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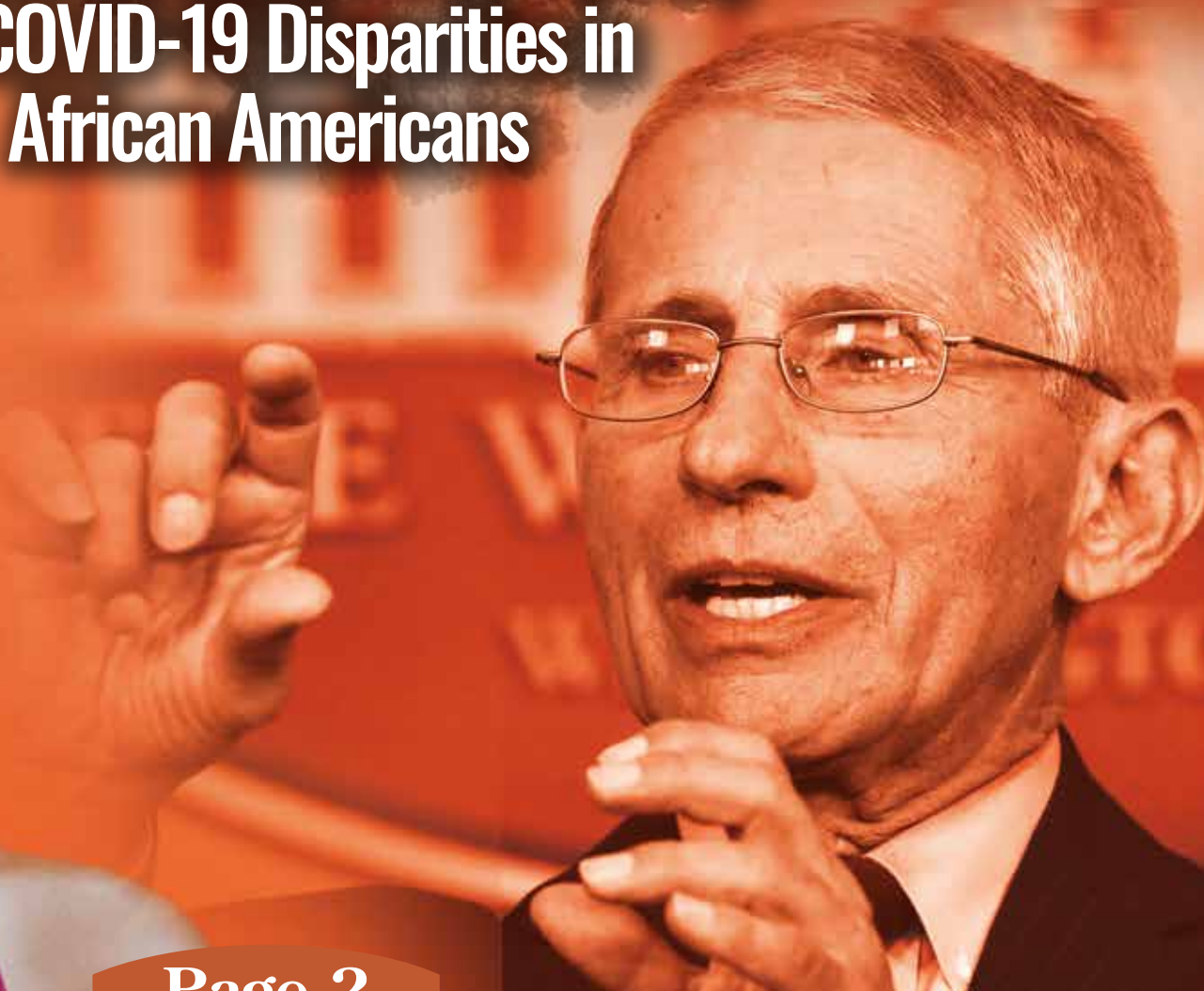
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A Data News Weekly Exclusive

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Discusses the Impact and Severity
of COVID-19 Disparities in
African Americans



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Dr. Anthony Fauci

Discusses the Impact and Severity of COVID-19 Disparities in African Americans



National Newspaper Publishers Association President and CEO, Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. believes it is important that African Americans community is informed about how to stay safe during the COVID-19 Pandemic.



Dr. Anthony Fauci, Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, spoke to BlackPress USA about COVID-19 and its impact on the African Americans community.

