

*Lighting The Road To The Future*

**New Orleans**

# **Data**

**News Weekly**

*"The People's Paper"*

**Connecting the Dots**

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*Early Voting Begins for March 20th Election*

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# Back to The Polls

## The Race for Louisiana 2nd Congressional District

*Early Voting Begins for March 20th Election*

Edwin Buggage  
Editor-in-Chief

**Important Election  
on March 20th**

It is that time again where the Citizens of Louisiana Congressional District 2 will get out to vote to decide who will succeed Cedric Richmond, who is now working in President Biden's Administration.

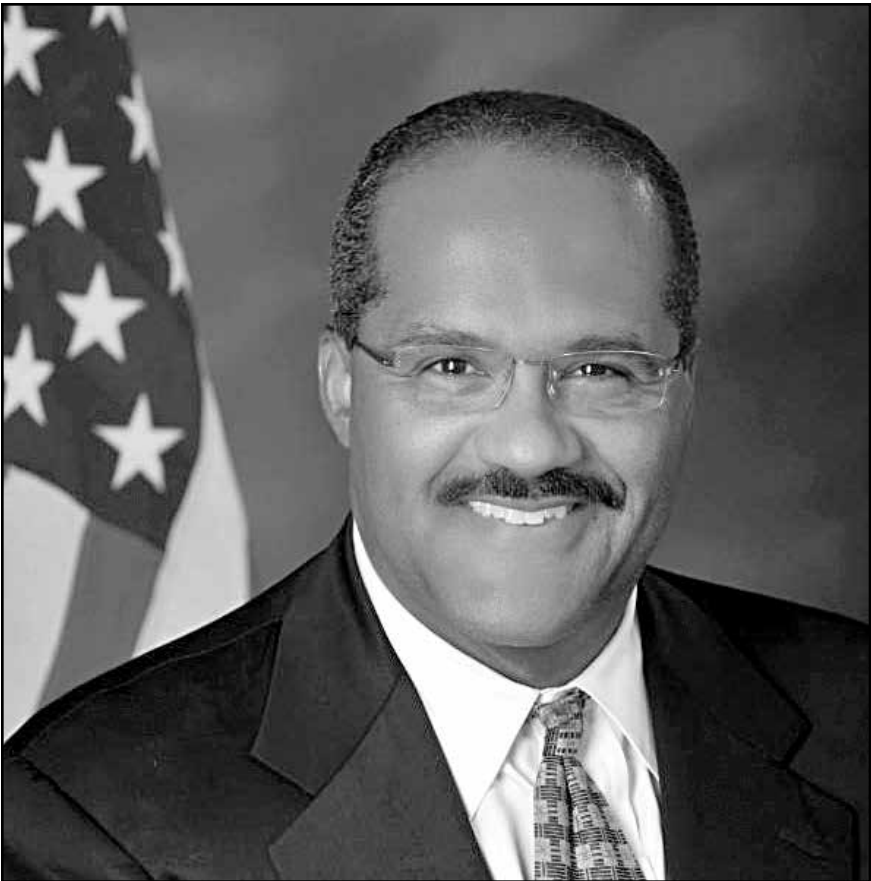
The question today is who will voters decide is best suited for the needs of the district? While there are 15 people in this race spanning from political veterans to newcomers and Democrats, Republicans, to no party affiliations.

Louisiana 2nd Congressional District is the state's only predominantly Black Congressional District. Economically viable on the one hand as it is the home to two port cities. Conversely, there are a host of problems facing the District; it has the state's highest unemployment rate, also it ranks as the second lowest in high school graduation rates and median income.

Also, adding to that is the issues surrounding COVID-19 and what that's done to make these issues worse; furthering the gulf between those who have and those who do not in the 2nd Congressional District.

