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Data

News Weekly

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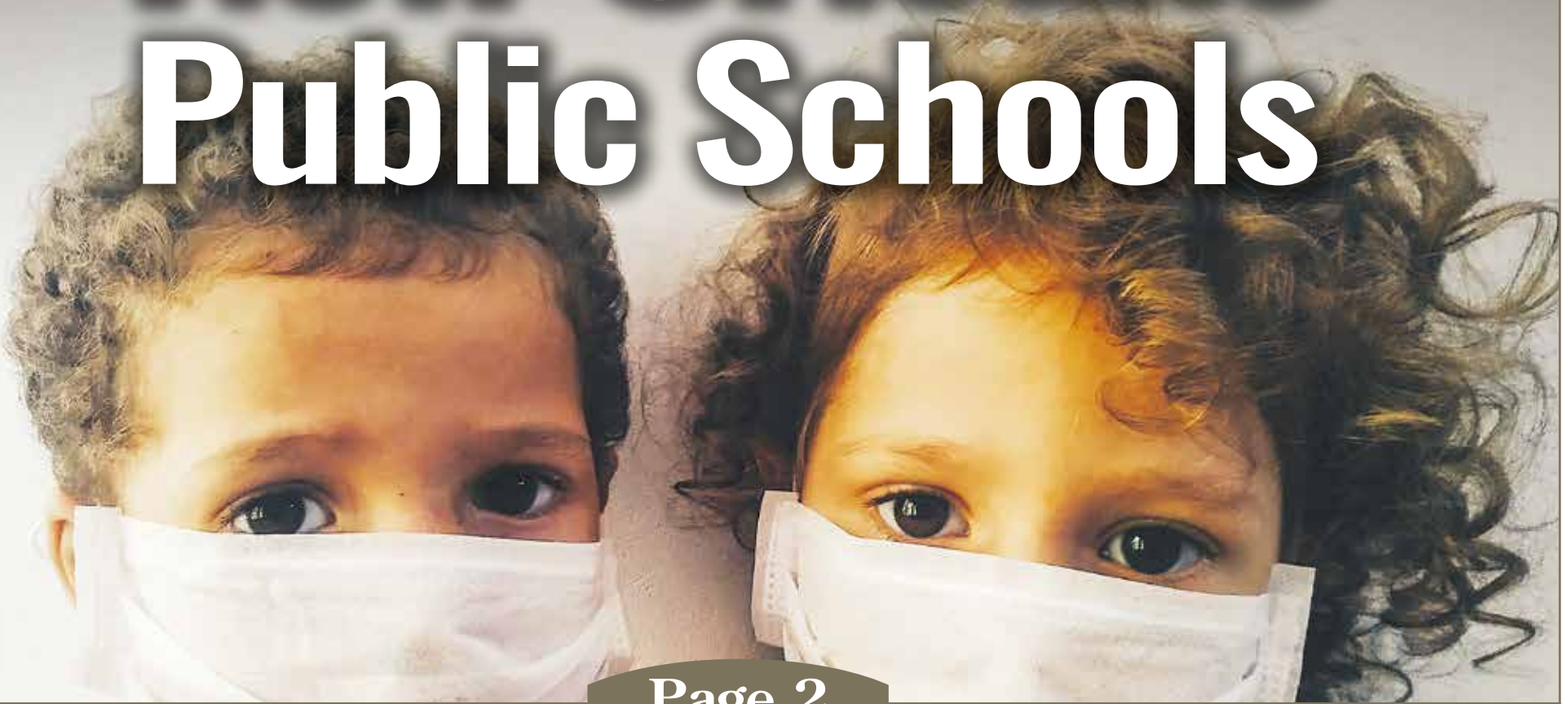
Virtual Satchmo SummerFest

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July 25 - July 31, 2020 55th Year Volume 13 www.ladatanews.com

A Data News Weekly Exclusive

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Re-Opening New Orleans Public Schools



Questions surrounding the New Orleans Public School re-opening safely is a concern to many in the age of COVID-19.