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior Correspondent

During a 30-minute interview with BlackPressUSA that was streamed live over Facebook, YouTube, and www.BlackPressUSA.com, Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious

Diseases, spoke of the importance of convincing African Americans to participate in clinical trials. He also said that school re-openings should depend mainly upon the location and the infection rate in a given area. Fauci also said a viable coronavirus vaccine is likely only a few months away. “The fundamental principle is that we should try as

best as we possibly can to get children back to school because we know the psychological aspect of that and the unintended consequences for mothers and fathers who may need to stop working, so we should try to get back to school,” Dr. Fauci said when asked about the impact of the pandemic on the upcoming school year. “However, paramount needs to be the safety, health,

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P.O. Box 57347, New Orleans, LA 70157-7347 | Phone: (504) 821-7421 | Fax: (504) 821-7622
editorial: datanewseditor@bellsouth.net | advertising: datanewsad@bellsouth.net

Terry B. Jones CEO/Publisher	Contributors Fleur De Lis	Art Direction & Production Pubinator.com
Edwin Buggage Editor	Tracee Dundas DNW Staff Writers	Editorial Submissions datanewseditor@bellsouth.net
Sharonda Green Executive Assistant	Dionne Character Stacy M. Brown	Advertising Inquiries datanewsad@bellsouth.net
June Hazeur Accounting	Eduardo Benitez	Distribution On The Run Courier Services

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and welfare of children, teachers, and families,” Dr. Fauci added.

“We live in a big country. Some places have low incidents and can open schools while some are high. Some areas rate of infection is so high where it’s not prudent to open schools. You don’t want to endanger their health.”

A member of the White House Coronavirus Task Force, Fauci has at times found himself at odds with President Donald Trump. For example, earlier this year, the president announced that he would withdraw U.S. funding and support for the World Health Organization (WHO). However, Dr. Fauci told BlackPressUSA that he still maintains a close relationship with the organization.

“I still work closely with the World Health Organization,” said Dr. Fauci. “I’m on a weekly phone call with them, and I signed a mem-



Dr. Fauci believes getting tested is important and also believes that African Americans participate in clinical trials of COVID-19 vaccines.

“Those co-morbidities are like diabetes, hypertension, heart disease, chronic kidney disease, and lung disease. It’s very clear that African Americans have a higher incidence, and the reality is that you suffer more.

— Dr. Anthony Fauci

orandum of understanding. We’re all in with the WHO.”

During the interview, which included National Newspaper Publishers Association President and CEO, Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., Dr. Fauci also demonstrated the proper way to wear a facemask.

“Early on, there was a shortage of masks because we didn’t want to take masks away from health providers who needed them,” Dr. Fauci remarked. “It’s easy to get a cloth mask now.”

Dr. Fauci explained further that, “when there are droplets when someone sneezes or coughs, you [are protected]. You can take it and wash it with soap and water or stick it in the washing machine.”

Addressing the disparities surrounding COVID-19 and other illnesses, Dr. Fauci pointed to many African Americans, Latinx, and Native Americans occupying essential jobs that provide employees with little — or no — protection.

“On the one hand, there’s a greater opportunity and risk of get-

ting infected, but even as important is that once you get infected, you have prevalence and incidence of co-morbidities that make it more likely you’ll get a severe outcome from the infection,” Dr. Fauci noted.

“Those co-morbidities are like diabetes, hypertension, heart disease, chronic kidney disease, and lung disease. It’s very clear that African Americans have a higher incidence, and the reality is that you suffer more.”

The hospitalization rates per 100,000 people are stunning when comparing African Americans and Caucasians, Dr. Fauci proclaimed.

“In many respects, it’s unacceptable that it should be that way,” he said, noting that the hospitalization rate per 100,000 African Americans stands at 247, compared to 53 per 100,000 whites.

“In other words, that’s almost five times the chance of getting hospitalized even though African Americans comprise just 13 percent of the [U.S.] population,” Dr. Fauci observed.

“That’s more than something we



Dr. Fauci added that there are five fundamental things everyone could do to help stop the spread of the coronavirus. “Wear a mask, avoid crowds of more than 10, keep a distance of at least six feet, locations should seriously consider closing bars and getting people who go to bars to stop or do it outside, and wash hands frequently either with soap and water or alcohol Purell.

need to deal with.”

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“Wear a mask, avoid crowds of more than 10, keep a distance of at least six feet, locations should seriously consider closing bars and getting people who go to bars to stop or do it outside, and wash hands frequently either with soap and water or alcohol Purell.”

