



# Newsmaker

AT&T and STEM NOLA Support Parents, Teachers and Students

# State & Local

Local Film Community Mourns Chadwick Boseman



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# Lake Charles Residents Work to Recover from the Impact of Hurricane Laura



Many homes have been damaged including the home of Carrie Tezeno, a resident of Lake Charles. She evacuated to New Orleans and is staying at the Hilton Riverside Hotel in New Orleans with her family.

#### Zoe Trask Data News Weekly Contributor

Almost 15 years after Hurricane Rita which brought extensive wind damage to Lake Charles, the Category 4 storm, Hurricane Laura, made landfall in Lake Charles, on Thursday, Aug. 20, 2020. The devastation to Lake Charles prompted a visit by President Donald Trump on Aug. 29th to survey the damage.

After the storm left the Gulf Coast, Lake Charles was in its projected path to become one of the first areas affected by it. Due to the storm's anticipated high wind speeds, heavy rainfall, and massive flooding, Louisiana officials urged residents to evacuate immediately on that Wednesday. Since the mandatory evacuation warning was of such short notice, many Lake Charles residents said they did not have an evacuation plan.

Carrie Tezeno, a Lake Charles resident, and custodian at A. A. Nelson Elementary School, said that her family was forced to evacuate through a special process.

Cover Story, Continued on page 3.



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### **Data News Weekly**

**Cover Story** 

#### www.ladatanews.com

#### Cover Story, Continued from page 2.



It will be a long recover for Lake Charles residents and people from New Orleans are already lending a hand to help evacuees.

"First, we went to College Oaks Elementary school," Tezeno said. "Then, a school bus came and drove us to Burton Coliseum, where the National Guard were," she added.

Like many other forced evacuees, they were completely unaware of their destination ahead.

### "We didn't know where we were going," Tezeno said.

Eventually, Tezeno's family and other evacuees arrived at the Hilton Riverside Hotel in New Orleans. Although residents said at the Hilton Riverside, they were granted a safe shelter, many of them struggled to get adjusted to the new circumstances. Tezeno's 24-year-old autistic son was especially having a hard time getting used to an unfamiliar environment.

"Autistic people do not like change, and he's one of them," Tezeno said. "I showed him the pictures of our home, and I told him that we have no water and no lights. We have to stay here until we can go back," she added.

Despite their devastating reality, Tezeno said she reassured her son to remain hopeful about the future.

"I comfort him, tell him that I love him, and we take turns watching our favorite TV programs," she said.

While some evacuees said they are trying to cope with their situation, others said they were still curious about what had happened to their homes. Many of their initial thoughts about the hurricane involved whether or not their neighborhoods could withstand the storm's winds.

Australia Malveaux, a Lake Charles resident who works as a Home Health Aide, said that she began to worry about the possible amount of damage that was soon to come.



Houses all over Lake Charles and surrounding areas have been damaged by the storm.



Gov. John Bel Edwards and the Trump Administration are working to get resources to help the people of Lake Charles and others across the state affected by Hurricane Laura.

"I was wondering how bad it was gonna be," Malveaux said. "I heard that some of the other apartments on 5th Avenue were in bad shape," she added.

Dozens of homes were completely demolished during the hurricane, and residents taking shelter in New Orleans and elsewhere said they were uncertain about how they are going to recover. Those that lived alone said they will have an especially difficult time rebuilding.

Jeffrey Cornelius, a 55-year-old Lake Charles resident, said that getting back on his feet alone will be a tough job.

"It's gonna be hard to rebuild something that you can't work with," Cornelius said.

Not only were residents worried about their homes, they were also worried about their loved ones. It



Jeffrey Cornelius, a 55-year-old Lake Charles resident, said that getting back on his feet alone will be a tough job.



was up to those that remained in Lake Charles to save anyone that they could, including pets. However, the hurricane was too brutal even for animals. In addition to losing his home, Cornelius said that he lost his beloved pets to the storm.

"I have a best friend that was supposed to be taking care of my dogs, but the water was too high," Cornelius stated. "He couldn't save them," he added.

Although many residents are grieving their recent losses, some were already mourning before the storm. Mary Francis, a Lake Charles resident, and grandmother said that the current year was already off to a rough start.

"2020 just kicked off wrong for me," Francis said. "One of my older brothers passed away, and it has been downhill since then. There is no recovering from that," she added.

