

Lighting The Road To The Future

New Orleans

Data

News Weekly

"The People's Paper"

FREE COPY

The Life, Legacy and Impact of Chadwick Boseman

Data Zone
Page 5

September 12 - September 18, 2020 55th Year Volume 20 www.ladatanews.com

A Data News Weekly Exclusive



ABCT Teens Asks

What's Going On?

Page 2



Newsmaker

Jeremiah 30

(YA'AQOV'S Trouble)

Page 6

Dollars & Sense

About the American Dream



Page 7

ABCT Teens Asks

What's Going On?

Edwin Buggage
Editor-in-Chief

Anthony Bean Community Theater (ABCT), has for over two decades made an impact in the community using the arts as a way to engage them in pursuing excellence in the arts as well as life.

Bean is now launching a new endeavor, a TV program called “What’s Going On” where he hopes it can have a positive impact on the community. Bean says it will give teenagers a chance to speak out on issues they face every day.

The show also includes dramatizations of selected topics and issues teenagers struggle with, and the teens will further explore the causes and offer solutions. Other subjects will include the BlackLivesMatter Movement, sex, fears, drugs, life, loss, crime, challenges, bullying, theft, racial discrimination, and systemic racism.

“What’s Going On” will feature interviews with community leaders including New Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrell, Health Educator Dr. Corey Herbert and a special episode sponsored by former City Councilman Arnie Fielkow focusing on Black and Jewish teens discussing racial relations. The discussions directly focus not only on the problems but also provide tools and resources for solutions.

Data News Weekly reached out to the show’s co-hosts where they spoke about the program and what people can expect and how the experience impacted their lives.

Samantha White

“What’s Going On” was such an enlightening show to be on. As a teen, I learned from each topic discussed on the show. I want teens to take something from “What’s Going On.” I hope the show makes the youths more aware of being Black in America. To Black teens out there, your skin is beautiful! As a race, we should not be brought down by standards set in place for how Blacks



For over two decades, the Anthony Bean Community Theater has been making an impact in the community.

Cover Story, Continued on page 3.

INSIDE DATA

Cover Story	2	Special	6
Data Zone	4	Dollars & Sense	7
Newsmaker	6		

DATA NEWS WEEKLY

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	Contributors	Art Direction & Production
CEO/Publisher	Sharonda “Esther” Green	Pubinator.com
Edwin Buggage	Hope Byrd	Editorial Submissions
Editor	Eric Connerly	datanewseditor@bellsouth.net
Sharonda Green	Fleur De Lis	Advertising Inquiries
Executive Assistant	Ryan Taylor	datanewsad@bellsouth.net
June Hazeur	Aviwe DuBois	Distribution
Accounting	Edwin Buggage	On The Run
		Courier Services

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.

Cover Story, Continued from page 2.

should look, act, and live. I want the youths to realize their worth and standing up for what's right, regardless of race. "What's Going On" uses New Orleans' locals to teach the youths that we have more power than we know.

Benjamin Sulcer

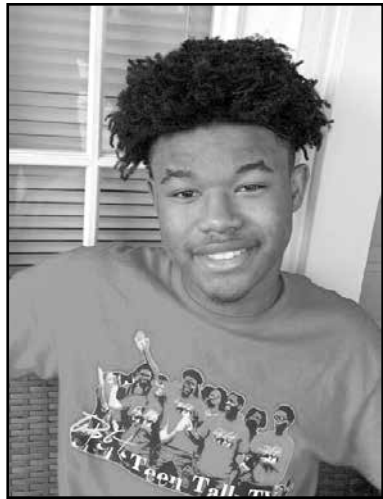
On "What's Going On" I had so much fun getting to know everyone and getting familiar with how production is done. The subjects we talk about on the show are some of a large number of topics that need

**Samantha White (Co-Host)**

to be talked about. I learned a lot about social issues, social politics, and the overall knowledge of my people. I hope every teen will watch and see the bigger picture and choose to educate themselves further on these matters. My vision for the City is that we become closer and put an end to the oppression of every person regardless of race or religion. Lastly, the way I see the world is that we are separated, and we need to come together to make an impact on the planet.

Amira Konate

My experience with being on "What's Going On" was terrific.

**Benjamin Sulcer (Co-Host)**

While on the set, I felt so much support and love from the cast and crew. We pushed and encouraged each other to be confident and to do better than they had in the last



Above: ABCT Founder Anthony Bean and New Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrell, with ABCT Kids on the set of "What's Going On" a local show aimed at addressing a variety of issues.

show. Being on the show was like being a part of a big family. This show will help a lot of teens and tweens, and it has helped me already.