Clinical trials are vital, Dr. Fauci said.

“We hope that we will have an effective vaccine by the end of the year, which means that as we get into 2021, we want to distribute it for those who could benefit,” he added.

“We need to spend extra effort to protect African Americans, and the way you find out if the vaccine is effective is the enrollment in a vaccine trial. It would be a terrible shame if African Americans stayed away from clinical trials, and they didn’t provide for themselves the vaccine that could protect them.”

Dr. Fauci suggested that he wears a mask everywhere he goes and demanded that doing so shouldn’t be about politics.

“This is about protecting each other. We’re all in this together,” Dr. Fauci said.

“I’m pleased to see that we now have the president talking about wearing a mask where he didn’t before, and the vice president wears a mask everywhere he goes. We’ve got to pull together.”

Whether reinfection of the coronavirus can occur remains somewhat of a mystery, Dr. Fauci explained.

“When you get infected with any virus, generally, when you recover, your body has made a good immune response to recover,” Dr. Fauci noted.

“We know that happens in people who had COVID-19. We don’t know what the duration of that is. There are varying levels of antibodies in people who recover, and what we’re following is how long they last. Some people find that it doesn’t last very long.”

He continued:

“There are other types of immunity that go beyond, and they’re called T-cells or cellular immunity, which may also play a role in protecting people from being infected. Likely a degree of protection is pretty good for a finite period.

“There are no well-documented cases of people actually being re-infected. There have been some anecdotal stories of people recovering who seemed to have gotten infected, but we don’t know. There’s no real hard evidence that’s happening.”

Made in the Shade



Tracee Dundas
Fashion Stylist

There's something interesting about putting on a pair of sunshades that brings out one's "alter ego". Maybe it's because behind the dark lens you're suddenly incognito and take on a persona of a celebrity, supermodel, or musician. Truth be told, there is a certain mystic and boost of confidence one gets when wearing a pair of sunnies. Whatever the case, sunglasses are the number one summer fashion accessory that is perfect for all ages and gender.

Tips For Selecting The Perfect Sunnies:

- > Determine your face shape and scale the frame to flatter your face.
- > Wear for 10-15 minutes to determine comfort level.
- > Choose a frame color that complements your skin tone and features.
- > Does the lens cover the eyes well to protect from dust, debris, or droplets.
- > Be certain the lens has 100% UV protection.

Interstellar and round frame, grey lens; and white linen round frame, 24K gold plated hardware, both "Louise" provided by Krewe du Optic. Fashions: Flower crown skull graphic tee paired with Pacifica cutoff shorts by Citizens of Humanity; Patriotic love tank paired with frayed hem cutoff denim shorts by For All Mankind. All from Jean Therapy

Blonde, tortoise to ash, acetate frame, amber lens "Lafitte" from Krewe du Optic; Grey, tortoise and lavender square sunnies; Evergreen Roy, Polarized gradient lenses by Salt. Both from MyEyeDr.



White linen round frame, 24K gold plated hardware "Louise"; Patriotic love tank, Matte black frame, seafood gradient mirrored lens "STL II", LA gator light blue tee; Matte ciel to blue crystal, silver mirrored flat lens "Dauphine"; Flower crown skull graphic tee. All sunglasses provided by Krewe du Optic; All fashions provided by Jean Therapy