Benjamin Bates
Data News Weekly Contributor

Safety Matters: Getting Ready for School During COVID-19
Orleans Public Schools will be opening to students in the coming weeks and for school leaders, teachers, and parents; questions about when and how they will

re-open safely in the midst of the COVID-19 Pandemic is on the minds of many.
The New Orleans Public Schools have been closed since March because of COVID-19. Recently, NOLA Public Schools Superintendent, Dr. Henderson Lewis Jr. says, he and his team will continue their reopening plan which is expected in early August 100% virtual. With in person and hybrid classes resuming tentatively after Labor Day for the 2020-2021 school year for stu-

dents. But says much of what they do after re-opening will depend on phased re-opening orders from the City.
“We want to make sure that safety is our priority in every phase that we will experience as we go through this crisis,” said the NOLA Public Schools Superintendent in a statement released to the press.
“Safety will be a top priority, always. And we will be adhering to the guidelines that are shared with us from the state and local level,” said Dr. Lewis.

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DATA NEWS WEEKLY

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

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"We want to make sure that safety is our priority in every phase that we will experience as we go through this crisis," said the NOLA Public Schools Superintendent in a statement released to the press.



HOW TO TALK TO YOUR STUDENT ABOUT FACE COVERINGS

EXPLAIN WHY

Use positive phrasing and easy to understand language.

"Wearing your face mask helps protect you and others from bad germs."

START WITH

FAMILIAR CLOTHING

Use a scarf or bandana to ease your child into wearing a face covering. Then transition to a face mask.

PLAY PRETEND

Integrate your child's mask into play time, encourage them to be a safety superhero!



MAKE SURE IT FITS

Masks should be secure over your nose and mouth and fit snug around your ears. Make sure your child can breathe easily.

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

Break things down into smaller steps practice and reinforce each one!

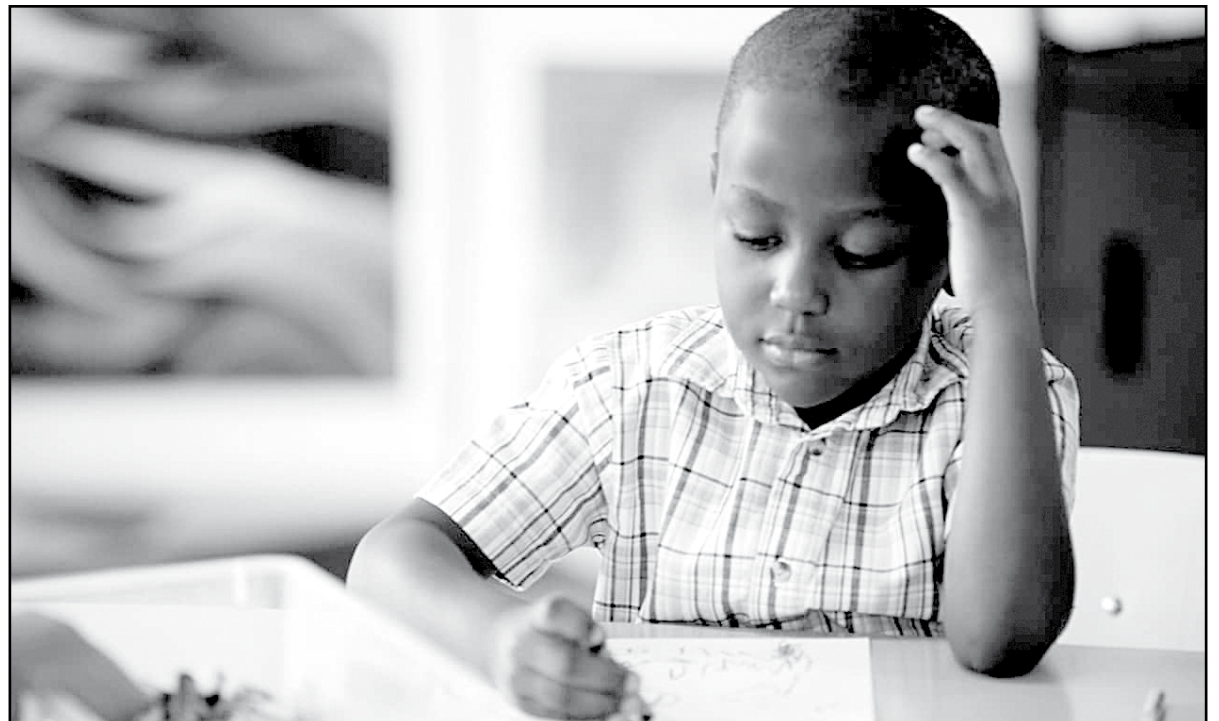
1. Hold the face covering
2. Put it against your face
3. Secure the elastic/ tie ends