I have learned about people who are different and who deserve respect. I have learned about the perseverance of local actors and actresses. While teens watch our show, I think they'll be able to learn some of those things and more. My hope is that teens see someone on "What's Going On" that they felt spoke to them or that repre-

**Amira Konate (Co-Host)**

sented them. I also hope that teens can learn to love themselves from watching our show. After our show premieres, I'm sure that the city can learn to accept and respect others, love each other through the historical pain, and to respect community leaders.

Kairie Simone

In my opinion, ABCT Teen Talk is truly "one of a kind" because it allows us as teens to come together to discuss relevant issues impacting us. Where can we freely talk

without someone saying, "you don't know your only a kid" or referred to a conversation being strictly for "grown folks." Also, the show is a platform where I am free to converse with others without fear of judgment by others. Our voices matter, and they have people who do care about us.

It was empowering and such an honor in interviewing our first Female Mayor, Ms. LaToya Cantrell, about the pressing issues and concerns negatively impacting our City.

**Kairie Simone (Co-Host)**

As well as discussing COVID-19 with Dr. Corey Hebert, known to many in the City and nationally as "The Doctor for The People," speaking to help alleviate some fears about the Pandemic. Also, interviewing some of our local actors who've contributed significantly to ABCT like Mr. Lance Nichols, Ms. Gwendolyn Foxworth, and Mr. Joshua J. Williams in learning their stories, providing advice for someone like me who is interested in pursuing a career in drama.

My experience on the show was out of this world. The camera crew, director, and makeup artists were



"What's Going On" will feature a special episode sponsored by former City Councilman Arnie Fielkow focusing on Black and Jewish teens discussing racial relations. The discussions directly focus not only on the problems but also provide tools and resources for solutions.

phenomenal. They always kept you motivated and had a lot of good energy!

Not to mention, one of my favorite episodes was interviewing Jewish teens who helped me to better understand in learning that despite our cultural differences we still have the same struggles. It opened my eyes to see that we, as people are more alike than different in the world regardless of race, creed, and religion, etc. I hope that other teens learn again that our voices matter, we must stick together so that we can make a difference in the world. Growing up in the world in which we live can be shocking and fearful due to violence, but change is possible. My vision for this city as I grow is that we have done better. We clean up our City and stop the violence. I wholeheartedly believe that we can get better by being a part of the change. We are the next generation that can and will make a difference. And I plan on being a part of it.

Furthermore, ABCT Talk is needed in the community because it allows a safe space for teens to discuss social issues and a positive way to do so.

TV Listings and Schedule for ABCT Teen TV

Episode 1: ABCT Teens talk about issues with Mayor LaToya Cantrell on Saturday 12th, on My54-WUPL at 11:30 AM.

Episode 2: ABCT Speak with Dr. Corey J. Hebert...On healthy lifestyles. It is airing on Saturday 19th, on My54-WUPL at 11:30 AM.

Episode 3: Veteran character Actor Lance Nichols and Award-winning Actress, Gwendolyn Foxworth, and newcomer, Joshua J. Williams shared their passion for the stage and screen. It is airing Saturday, September 26th, on My54-WUPL at 11:30 AM.

Episode 4: ABCT Teens discuss Systemic Racism in New Orleans Theaters with local Artistic Theater Directors. It is airing on Saturday, October 3rd, on My54-WUPL at 11:30 AM.

Episode 5: ABCT faces the concerns and challenges of being a Black teen. With Dr. Clyde Robertson and Dr. Ben Robertson. It is airing on Saturday, October 10th, on My54-WUPL at 11:30 AM.

Episode 6: ABCT Teens interrelate with Jewish Teens. An Interfaith Journey Towards Justice. It is airing on Sunday, October 11th, on My54-WUPL at 12:30 AM.

Final Episode 7: Teen Gay. 'Coming Out Story' among ABCT Teens. It is airing on Saturday, October 17th, on My54-WUPL at 11:30 AM.

Saints Begin the 2020 Season

The Boys in Black and Gold are Back

Fleur De Lis
Data News Weekly Columnist

It's that time of year again where dem boys in Black and Gold get out on the field and show their stuff. For the last two seasons, the Saints were one of the best teams in the league. One of those years the infamous "no call" kept them from appearing in the Super Bowl. Last season ended with a lackluster performance in the play-offs, ending the season for the Black and Gold.