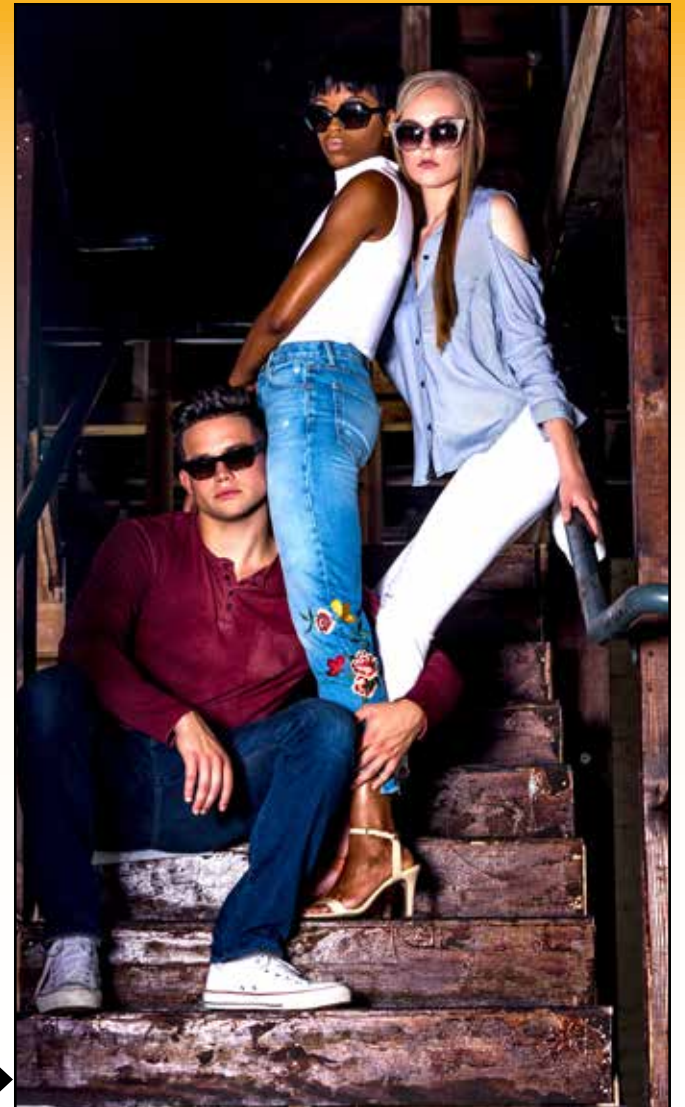


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Fashion Stylist: **Tracee Dundas**
 | @fashionablyyoursnola
 Photographer: **Eduardo Benitez**
 | @ebphotographs
 Hair: **Karlie Parker & Ashley Vu**
 Makeup: **Lauren Hebert &**
Keyanna McKenzie
 Models: **Tia Williams, Katherine**
Gainey, William Rideau

Polarized wrap around gold
 sunglasses provided by MyEyeDr.
 Burgundy long sleeve henley
 by Cotton Citizen paired with
 slim straight dark washed
 jeans by Citizens of Humanity
 both from Jean Therapy

Blonde, tortoise to ash, acetate
 frame, amber lens "Lafitte"
 from Krewe du Optic; Grey,
 tortoise and lavender square
 sunnies; Evergreen Roy,
 Polarized gradient lenses by
 Salt. Both from MyEyeDr.



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

Early Voting Begins for August 15th Election

Early Voting Sites

City Hall
 1300 Perdido Street,
 Room 1W24
 New Orleans, LA 70112

Algiers Courthouse
 225 Morgan Street,
 Room 105
 New Orleans, LA 70114

**Chef Menteur Voting
 Machine Warehouse Site**
 8870 Chef Menteur Highway
 New Orleans, LA 70126

**Lake Vista Community
 Center**
 6500 Spanish Fort Blvd.
 New Orleans, LA 70124

July 25-August 8

(excluding Sunday, July 26 and Sunday, Aug. 2)
 from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.



STOP COVID-19 NEW ORLEANS
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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

Mackenzie Scott, Former Wife of Amazon Owner Jeff Bezos gives \$20 Million Dollar Gift to Xavier University

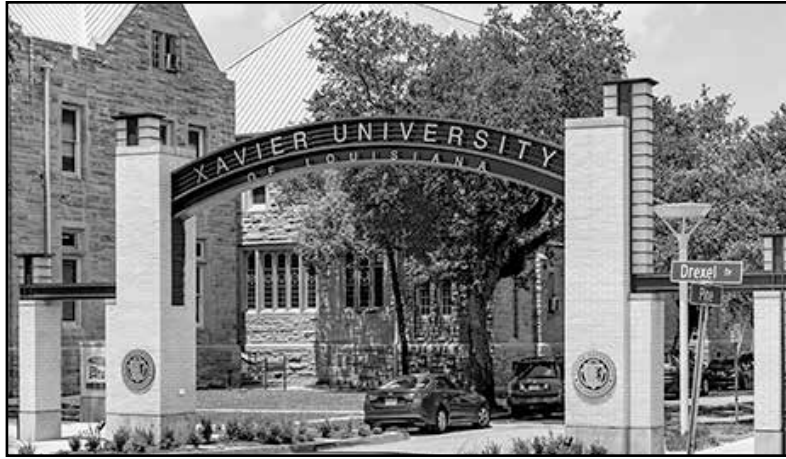
Data News Staff Edited Report

Recently, Xavier University of Louisiana received a \$20 million gift from MacKenzie Scott, the former wife of Amazon owner Jeff Bezos.