GET CREATIVE

Have your child decorate a face mask, or find one with a favorite character to create excitement about wearing it.

STUFFED ANIMALS AND DOLLS NEED MASKS TOO

Let your child know we are all in this together by placing masks on favorite toys like stuffed animals and dolls.



"Any family who doesn't feel comfortable to return to school for in-person learning has the option to learn from home on a quarterly basis," said Superintendent Dr. Henderson Lewis, Jr., during a virtual news conference.

- If a school can accommodate additional days of in person instruction, while adhering to operational standards of other terms above schools may do so.

Across All Schools:

- All schools will offer distance

learning option on a quarterly basis for families not ready to return to in-person learning.

- Students may enter the full-time distance learning option at any time and must remain in the learning path for the

remainder of any given school quarter.

Lewis says reopening plans must remain fluid and it can change depending on the health data.

All Information is as of press time and is subject to change.

In a statement he also remarked, New Orleans Public Schools may consider offering online classes to students who aren't quite comfortable going back to campus if and when they reopen.

"Any family who doesn't feel comfortable to return to school for in-person learning has the option to learn from home on a quarterly basis," said Superintendent Dr. Henderson Lewis, Jr., during a virtual news conference.

A plan is in place to mitigate the potential spread of COVID-19. Part of the district's supplemental guidance, they mapped out how they will treat a child or staff member who shows COVID-19 symptoms.

If someone has a 100-degree temperature or higher, they will be immediately isolated then another temperature check will be taken to confirm fever. The district says it's administrators will then send the student or staff member home. If the individual tests positive for the coronavirus, any individual they have come in close contact with will have to be quarantined at home for 14 days.

Re-Opening NOLA Public Schools

Since the City is in Phase 2 of re-opening plan, below is the most

recent information for NOLA Public Schools

For Grades PreK-8:

Students in grades PreK-4 will return to school full-time on regular basis (5 days a week).

- Students in grades 5-8 will receive a mix of in person and distance learning, with rotating in person sessions scheduled by their individual school.
- Students with the most critical special needs, as determined by the school, may also return to school full-time (regardless of grade level).
- If a school can accommodate additional grades in person, while adhering to operational standards and other terms above, schools may do so.

For Grades 9-12:

- High School students will receive a mix of in person and distance learning, attending school a minimum of two days a week, based upon the students' course schedule.
- Students with the most critical special needs, as determined by the school, may also return to school full-time (regardless of grade level).

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A Virtual Celebration of Louis Armstrong and Satchmo SummerFest 20th Anniversary