This year because of COVID-19, the Superdome will not be filled with loyal Saints fans cheering them on. But of course in true New Orleans fashion, fans will support the team as they have through the best and worse years for the Saints.

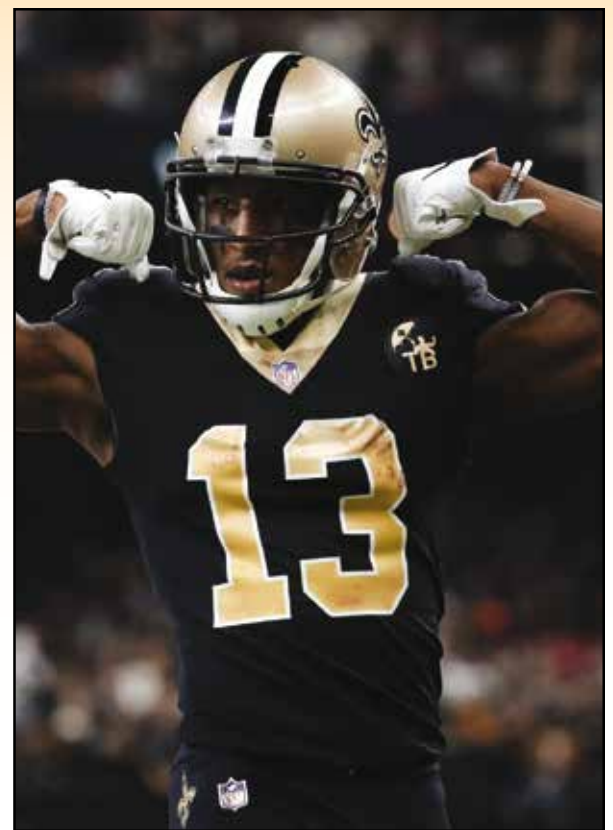
They begin the season with a match-up that may be one the most watched games of the season where two of the greatest quarterbacks of this generation will face-off. Drew Brees vs. Tom Brady, who is now a member of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.



Drew Brees returns after a controversy in the off-season to lead the Saints offense.

These two will not only battle it out for who is the G.O.A.T. (Greatest of All Time), but also who will reign supreme in the NFC South.

This season is starting off with a bang and we in "Who Dat Nation" will support with our masks on and all. And as always the goal being the Black and Gold getting to the Super Bowl.



League leading wide receiver Michael Thomas will be back this year and is one of the Saints most potent offensive weapons.

VIRTUALNNPA2020.COM

VIRTUAL NNPA 2020
NATIONAL LEADERSHIP
AWARDS RECEPTION
BLACK VOTES MATTER

MOBILIZING & MAXIMIZING GOTV

		
The Honorable Yvette D. Clarke U.S. Congresswoman (D-NY 9th District)	The Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee U.S. Congresswoman (D-TX 18th District)	The Honorable Bennie G. Thompson U.S. Congressman (D-MS 2nd District)
		
The Honorable Muriel Bowser Mayor, District of Columbia	Michelle Matthews-Alexander Director Multicultural Strategies, GM Brands General Motors	Major Neill Franklin Executive Director Law Enforcement Action Partnership
		
	Dr. Gloria Ladson-Billings Professor Emerita Department of Curriculum & Instruction Wakeham University	

SEPTEMBER 17, 2020
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

WWW.VIRTUALNNPA2020.COM #VIRTUALNNPA2020



All-Pro defensive standout Cam Jordan continues to be a force both on and off the field.



Far left and near left: Members of the "Who Dat Nation" supporting the Black and Gold. This year will be different because of COVID-19, but Saints fans are diehards and will be cheering the team on masks and all.

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

Celebrating Black Excellence

The Life, Legacy and Impact of Chadwick Boseman

Eric Connerly
Data News Weekly Contributor

With the untimely passing of Chadwick Boseman, who was for this generation our Sidney Poitier, bringing pride to African Americans playing positive and uplifting characters to the screen. Today many are binge watching movies and programs on various streaming services as their primary form of entertainment.

In the spirit of promoting Black Excellence and Celebrating the Life of this remarkable talent; I would like to suggest that all African Americans take the time to watch four films starring Chadwick Boseman. In these movies he gives us all something to be proud of and aspire to.



42: Boseman portrays Jackie Robinson, in a breakout role.



Black Panther: Boseman portrays T'Challa, king and protector of fictional African nation, Wakanda. The Marvel film set records at the box office earning over 1 billion dollars.