This donation to Xavier along with other HBCU's across the nation will assist many of them to continue to do the work of preparing the next generation of leaders in a country that is becoming much more diverse.

This donation to Xavier University of Louisiana is the largest private donation from an individual to date. The funds will allow the university to expand scholarships, endow new faculty positions and make investments to sustain the mission of the nation's only Catholic and Historically Black University.

The gift was secured following conversations between Xavier University of Louisiana President Reynold Verret, and representatives of the donor who



Xavier University is known for its long history of producing more African American MDs than any other institution in the United States, also federal judges, civil rights attorneys, renowned artists and musicians, business leaders, and elected officials serving on local, state and national levels.

shared Xavier's mission, student profile, and dedication to academic rigor and cultivation of service.'

"This is a remarkable demonstration of support and encouragement for Xavier and its mission, and a reminder that what we do is impor-

tant-not only at the University, but also within our global community," stated President Verret. He continued, "This gift will enhance the university's capacity to educate in the medical sciences, pharmacy, law, the arts, and the social sciences,"



MacKenzie Scott, the former wife of Amazon owner Jeff Bezos donated a \$20 million dollar gift to Xavier University of Louisiana and several other HBCU's.

The institution is known for its long history of producing more African American MDs than any other institution in the United States, also federal judges, civil rights attorneys, renowned artists and musicians, business leaders, and elected

officials – serving on local, state and national levels.

Xavier University of Louisiana has a great and rich legacy and with the donation can continue to build on this into its bright future as one of the leading HBCU's in the nation.

Queens on Thrones

We Run The World

Dionne Character Data News Weekly Contributor

Today, we have become so empowered with ideas and solutions in a society who once violated our freedom in the wake of womanhood. We have given birth to vagina monologues traced with confidence and brilliance with the stamina of resilient women who marched and screamed to the top of their lungs for equality.

We are entering board rooms with marching bands embracing our causes, waving flags of no surrender, forming sisterhoods, lifting every voice of bravery because we know we are phenomenal together as we celebrate the strength of all women across the globe who have forcefully opened closed doors, knocking them completely off hinges, breaking barriers, demonstrating women are powerhouses when it comes to change in America.

While this decade has proven that now is still not the time to be silent about equal pay, motherhood, domestic violence and sexual harassment, we have finally made our way through stereotypes col-



Dionne Character is the Essence Best Selling Author of *WildFlower: Growing From The Muck* and *7 Pairs of Black Shoes*. Character is a Female Empowerment Columnist, encouraging Women to tap into their wisdom and inner powers.

lectively as a whole, liberating ourselves through a course set for men to shine, as we can now glorify the uniqueness we possess. We are running corporations, making political decisions, carrying babies on hips to work, all, while remaining unstoppable with infant steps towards equality.

We should all join forces in exemplifying the echoes of strong women who have lost lives. Those who have given birth to young queens who will no longer suffer

but will march with pride knowing that a woman is one of the strongest human beings on earth.

Now, is the time to become a legend, using your inner voice, striking the universe with your Black Girl Magic, letting loose of all fear, realizing that you are powerful on any given day throughout the year because "We Run The World."

Dionne Character can be reached at www.characterhollywood.com.

NOPD Loses a Valued 30-Year Veteran

June Hazeur Data News Weekly Contributor

Sharon McGee Williams, a 30-year veteran of the New Orleans Police Department died on Sunday, July 26th, 2020 at the age of 54 passed due to complications from COVID-19. She was assigned to the 5th District Police Station. A drive-thru viewing was scheduled for Tuesday, August 4, from 2 PM – 4:30 PM. Everyone had to remain in their vehicles, A Funeral Service honoring Sharon's life was be held on Wednesday, August 5th, 2020. Mandated by the State of Louisiana everyone in attendance was required to



Sharon McGee Williams

adhere to all COVID-19 Restrictions. You had to wear a mask and practice social distancing.

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Newly leaked Bodycam Video Shed New Light On George Floyd Case

Data News Weekly Staff
Edited Report

In a new twist in the George Floyd case, a British media company published segments of two leaked body-worn camera videos showing the events that led up to the death of Mr. Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis police.

The Daily Mail published an article on its website accompanied by the videos. It showed about 10 minutes of video from former officer Thomas Lane's bodycam and about 18 minutes from former Officer J. Alexander Kueng's bodycam.

The two former officers' bodycam videos were made available for public viewing inside the Hennepin County Courthouse in mid-July but were prohibited from being recorded or publicly distributed.