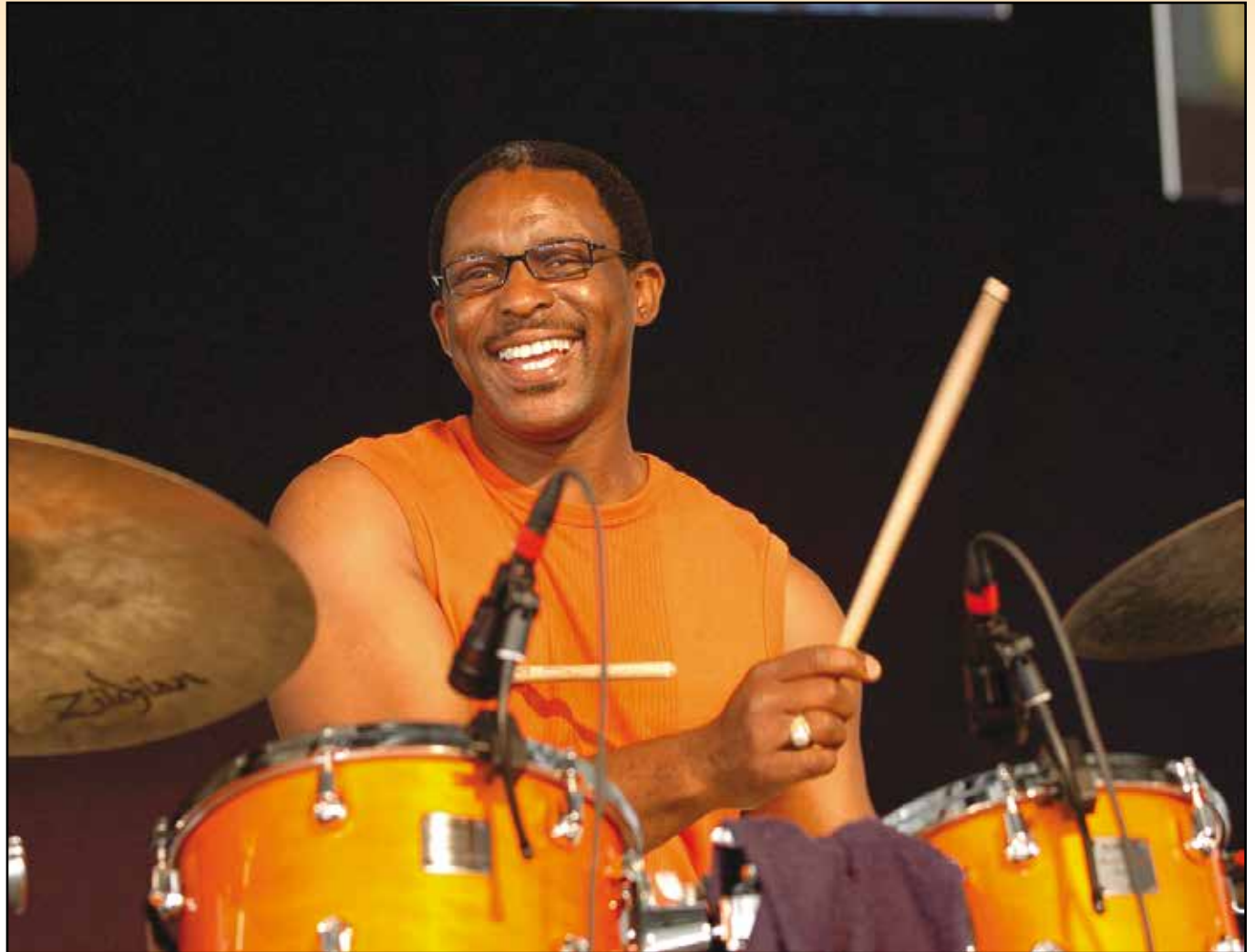
Data News Staff Edited Report

This year many festivals have gone virtual. Satchmo SummerFest is celebrating 20 years with a virtual festival for all to enjoy.

The Seven Day Event takes place July 27th - Aug 2nd. Starting July 27th all are invited to enjoy thematic programming on WWOZ. In a City of festivals will witness Armstrong-themed cooking demos on WWL-TV on the WWL-TV Morning Show July 27th - 30th.

Plus on August 1st - 2nd, catch original performances by Satchmo SummerFest artists on Facebook Live!

The lineup includes many greats of New Orleans music that includes; James Andrews, John Boutté, Wendell Brunious, Topsy Chapman and Solid Harmony, Meschiya Lake and the Little Big Horns, Herlin Riley, Treme' Brass Band, and Tuba Skinny. Musical performances are sponsored by the New Orleans National Jazz Historical Park will be filmed onsite at the New Orleans Jazz Museum and shared on Facebook live Saturday, August 1st – Sunday, August 2nd.