The State of Louisiana and the rest of the country had suffered plenty of hardships throughout 2020. With the current unemployment rate, the COVID-19 Pandemic, and transitional homelessness, residents said they are still uncertain about regaining their normal lives again. Despite all of this, they said they were trying to remain positive by holding on to their faith. "I trust and believe in God and put everything into his hands," Cornelius said.

#### How You Can Help Hurricane Laura Victims:

Saint Catherine of Siena Parish Church-To view their relief efforts, go to

https://scschurch.com/laura. Contact them at (504) 835- 9343.

United Way of Southeast Louisiana- To donate, go to https:// www.unitedwaysela.org, to give hygienic supplies go to United Way, 2515 Canal St., Monday, and Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Contact them at (504) 822-5540.

Junior League Donation Drop Off- To donate clothing, go to Junior League, 4319 Carondelet St., Monday, and Tuesday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Contact them at (504) 891-5845.

Second Harvest Food Bank- To donate, go to Hurricane Laura Response

Salvation Army- To donate, go to give.helpsalvationarmy.org

Red Cross- To donate, go to Hurricane Laura: Disaster Relief Donations | Red Cross

AmeriCares- To donate, go to Hurricane Laura Dedicated Relief Fund

### Data News Weekly Data Zone

www.ladatanews.com

# Suit Slayer



**Tracee Dundas** Fashion Stylist



**EFFORTLESS GENT** Olive green slim fit, 2-button jacket with notch lapel, square outer pockets, floral pocket square, matching color tapered fit slacks; crisp white open collar shirt. Available at Fellow Menswear.

Photographer: Shannon Grant | @posche2017

Fashion Stylist: **Tracee Dundas** | @fashionablyyoursnola

Hair & Makeup: **Brittany Bond** with Maison de Cheveux Salon

Fashions:

Fellow Menswear | @fellowmenswear Female: Jolie & Elizabeth | @jolieandelizabeth

Models: Frank Hawkins, Chris Cook, Lauren Swan

Special Thanks to **W Hotel** French Quarter for Location



CODE BLUE

Cobalt blue, slim fit, 2-button jacket with peak lapel, slender-cut slacks with fly front; crisp white open collar shirt. Available at Fellow Menswear



THREE'S COMPANY

Rose pink, slender cut, 2-button jacket with square outer pockets, slim fit slacks; white button front dress shirt. Navy, 3-piece windowpane slim fit suit, Soft pink button front dress shirt. All available at Fellow Menswear. ON HER: Coral Chiffon top, with V-neck front and back and mint seersucker A-line cut dress. Designed and available at Jolie & Elizabeth.



AT EASE Navy, 3-piece windowpane slim fit suit, Soft pink button front dress shirt. Available at Fellow Menswear.



**UNE JOLIE FEMME** Red Seersucker, off-the-shoulder, knee length, sheath dress. Designed and available at Jolie & Elizabeth.



ALPHA MALE Blue with white pinstripe suit, 2-button jacket, flap pockets, slender fit slacks, white buttondown shirt with solid navy tie, print pocket square. Available at Fellow Menswear.

### Data News Weekly Data Zone

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### Chefs, Cooks, and Lifestyle Enthusiasts from Around The World come Together to Launch the First Black-Owned Cooking Network

Taste On T.V. Created to give Voice to the Food and Culture of People of Color

#### Edwin Buggage Editor-in-Chief

The world is about to experience the flavor that feeds the world.

Tasteavision Media Inc., a Los Angeles based media company, started by New Orleans native Terance Quilens, is set to launch Taste On T.V. this Labor Day Weekend.

Taste on T.V. is a 24-hour all cooking and lifestyle channel dedicated to highlighting the voices, culture, and food of African Americans and People of Color that showcases the marvel and splendor of culinary traditions that pleases palates across the globe.

For Quilens, known by some in New Orleans as "Tajee" food and the arts have always been a part of his life.

"Being born and raised in New Orleans I've always been inspired by food watching my grandmother winning competitive cooking contests, watching cooking shows and just tasting great food in a City where great food is everywhere."

While there are a few stars of color that's on the culinary scenes; there are so many Black chefs, whether they work at a five-star Michelin resturant and trained at Le Cordon Bleu, or they are the Gumbo Man at a second line, the Black cooking tradition is a rich tapestry that Quilens wants to expose people to with Taste on T.V.

"This network is designed to feature people of color not represented on television. Or the portrayals are often inaccurate and superficial. I want this network to pull the veil off these amazing traditions and inform the world who we are through the lens of different cuisine by people of color from around the world."