It's unclear how the Daily Mail got the videos. The article said they were "leaked" to the company.

The videos published by the Daily Mail appeared to have been recorded on a device while they were



George Floyd, was killed by Minneapolis Police in May. His death caused protests across the globe surrounding issues of systemic racism and police reform.

played on a laptop in a courthouse conference room.

A coalition of local and national media companies, including the Star Tribune, filed a motion in July seeking their immediate release. Cahill took the issue under advisement and has not issued a decision

on the matter.

The videos, which were viewed by Star Tribune reporters in July, showed that Floyd was given no explanation for why he was being questioned before Lane pointed a gun and swore at him, touched him multiple times and forced him out

of his vehicle into the street.

Kueng, Lane and former officer Tou Thao are charged with aiding and abetting murder and manslaughter in Floyd's May 25th death. Their former colleague, Derek Chauvin, is charged with second-degree murder, third degree murder and second-degree manslaughter in the case. Prosecutors have said Chauvin knelt on Floyd's neck for nearly 8 minutes, but Kueng's video showed that it was about 9 minutes and 30 seconds.

Kueng and Lane had responded to Cup Foods on a report that Floyd had allegedly used a counterfeit \$20 bill. They arrested Floyd; Chauvin and Thao arrived later to help them.

The bodycam videos and a video recorded by a bystander showed that Floyd repeatedly told the officers he couldn't breathe, and that several bystanders pleaded with them to stop, but were ignored.

This case was the catalyst for protests around the globe regarding the issue of systemic racism and police reform.



The Future and Meaning of Sports During COVID-19

Fleur De Lis Data News
Weekly Columnist

What's up NOLA. The NBA returned to play after several months because of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

In a re-opening of the season we got to take a look at Zion Williamson and our New Orleans Pelicans. I gotta keep it real, they don't look too good, and it is going to take a major turnaround for them to get to this year's play-offs.

I have to say it is a different experience watching the games in what is a season like no other. It's had a real impact on viewing sports in general in my view. I like others love watching sports, but without the "real" sounds of fans, or the hometown crowds cheering them on inside the arenas something is missing in these games.

Pretty soon we will be embarking on the NFL season where our



As sports leagues resume, the leagues and players are rallying around issues of social justice.

Saints will be playing under some different protocols as well. While it won't be the NBA bubble, ask yourself what will happen with tailgating and the crowds of people who come together to root on the black and gold? These things are as important as the games themselves.

Sports is more than the winning

and losing of teams playing but serves a larger social purpose and is a way for people to gather and express local pride and spend time with friends, family and loved ones.

It will be interesting to think back on experiencing sports in 2020, where social messages are on the field and on jerseys. That is a good thing, but with fewer or in some cases no fans we have to consider what impact it would have.

Ask yourselves, when all the players are taking a knee, or wearing Black Lives Matter T-shirts;

what would that look and feel like with a crowd in the stands?

Thinking of this moment in history being measured by crowds of people deciding to make a statement surrounding social justice at a sporting event. This is something that would be impactful on a different level. But what we are treated to while significant, is in some ways reduced to an escapist spectacle in the face of an international pandemic.

Who would have thought, basketball and Disney, or experiencing football and soccer without the raucous crowds that's come to cheer on fans and are as much of the experience as the game itself.

The final score in these times as I am sitting with my remote at home social distancing enjoying the games, this is our immediate reality. All I can say is Wow! Until next time, to my NOLA People remember to wear your mask and stay safe!

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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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Our customers come first. Now, more than ever.

New payment options for COVID-19 relief.

At Entergy New Orleans, we recognize the immense impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on our customers and how disruptive it continues to be. And we know that now, electricity is more important than ever. So for those struggling to make ends meet, we've developed new payment options to provide some relief during these uncertain times.

Our **Enhanced Customer Assistance Plan** provides flexible payment options while waiving late fees with payment arrangements. Any customer who is experiencing financial hardship is eligible to take up to 12 months to pay their current bill and/or unpaid balances. The New Orleans City Council also approved the City Council Cares Program. Starting in July, eligible customers can receive up to \$400 in direct bill credits over four months. For more information, visit entergyneworleans.com/citycouncilcares.

For added convenience, new self-service options are available to select the extended payment arrangement that works for you. Visit entergyneworleans.com/mypaymentoptions, or select Deferred Payment on the Entergy Mobile App, or call **1-800-ENTERGY** and follow our automated response system billing and payment menu.

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