Herlin Riley



Topsy Chapman



James Andrews



Data Zone,
Continued on page 5.

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

Data Zone, Continued from page 4.



Meschiya Lake



John Boutte

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more photos from these events

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City of Love Church
8601 Palmetto Street
New Orleans, LA 70118

Tuesdays in July & August:
1PM-7PM

Wednesdays in July & August:
9AM-3PM

St. Mary of the Angels
2225 Congress Street
New Orleans, LA 70117

Thursdays in July & August:
1PM-7PM

Fridays in July & August:
9AM-3PM

Saturdays in July & August:
9AM-3PM

Louisiana Legislature Provides \$250 Hazard Pay Checks for Louisiana's Frontline Workers

Data News Staff Edited Report

Some Louisiana frontline workers are eligible to apply for a \$250 hazard pay for work performed during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Act 12 of the 2020 First Extraordinary Session of the Louisiana Legislature provides for a one-time rebate for eligible workers earning \$50,000 per year or less, who spent at least 200 hours responding to or mitigating the COVID-19 Crisis from March 22, 2020, through May 14, 2020.

- The Louisiana Department of Revenue (LDR) will accept applications from Wednesday, July 15th through Saturday, October 31st from workers employed in



The Louisiana Legislature has provided a one time payment of \$250 dollars for frontline workers. Eligible workers are encouraged to apply as soon as possible at frontlineworkers.la.gov

one of the following essential critical infrastructure jobs on or after March 11, 2020.

- Nurses, assistants, aides, medical residents, pharmacy staff, phlebotomists, respiratory therapists,

and workers providing direct patient care in inpatient and outpatient dialysis facilities.

- Housekeeping, laundry services, food services, and waste management personnel in hospitals and

healthcare facilities.

- Long-term care facility personnel, outpatient care workers, home care workers, personal assistance providers, home health providers, home-deliv-

ered meal providers, childcare service providers.

- Emergency medical services (EMS) personnel, fire and rescue personnel, law enforcement personnel, public health epidemiologists.
- Bus drivers; retail fuel center personnel; sanitation personnel; residential, commercial, and industrial solid waste and hazardous waste removal personnel; storage and disposal personnel.
- Grocery store, convenience store, and food assistance program personnel.
- Mortuary service providers.
- Veterinary service staff.

LDR is still accepting applications online or via a downloadable printed form. However, due to limited funding for the rebate program, eligible workers are encouraged to apply as soon as possible using the online application portal at FrontlineWorkers.la.gov.

Commentary

From Desire to Purpose...A Dreamer's Journey Learning to Fly



Reneé Dugue
Co-Founder and Executive Director of Reborn & Rising

How do you grow up during a time in a place considered the deadliest City in the country, and have wonderful memories? When I think back to life in The Desire on Agriculture Place, one of my favorite things to do was lay on the lawn and stare at the sky. When I reminisce with my mom, a bittersweet look washes over her. Her pride in providing that joy is covered with pain. She had no idea that just two feet below our perfectly manicured St. Augustine grass was twenty feet of waste, and dozens of toxins collect-

ed over sixty years dumped by the City of New Orleans. Sad to imagine what my little body absorbed and its effects on me. Regardless, I still smile remembering the countless hours I spent daydreaming... imagining what it felt like to fly and soar in the clouds.

As babies, we're born filled with trust and ready to love. As we grow older, we allow our hurtful and painful encounters to breed fear. For so long I wallowed in fear of loss and failure and force-fed my son poisoned coping tactics; pounding the seeds into his body and mind. His scars covered them like soil. Modeling me and the memories of his dad, he grew and nurtured these seeds with self-destructive behavior. He drenched them with alcohol and fertilized them with drugs. We existed in a perpetual state of survival; a non-stop loop of fight or flight. Violence and silence became the norm in our love-hate relationship that ping-ponged the spectrum



Reneé Dugue, inspiring others to face their fears and fly high in the clouds of limitless possibilities.

of emotions. Naturally, New Orleans, we did that bi-polar bounce from zero to one hundred really quick. We were so 504; there truly was no limit to our dysfunction. For years I told my son "When it's time for me to die, I'm going skydiving and I'm not pulling the parachute." This seriously was my plan.