Marshall: Boseman plays famed Civil Rights Attorney and first African American U.S. Supreme Court Justice, Thurgood Marshall.



Get on Up: Boseman plays the Godfather of Soul, James Brown.

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

Jeremiah 30

(YA'AQOV'S Trouble)

By Sharonda "Esther" Green
Local Artist
Photos by Hope Byrd
@thefra.me

Blackmasking.org Jeremiah 30 (YA'AQOV'S Trouble) The Name of This Painting & Times That We Are in Local artist Sharonda "Esther" (Art by Sharonda) was commissioned by City Hall to produce several custom paintings for their office spaces. The theme for this painting wasn't selected by coincidence. The office manager wanted a painting that captured the spirit of New Orleans and his purpose for being here. This ambitious concept deserved research and truth. "Sharonda responded by saying we "ALL" have a major role in these times. Everything happens for a reason. The Most High guided me here and he shall reveal what needs to be displayed". Coming up with the painting concept: Sharonda says during these times of COVID-19 the project was unexpectedly placed to a halt. There were some major questions that needed to be answered. What is your purpose? What change will you bring? What will you allow? What will you stand for? In that



Sharonda "Esther" standing in front of City Hall with Terry Jones, Publisher of Data News Weekly displaying the painting she was commissioned to paint by City Hall to produce several custom paintings for their office spaces.

moment she remembered what the Most High told her, her purpose was, to edify him through the fruits of her labor. Sharonda knew exactly what to paint and thought to herself and said, "what a great time to be alive". "To be able to see prophecy unfold, and to be here for times just as this." Today Sharonda is standing in front of a 4-foot x 5-foot inch painting titled: Jeremiah 30 (YA'AQOV'S Trouble).

Description of the painting:

The community of New Orleans is a resilient people. Many are filled with talent and the na-

tives to the city still recognize the indigenous ways and culture that set them apart. As a means to see the silver lining in things despite the uncertainty of what's upon us such as: COVID-19, Hurricane Season, Coin Shortage and This Upcoming Election. To the minor struggles such as: Potholes in the Streets etc. This painting is a representation of how much work, tolerance, and faith one must possess in times such as this. The painting displays a trumpet sounding; as the city and its community intake obstacles, decisions, and change. Sharonda's painting includes the

City Hall building as one of the major catalysts for change, as well as featuring Data News Weekly. Terry B Jones "The Peoples Paper" was chosen "because of all that it represents for the City of New Orleans. Data News Weekly has been around highlighting Black locals and their accomplishments for over 50 plus years, and he stands righteously by his slogan" says Sharonda. The artist made sure that these aspects were incorporated in her painting, before being completed.

About the artist:

Sharonda is known for her custom creations within the CBD. You can find her art throughout various (receptionist/waiting area, and office spaces), hosting private sip and paint parties where she instructs (all age groups are welcome), and she has been a feature face painter for the last four years at the Andouille Festival (St. John the Baptist Parish). Sharonda says that as an artist it has allowed her to share her testimony, and to be able to network and connect with other lovers of the arts. Sharonda says the purpose is to capture culture, love of the

community, and peace; while following the direction of where the Most High 'Ruach Ha'Mashiach' leads her.

What this opportunity meant:

What a time as this to release hope from my opportunity and spread some light in these prophetic times. Sharonda says that this opportunity has allowed her to step back and to paint the depiction of a historical time such as now. The same way the greats like Leonardo de Vinci did in his time. The artist says its humbling to her to have been able to "express what is currently happening without white washing, and to be able to depict today's truth without deceiving is an honor" @Artbyshornda wants everybody to rejoice in this time as the Trumpet in the painting suggest. She says "what is truly taking place is an amazing revelation, and I challenge everyone to read Jeremiah 30 kjv1611 and to study to show thy self-approve. - Sharonda "Esther".

To view or read more about Art by Sharonda see her: (Instagram) www.instagram.com/artbysharonda or (Facebook) <https://www.facebook.com/artbysharonda>

Special

New Orleans HBCU Presidents Encourage Participation in COVID-19 Vaccination Trials

The Black Community Remains Skeptical

Aviwe DuBois
Data News Weekly
Contributor

After seven months of battling the Coronavirus Pandemic, clinical trials for a COVID-19 vaccination are underway. In an effort to encourage more Black people to participate in clinical studies, the presidents of Dillard University and Xavier University of Louisiana announced on September 3rd they are participating in the Ochsner Medical System Clinical Vaccine Study.