Being from New Orleans where there are so many people with multiple talents everywhere; this is also the case with Quilens, who has been a music performer, working with the first family of Funk, and the Neville's. He says that music will also be incorporated into shows on the network.

"Music is just part of my DNA," says Quilens. "And it will definitely be integrated into the shows as well as art and fashion."

Taste on T.V. will roll out more than 20 new show titles featuring talent from around the U.S., South Africa, Ghana, and the United Kingdom.

Programming will cover a wide range of topics that aim to adequately reflect communities of color from a variety of angles to tell a complete



Christelle Fonkem Show - At Home with Christelle



Percy Robinson Show - DiaBEAST



Carmen Friday Show - Cooking With Carmen



Mel Raby - New Orleans Native Show - Cooking & Thingz With Mel Raby Baby



Yvette Summers Show - Shaking It Up



Delvon Glover - Chef Dell Show -Dish'n with Dell



Tasteavsion Media's founder and Taste On T.V. President Terance Quilens Sr. is a New Orleans native based in Los Angeles. Taste On T.V. will roll out more than 20 new show titles featuring talent from around the U.S., South Africa, Ghana, and the United Kingdom.

story of a people and their rich heritage.

The network will officially go live on September 4th at 8 pm Eastern Standard Time with special programming from network personalities and performances from a variety of music artists.

To catch all the action, Taste ON T.V. will be available to watch on ROKU through native mobile applications that can be downloaded for Android (GooglePlay Store) and iPhone IOS (App Store).

"We are excited about the network and want all people regardless of their background to watch. Taste ON T.V. is for all people, so I ask please come watch and be entertained, informed and inspired by what we have on our menu of great programming."

For show schedules and further information or to learn more about the Taste on T.V. Family, please visit www.tasteontv.com.





## AT&T and STEM NOLA Support Parents, Teachers and Students Throughout COVID-19 School Closures

Part of AT&T's \$10 Million Distance Learning and Family Connections Fund

#### Data News Weekly Staff Writers

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NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 18, 2020 – With an estimated 55 million students now learning from home in the U.S. alone, AT&T\* created the Distance Learning and Family Connections Fund to give parents, students and teachers tools they need. The fund also provides resources to maintain meaningful connections and bonding opportunities for those isolated from family and friends.

As part of this fund, AT&T is contributing \$100,000 to STEM NOLA to support the organization's COVID response as they move their workshops and afterschool activities to a virtual platform.

"STEM NOLA has been a consistent leader in our community – and in many other communities – bringing innovative skills and training to underserved communities, inspiring young people to pursue greater opportunities throughout their lives, and the support of business leaders like AT&T is key to STEM NOLA's continuing efforts to reach more people and cultivate hope and confidence," said Lambert Boissiere, Louisiana Public Service Commissioner, District 3.

STEM NOLA designs and delivers activities, programs & events



David Aubrey, AVP for AT&T, Kelisha Garret, Executive Director, New Orleans Regional Black Chamber of Commerce (NORBCC), Tracy Mackie, Founder of STEM NOLA, Dr. Calvin Mackie, Founder and CEO of STEM NOLA, Michael J. Ruffin, Regional Director for AT&T. Photos by Terry Jones.

that bring inspiration, motivation, and training to all STEM stakeholders, specifically focusing on underserved communities.

"My team and I are passionate about preparing young people to be the next generation of innovators, makers and creators, and I am thrilled when I find members of the business community who share that passion. AT&T has stood with STEM NOLA for years, and their commitment to skills development and support for area youth in the STEM fields is exceptional," said Dr. Calvin Mackie, Founder and CEO of the Center for the Innovative Training of Youth d/b/a STEM NOLA.

As circumstances surrounding COVID-19 change daily, so too does the impact on our communities. To best allocate resources from the Distance Learning and Family Connections Fund, we're working alongside families, educators, and community leaders to understand the challenges they will face in the days and weeks to come. To learn about additional tools and resources available nationwide through the Fund visit our site.

"Dr. Mackie and STEM NOLA have been a consistent presence

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over the years in New Orleans and across Louisiana, supporting our youth and preparing them to be leaders in our communities," said Sonia Perez, President, AT&T Southeast States. "We are proud to support the work he and his team do to prepare young people with the 21st Century skills they need to be successful in today's economy, and their efforts are a perfect fit for support from AT&T's Distance Learning and Family Connections Fund."

For parents and caregivers, we know this time has brought a multitude of new and unexpected challenges. And we also know the need for broadband connectivity has never been greater. For that reason, we have several initiatives to help keep students connected and continuing their education:

• We are committed to making home internet affordable with our Access from AT&T Program. This program provides home internet access at \$10 a month for limited income households. We've also increased eligibility to households participating in the National School Lunch Program and Head Start.