It is purely by the grace and mercy of Our Creator that you read

these words today. Far from perfection, my son and I are healing and on our road to recovery. My first step was to face and let go of the fear that had grown like weeds and was killing us. To symbolize this step, on my 45th birthday, I went skydiving! In jail, my son was not present to witness this life-altering experience, but his nephew, my grandson, Czar, who affectionately

calls me Honey, was right there. I was so excited to describe having clouds in my mouth! He told me he was scared when I went up in the plane. I admitted I was too but chose to be brave and jump! In amazement, he said "Wow! Honey, I'm so proud of you. Uncle Reneé will be too."

My son couldn't believe I actually went skydiving and chose to pull the parachute's cord. I shared with him that in doing so, I intentionally chose life, forgiveness, freedom from guilt, pain, and shame, and to fully embrace every day as a wake-up call to rise, shine and share the beautiful light that lives in all of us. I encouraged him and I encourage you to do the same on your journey to purpose.

Renee' Dugue is a Healer, Artist, Writer, Humanitarian and Co-Founder and Executive Director of Reborn & Rising in Houston, TX, and welcomes kindred soul connections. RebornAndRising@gmail.com

IN MEMORIAM

The World Mourns A True Icon and Freedom Fighter

John Lewis

1940-2020

Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior
Correspondent

Somewhere it's raining. Somewhere the heavens have opened up, reflecting the tears that are falling across the globe as news of the death of Civil Rights Icon Congressman John Lewis (D-GA) spreads.

The legislator, freedom fighter and justice warrior, who was famously beaten, bloodied and arrested in Selma, Alabama — and in other cities across the Jim Crow South — during the struggle for civil rights and racial equality, was 80.

His death came just hours after another the passing of another civil rights icon, Rev. C.T. Vivian, who was 95. National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) President and CEO, and comrade in arms with both Rev. Vivian and Lewis, expressed the devastation he and the world feel at the loss of the two revered giants.

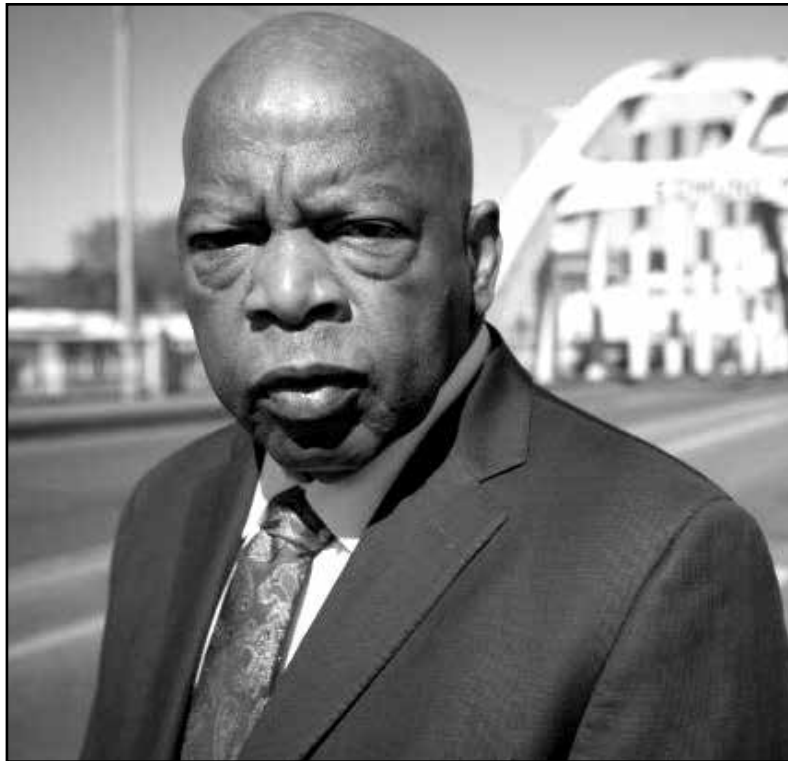
Chavis, like Vivian and Lewis, worked with and was a disciple of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He said the world would miss Lewis's "good trouble," quoting Lewis's famous call to arms. "The Honorable John Lewis was a longtime master freedom fighter who set the eternal example of how and why we all should fight for the freedom and equality of all humanity," Chavis remarked.