"We have before us a significant opportunity to serve and advance the cause for not just ourselves, but our sisters and brothers suffering from the effects of this virus on their families and communities," said C. Reynold Verret, Xavier's President, and Walter M. Kimbrough, Dillard's President,

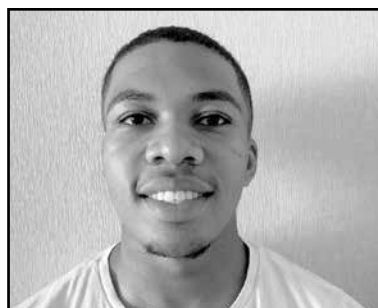


Mikeall Myenie Mickey Caesar, African Dance Teacher and Performing Artist

in their joint statement.

Both presidents acknowledged that widespread distrust for medical studies still exist in the Black community and they hoped that their example will encourage more African American participation in ongoing COVID-19 studies.

"I recognize the glaring mistrust of both the healthcare system and research studies," said Dr. Tyra



Andre Maurice Lambert Jr., a Xavier University Public Health Sciences Major

Gross, an Assistant Professor of Public Health at Xavier, who studies Black women's maternal health. "There are varying levels of health literacy in America today. The average American is not aware of the different phases for vaccine development," Gross explained.

In 1932, the U.S Public Health Service and Tuskegee Institute conducted a study called the "Tuske-



Adriyan Blue, a Certified Nursing Assistant

gee Study of Untreated Syphilis in the Negro Male." The study involved 600 Black men - 399 with syphilis, 201 who did not have the disease. The men were told they were being treated for "bad blood," a local term used to describe several ailments, including syphilis, anemia, and fatigue. They didn't receive the proper treatment needed to cure their illness. This unethical

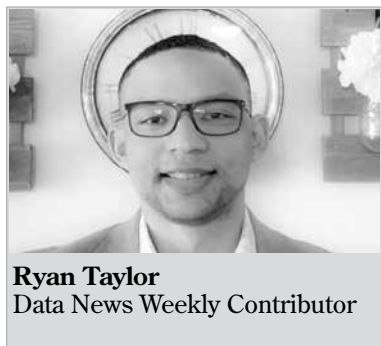
experiment along with a history of medical experimentation on African Americans, Gross said, resulted in African Americans' mistrust of the medical field.

"I would not be willing because the word that often follows trial is, error. Therefore, I will not put my health at risk," said Adriyan Blue, a Certified Nursing Assistant from Uptown. "Also, based on historical events involving the Black community and clinical trials, I am skeptical of the side effects of the trial. Along with the history of clinical trials, the history of the Black community and health as a whole is not very reputable."

The 19th-Century physician, James Marion Sims, pioneered tools, and surgical techniques related to women's reproductive health

Vaccination Trials,
Continued on page 7.

A Short Conversation About the American Dream



Ryan Taylor
Data News Weekly Contributor

The “American Dream” is riddled with hypocrisy and half-truths – especially if you are a person of color. The old adage of success being a modicum of working hard and keeping your head down is not a binding truth that makes capitalism work. It is rather a modern-day folktale that could easily be found in a children’s book. The truth of American Capitalism is that it was built on the backs of African American slaves, etched in the blood of Native Tribes, and thrives on materialism’s never-ending thirst of wanting more “stuff.”

For instance, the first bond market in the United States was collateralized by the nation’s own original sin – slaves. Meaning, our ancestors dehumanization carried more “intrinsic economic value” than the land they tilled, for which blood was spilled to protect man and his inalienable rights. Serving as the primary mechanism by which enterprise and individual wealth were able to flourish and grow. Yet, as an aggregate we’ve yet to share in this nation’s bountiful fruit into perpetuity for which we conceived at its onset.

Truth be told, our greatest communal economic achievements ushered themselves to fruition during segregation. The Harlem Renaissance, the fabled Black Wall Streets (yes there was more than one), the Negro Leagues, Garret Morgan’s stop light, George Washington Carver’s Agricultural Genius were all created in the backdrop of “Separate but Equal’s” systemic inequity.

Yet, as the late Maya Angelou put it “Still I Rise.”

Perhaps, our destinies inextricable interwoven tapestry fostered an environment where our dollar churned in the community more than one time, where our children lived next to the doctor, lawyer, engineer, and banker enabling them to see themselves as something more than “dregs of society.”

Maybe our value system that touted education, husbandry, ingenuity, and creativity was more easily transmittable to younger generations (it created Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, Thurgood Marshall, John Lewis, and countless civil rights heroes). In listening to my Granny and late Aunt Lillian speak of times past, it seems like we emphatically cared for one another back then and had a better sense of community.