#### About Philanthropy & Social Innovation at AT&T

AT&T Inc. is committed to advancing education, strengthening communities, and improving lives. Through its community initiatives, AT&T has a long history of investing in projects that create learning opportunities; promote academic and economic achievement; or address community needs. The company's signature philanthropic initiative, AT&T Aspire, drives innovation in education to promote student success in school and beyond. With a financial commitment of \$600 million since 2008, AT&T is leveraging technology, relationships, and social innovation to help all students make their biggest dreams a reality.

# Panel Examines the State of Social Justice in Light of Continued Police Shootings.

#### Nigell Moses Data News Weekly Contributor

A culmination of fear, anger and hope describes the emotional toll of racism and the injustices African Americans in the United States endure each day. Although African Americans account for 13-percent of the United States population, they comprise 28 percent of those killed by police this year. The continued incidences of police shootings in August of African American males after the murder of George Floyd has left many in the community searching for answers.

"We're all impacted by this in some kind way," said Tylan Nash, the Director of Diversity and Inclusion for Xavi-



The panel participants were (from left to right) Nneka Ogbor, Associate Director of Diversity and Inclusion with the Student Government Association at Xavier University; Tylan Nash, Director of Diversity and Inclusion for Xavier's Student Government Association; Dr. Ashley Baker, Chief Inclusion officer for Xavier's Office of Inclusion and Social Justice; Rev. Dr. Mitchell Stevens, Interfaith Chaplain for Campus Ministry; Glenn Caston, Inclusion and Social Justice Officer for Xavier's OISJ; Larry Mason, President of Mobilization at Xavier 2.0; and DeShaunya Ware, Coordinator for Leadership Development for Xavier's Center for Student Involvement.

er University's Student Government Association. The virtual public panel discussion on Black Lives Matter was organized by Xavier's Office of Inclusion and Social Justice on Aug. 28th. "This could've been me, my brothers, my mother, my father, anybody that I know. I think it's important we talk about this and process our feelings."

The panel reflected on the most recent victims of police violence: 29-year-old Jacob Blake, who was paralyzed from the waist down after being shot in the back by a police officer in Kenosha, Wisc., and 31-year-old Trey Pellerin, who was killed by police officers in Lafayette, LA. The criminal history of the victims, the panelists pointed out, is often used to justify the crimes committed against them. "The closer it gets, the more we start to process our feelings, because what we realize is that it's not as distant," said Glenn Caston, the Inclusion and Social Justice officer at Xavier.

The combination of both police brutality, and the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on the African American community has worsened the overall state of mental health within the Black community, seven months into the Pandemic, the panelists said. Disconnected from normal daily activities and routines, the constant media images of police harassment, racial profiling and COVID-19 deaths has become an overwhelming burden

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Data News Weekly, "The People's Paper, is looking for freelence 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.

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# Local Film Community Mourns Chadwick Boseman

#### Alexa Green Data News Weekly Contributor

The news of Black Panther Actor Chadwick Boseman's death to colon cancer on Aug. 28, 2020 sent the Hollywood community and his fans into mourning for the loss of the first Black superhero lead on screen. Boseman, who played iconic roles of Jackie Robinson in 42, James Brown in Get On Up, and Thurgood Marshall in Marshall was 43, when he passed away. Family, friends, fans, and all those Boseman had crossed paths with and who were inspired by his work reflected on his character and legacy.

"It was such a great privilege to work with Chadwick Boseman. I witnessed how in tune he was with his role as Black Panther," said Joseph Singletary, III, a New Orleans native and actor and stunt man, who was part of the cast and stunt cast for Black Panther, Avengers: Infinity War and Avengers: Endgame.



**Chadwick Boseman as Black Panther** 

Singletary who won the 2019 SAG-AFTRA Award for Black Panther for Best Stunt Performance along with the stunt team, said Boseman was a true leader on set.

"I truly believe that he believed he was a real superhero. It showed in his performance. Even how he moved around on set looked heroic, very focused. When he gave a direction, he spoke like a King! That alone was a lesson for me," Singletary said.

Boseman, who was a graduate of Howard University, in addition to acting, established himself in many other aspects of the film industry – from writing, to directing, and producing. His diverse skills inspired Prinsey Walker, a New Orleans native and film student at the University of New Orleans who is now launching her career in the local film industry.

