new normal," Pressley said.

The American Academy of Dermatology refers to alopecia as the official medical term for baldness. And according to the National Alopecia Areata Foundation, the autoimmune disorder alopecia areata makes the body attack its



Massachusetts Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley

own healthy hair follicles, "causing them to become much smaller and drastically slow down production to the point that hair growth may stop."

Three of the most common ways alopecia areata presents itself are in the form of patches of baldness (alopecia areata), no hair on the head (alopecia totalis), and complete hair loss on a person's entire body (alopecia universalis). These types of alopecia differ from traction alopecia, which happens when hair is stressed at the roots.

And despite limited scientific research about racial disparities in experiencing alopecia, a July 2019 study from the Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology found that African Americans experience alopecia areata



at a higher rate than other racial groups. There was even a survey conducted at Boston University of over 5,500 Black women that revealed that nearly 48 percent of them dealt with hair loss.

Rep. Ayanna Pressley first became aware of her hair loss last fall while getting her hair retwisted. Very soon afterward, she was waking up every morning to total hair loss across the scalp.

The hair loss created additional challenges in an already-demanding Capitol Hill schedule, requiring Pressley to creatively conceal her growing baldness in the middle of getting votes, attending committee meetings, and giving press conferences.

The night Pressley lost her final piece of her hair was pivotal,

she says. Not only was it the night before Donald Trump's impeachment vote in the House of Representatives, but it was also the anniversary of her mother's death. The sense of loss was manifold.

"I was missing her. I was mourning my hair. I was mourning the state of our democracy. I was mourning my mentor, Chairman Elijah Cummings," she said.

Pressley had already been accused of being "militant" when she wore her hair in twists, so she knew her bald head, stripped of context, would undoubtedly be viewed as a political message. So, she immediately sought out options. She called her friend Angela Rye, who connected her to "hair caregiver" Jamal Edmonds. Edmonds quickly created a custom

wig for the Congresswoman, hours ahead of the time she was scheduled to deliver her vote to impeach the President of the United States.

"When I saw myself in the mirror, he had done a beautiful job, but I did not recognize myself," she said. "I was wearing this wig, fully clothed. But in that moment, I couldn't recall the last time I'd ever felt more naked."

After voting on the House floor, Pressley left and hid in a bathroom stall, feeling exposed, vulnerable, and embarrassed. It was at that point that she remembered those same little girls looking up to her—and decided that when she was ready, she'd go public with her condition.

"I want to be freed from the secret and the shame that that secret carries with it," Pressley said.

Though she's still in the process of making peace with having alopecia, Pressley added that she's making progress every day.

"It's about self-agency. It's about power. It's about acceptance."

And now that she's public, she wants to experiment with different styles even more and find joy in those options.

For the first time ever, Pressley reveals her fully bald head and shares her very personal Black hair journey.

Additional reporting by Anne Branigin.

More than Eight in 10 Black Americans think Donald Trump is a Racist, Poll Shows

Data News Weekly Staff
Edited Report none

In this an election year President Donald Trump seems to have an uphill battle with Black voters according to the results of a recent Washington Post Poll.

The results showed that Black Americans are overwhelmingly dissatisfied with President Donald Trump's job performance, and a majority say he's made racism a bigger problem in the country, according to a new poll.

The Washington Post/Ipsos survey conducted earlier this month and according to the poll, 90 percent of Black Americans disapprove of how Trump has handled himself in office over the past three years.

In addition, more than eight in 10 Black Americans believe that Trump is a racist and that he's made racism an even bigger problem in the United States. Three-quarters of those polled (76 percent) said that the things Trump is doing as president are bad for African Americans.

This is a direct contradiction to President Trump's claims on his accomplishments for the African American community. Trump frequently makes what some have come to know as unfounded statements that he has done more for Black Americans than any other president touted the economy and record low unemployment for African Americans.

In this poll, seventy-seven percent of Black Americans polled said Trump deserved only some



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As we enter the 2020 election cycle it is expected that Trump will not receive a considerable number of votes from African Americans.

or hardly any credit for the record-low unemployment rate. Plus, more than half of Black adults polled reported that their financial situation has stayed the same during Trump's Presidency.

The Post/Ipsos poll surveyed over 1,000 Black adults nationwide and was conducted from January 2nd to January 8th. The margin of error for the poll was plus or minus 3.5 percentage points.

As we enter the 2020 election cycle it is expected that Trump will not receive a considerable number of votes from African Americans. In 2016, then-candidate Trump did not fare well among Black voters in the 2016 election (according to exit polls, he received roughly 8 percent of the Black vote), and the latest poll suggests that even fewer are willing to support his re-election. In the Post/Ipsos survey, Trump is shown receiving between 4 and 5 percent support among Black registered voters in direct matchups against eight potential Democratic candidates.

The survey also showed that apprehension over race relations in the country extends beyond Trump and his administration. Overall, 65 percent of respondents said it was a "bad time" to be a Black American in the United States.

In addition, nearly eight in 10 Black Americans polled said that White Americans do not understand the level of discrimination they face in their lives. Just 19 percent of respondents said that White Americans understand the amount of discrimination they face.

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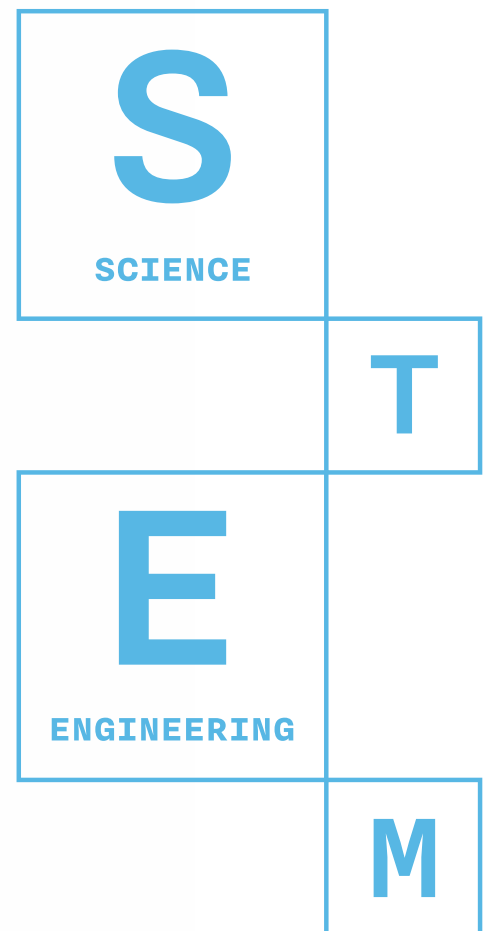
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