You see... wealth is a practice in exercising timeless immutable principles that may evolve, but

never become obsolete over time. “Dollars and Sense” is just as much about the past as it is about the present. After all, if we don’t know where we’ve been, how on earth can we know where we’re going? It’s about enlightening, encouraging, and inspiring ourselves to be the best of what we’ve always been.

“Dollars and Sense” is not about tarnishing “The American Dream”, but about how we can make it attainable for a people traditionally locked out of it, and even dismayed by it. It’s about how we can turn Black purchasing power into savings and investing power. Essentially, “Dollars and Sense”, is a conversation about how we can make capitalism work for us.

Ryan Taylor has consulted and worked for some of the biggest names in the financial services & healthcare industries. He possesses 10 years of experience delivering analytics and business intelligent solutions across marketing, financial and business operations.

Vaccination Trials, Continued from page 6.

and became credited as the “father of modern gynecology.” However, Sims’ research was conducted on enslaved Black women without anesthesia and caused untold suffering by operating under the racist notion that Black people did not feel pain.

Between Marion Sims’ exploitation of Black women to advance the field of Gynecology, the unethical coercion of Black men in the Tuskegee syphilis study, and now the unjust treatment of Black people in the modern healthcare system, African Americans remain skeptical about the health care system, Gross explained.

“Too many questions!” exclaimed Dillard Nursing Major, Reggi M. Wright who is from Shreveport, LA. “What makes this vaccine safer than natural antibodies? What makes it any better? Were the antibodies strengthened in an ethical manner? And moreover, in the climate of this country, I would scarcely touch anything from a hospital ... despite just having gotten a flu shot. There is no way to tell what the truth is, not this year,” Wright said.

With the Coronavirus still being researched, the rapid development of the vaccine adds to the skepticism the Black community has re-



Dr. Tyra Gross, Xavier University Assistant Professor of Public Health

garding the medical system.

“From a public health standpoint, there is a need for Black and brown citizens to partake in these trials. These companies need a large diverse sample of the population,” said Andre Lambert Jr., a Xavier Public Health Sciences Major. “However, I also believe they are rushing to get these trials done because everyone wants to be done with this virus.”

Black and brown communities are being hit the hardest due to their locations. Most communities live in food deserts, have large numbers of unemployment or family members serving as frontline workers, Gross said.

“I will not take part in this vaccine because simply it’s an experiment that hasn’t been offered to the White colleges: UNO or LSU,” said



Reggi M. Wright, a Dillard University Nursing Major

Mikeall Caesar, an African Dance Teacher and Performing Artist from Faubourg Marigny. “To take part in creating a vaccine that will be tried on them as an experiment.”

There is a perception in the Black community right now that the Coronavirus vaccine trial recruiting efforts seem to be directly recruiting people of color, more so than other groups.

“Black bodies are often sacrificed for the greater good,” said Nia Weeks, a New Orleans native, who is an Attorney and the Founder of Citizen SHE and Citizen SHE United. “So, where everyone else benefits, the “tester” and other members of the community have to live with the consequences over generations.”

Both university presidents have assured their campus com-



Nia Weeks, an Attorney and the Founder of Citizen SHE and Citizen SHE United

munities that the vaccine trial they are participating in is following the regulations since put in place for the ethical execution of medical studies, including oversight by Human Subjects Committees with diverse membership and participation of clinicians of color.

“Public health is all about disease prevention and health promotion and vaccine developments are all hallmark efforts,” Gross said. “I thank our HBCU leaders who are at the tables for making sure we are represented, our concerns are both voiced and heard, as well as championing for opportunities for us to be included in the ongoing vaccine trials. However, our leaders and stakeholders should be understanding when we decline the invitation.”

DATA CLASSIFIED

Call 504-821-7421 to place your classified ad.

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.


We can’t wait to hear from you!

This space can be

yours for only \$80

Call Now!

504-821-7421



Helping protect America means developing **a safe and effective vaccine.**

At Pfizer, we're working around the clock with our partner BioNTech towards developing a safe and effective vaccine to help protect against COVID-19, subject to FDA approval.

We're committed to making sure individuals from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds have the opportunity to participate in our vaccine clinical trial to investigate whether it works for everyone.

And, we're also committed to ensuring that any vaccine we develop is both affordable and accessible, no matter your income or zip code.

We are all in this together.