"Upon receiving news of Chadwick Boseman's passing, my chest caved in," Walker said. She noted that Boseman began a very mainstream acting career later in his life. She said his story gave hope to actors in their 30s and 40s that they can achieve the Hollywood dream.

"Boseman was a Black man starring in multi-million-dollar films, proving that African American men are more than drug dealers and murders on screen. He taught younger male actors not to fall into the niche the White-male film industry has built for people of color," Walker said.

"Now, he inspires the world to use the time allowed in life, to do all one can to fulfill their mission. Honestly, without the suit, Boseman is a superhero," Walker added.

### Social Justice, Continued from page 6.

for African Americans.

"When we separate ourselves from what's heavy, what's weighed on us, we separate ourselves from the triggers that are burdening our hearts," said Rev. Dr. Mitchell Stevens, the Interfaith Chaplain for Xavier's Campus Ministry.

Despite many being on the frontlines of the Black Lives Matter Movement attending protests and marches, there are other forms of activism the community can engage in, the panelists said.

"I think the best way that we can be activists is to point out the injustice whenever we are faced with it," said Nneka Ogbor, the Associate Director of Diversity and Inclusion for Xavier's Student Government Association.

Helping those in need is one way to direct frustration into positive action. Student leaders said they will work to organize hurricane relief for families in the state that have been affected by Hurricane Laura.

"Being able to just coordinate and understand this work is bigger than all of us, why not share the load and establish this coalition to be able to provide for people," said Larry Mason, the President of Mobilization at Xavier 2.0 and the Coordinator of Community Initiatives.

### Mayor Cantrell Commemorates Hurricane Katrina 15th Anniversary with Wreath Laying



Mayor Cantrell Commemorates Hurricane Katrina 15th Anniversary with Wreath Laying

#### City of New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS — Mayor LaToya Cantrell today commemorated the 15th Anniversary of Hurricane Katrina with a wreath-laying ceremony hosted by the Crescent City Funeral Directors and Embalmers Association, the Orleans Embalmers and Associates, and the Louisiana Morticians and Funeral Directors Association, at the New Orleans Katrina Memorial in front of Charity Hospital Cemetery.

"On Aug. 29, 2005, our city was forever changed. 15 years later, we still honor those who paid the ultimate sacrifice. We lost sisters, brothers, daughters, sons, moth-

ers and fathers, and grandparents, all across our city. It opened a dark chapter that brought pain, and tested our resolve and resiliency," said Mayor Cantrell. "This past week, we stared down two potentially devastating storms. We came together as a team and prepared for the worst, and we avoided catastrophe. Still, our neighbors in Southwest Louisiana did not, so just as others supported us in our time of need, we continue to pledge our support in the aftermath of Hurricane Laura. I ask all of you to stay vigilant throughout the rest of an active season."

"As we reflect on this anniversary, please know that together we have proven our strength and ability to overcome," Mayor Cantrell added. "The scars run deep this time of year, but we have the ability to rise up in the face of devastation. Thanks to all of our people who worked so hard in the trenches to rebuild our neighborhoods in particular and our city as a whole. Today, we remember that we will never stop, that we will stand together, and we will stand strong. May God bless you, and may God bless the City of New Orleans."

Mayor Cantrell was joined by City Councilmembers Jason Williams (President), Helena Moreno (Vice President), Joe Giarrusso (District A) and Kristin Gisleson Palmer (District C). Music was provided by Dr. Michael White and Africa Master Drummer and Congo Square Preservation Society Member Luther Gray with accompaniment. The Rev. Robert Jackson and Sandra Rhodes Duncan (Board Chair, New Orleans Katrina Memorial Foundation) also provided remarks, with Norman Robinson serving as Master of Ceremonies.

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# **COVID-19 VACCINE RESEARCH STUDY**



# **VOLUNTEER & MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

Every modern vaccine and medicine we have today was first tested in clinical trials involving hundreds to thousands of people before becoming available to the public. This COVID-19 vaccine study will enroll up to 30,000 adults, and each and every person involved plays a powerful role. By choosing to volunteer, you will represent people like you – in age, gender, race, ethnicity, and the communities where you live. Involving people from all backgrounds will improve the development of this vaccine for everyone.

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PARTICIPANTS WILL BE **RANDOMLY ASSIGNED** (BY CHANCE) TO RECEIVE

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## WHAT TO EXPECT







RACK THEIR HEALTH AND REPORT ANY COVID-19 SYMPTOMS FOR 2 YEARS

**AFTER THEIR INJECTIONS** 

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