"May Lewis now have his rest in peace. As for those of us who worked with him and [those] who marched with him, we must keep fighting for freedom and equality with renewed vigor, courage and energy. Black Lives Matter."

During the NNPA's 2020 Virtual Annual Convention earlier this month, attendees were treated to a free screening of the documentary, John Lewis: Good Trouble, provided by the Census Bureau. Lewis was also a strong advocate for Census registration.

As he'd done earlier to honor Rev. Vivian, former President Barack Obama expressed his sorrow.

"John Lewis — one of the original Freedom Riders, Chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, the youngest speaker at the March on Washington, leader of the march from Selma to Montgomery, Member of Congress representing the people of Georgia for 33 years — not only assumed that



Civil Rights Icon John Lewis at the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama, where in 1965 a mob of state troopers clad in riot gear attacked him and others who were marching for equal rights and justice for African-Americans.



Congressman John Lewis receiving the Presidential Medal of Freedom from former President Barack Obama.

responsibility, he made it his life's work," Obama observed.

"He loved this country so much that he risked his life and his blood so that it might live up to its promise. And through the decades, he not only gave all of himself to the cause of freedom and justice but inspired generations that followed to try to live up to his example."

The former president recalled his last meeting with Lewis.

"It's fitting that the last time John and I shared a public forum was at a virtual town hall with a gathering of young activists who were helping to lead this summer's demonstrations in the wake of George Floyd's

death. Afterward, I spoke to him privately.

"He could not have been prouder of their efforts — of a new generation standing up for freedom and equality, a new generation intent on voting and protecting the right to vote, a new generation running for political office," Obama recounted.

"I told him that all those young people — of every race, from every background and gender and sexual orientation — they were his children. They had learned from his example, even if they didn't know it. They had understood through him what American citizenship requires, even if they had heard of his courage only through history books."

Lewis routinely credited King and Rosa Parks for inspiring his activism, which he famously called "good trouble, necessary trouble." He also referred to his participation in the Civil Rights Movement as a "holy crusade."

Lewis joined a Freedom Ride in 1961, organized by the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE). He suffered one of many beatings at the hands of authorities when he and other CORE members attempted to enter a Whites-only waiting room at a bus station in Rock Hill, South Carolina.

"If there was anything I learned on that long, bloody bus trip of 1961," he wrote in his memoir, "it was this — that we were in for a long, bloody fight here in the American South. And I intended to stay in the middle of it."

Lewis was the last surviving speaker from the famed 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. The world also will remember Lewis for leading hundreds of people in one of the most famous demonstrations for civil rights ever — Bloody Sunday.

On March 7, 1965, as Lewis and others journeyed across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama, a mob of state troopers clad in riot gear attacked.

The authorities began their onslaught on Lewis and the other marchers using tear gas before brutally escalating the assault to bullwhips and rubber tubing that had been wrapped in barbed wire.

One of the cops attacked Lewis with a nightstick, fracturing his skull and knocking him to the ground.

In the aftermath of the police killing of George Floyd, Lewis praised this generation of freedom fighters. "This feels and looks so different," he said of the Black Lives Matter Movement and other ongoing demonstrations.

"It is so much more massive and all-inclusive. There will be no turning back."

Dr. King once said that, "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."

In words, deeds, actions, thoughts, influence, practice, and conscience John Lewis was rarely silent about the things that matter. For this reason, and for so many others, his legacy will remain alive forever.

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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.

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

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