**Get Out and Vote...  
Have a Voice in Who  
Advocates for the District**

It is important that citizens of the District take this Special Election seri-



"Experience and accomplishments matter, and in this race I have the strongest collection of both," says Carter who presently serves in the Louisiana State Senate and is being endorsed by Cedric Richmond. Carter is also receiving endorsements from a cross section of supporters across the District and those in leadership in D.C. Saying if elected he will have the ear of leadership in the House from day one. And he also states, "having the endorsement of Cedric Richmond, Senior Advisor and Director of the Office of Public Engagement demonstrates my ability to put the district's priorities in front of the President."

ously because the District relationship with the federal government is key to getting the resources necessary for it to recovery.

While there is much partisan wrangling in the Washington D.C., the U.S.

House of Representatives is majority Democrat; and the person who is elected may possibly have the ear of Richmond, who is able to help amplify and prioritize the cause of the citizens of Louisiana 2nd Congressional District.

**15 Candidates, But It May  
Come Down to Three to Who  
Will Represent District 2**

In a district that is heavily African American and Democrat; there are three candidates that most people are talking about.

From New Orleans, there is Troy Carter, who presently is a State Senator Representing District 7. Over the years he's held several political posts including State Representative and the New Orleans City Council.

"Experience and accomplishments matter, and in this race, I have the strongest collection of both," says Carter who presently serves in the Louisiana State Senate and is being endorsed by Cedric Richmond.

Speaking of how experience in getting things done is important and matters, Carter feels this is essential and that he is best suited to bring back the resources to the District.

"Policy matters to me and I believe I can have an impact on the District's economy, educational system, environment and creating an overall more equitable system. It's also important to recognize that the District has been uniquely impacted by COVID-19. The next congressional representative must hit the ground running and bring these unique issues to the attention of both the White House and congressional leadership immediately."

Carter is receiving endorsements from a cross section of supporters across the District and those in leadership in D.C.

"Having been endorsed by majority

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### 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 &
CEO/Publisher	Edwin Buggage	Production
Edwin Buggage	Mia Brown	Pubinator.com
Editor	Kai Davis	Editorial and
Sharonda Green	Tracee Dundas	Advertising Inquiries
Executive Assistant	Pinterest	datanewsweeklyad
June Hazeur	Amistad Research Center	@gmail.com
Accounting	O.C.W. Taylor.	Distribution
	Fav Polka Dot Looks	by Terrence Lee
	Arthur P. Badou	
	Villard Paddio	

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## Cover Story, Continued from page 2.

whip Clyburn, caucus chair Jeffries, and Congressional Black Caucus Chair Beatty shows that I will have the ear of leadership in the House from day one. Obviously, having the endorsement of Cedric Richmond, Senior Advisor and Director of the Office of Public Engagement demonstrates my ability to put the district's priorities in front of the President."

Speak of his platform and priorities Carter says, "Currently, the district's recovery from COVID-19 has to be the top priority, including equitable access to vaccines. This doesn't change my priorities though because COVID-19 has exposed the issues we all know needed to be worked on already. We need better educational opportunities, to raise the minimum wage, expand economic opportunity, improve health-care access, provide equal pay and to improve our environment."

Of course, the COVID-19 Pandemic continues to wreak havoc on individuals, families, businesses and affecting people in ways that are devastating. With questions of how a recovery will look for the citizens of Louisiana 2nd Congressional District.



"Right now, the 2nd Congressional District is being tested like never before, and we need a tested leader who will fight for the just recovery our people need. I'm proud to have a proven track record of standing up and getting things done for working families and small businesses when they needed it most," says Karen Carter Peterson.

"COVID-19 has created unimaginable tragedies in our community and that must be recognized. Out of tragedy comes opportunity because now everyone has had to confront the problems that many ignored for years. Recovery provides the opportunity to repair and build in a new and better way."

Also from New Orleans is Kar-

en Carter Peterson, who is also a Louisiana State Senator representing the 5th District. She's also served as a State Representative and was Chair of the Louisiana Democratic Party.

"Right now, the 2nd Congressional District is being tested like never before, and we need a tested leader who will fight for the just re-



Baton Rouge Activist Gary Chambers is positioning himself as a different kind of candidate that is not of the status quo.

covery our people need. I'm proud to have a proven track record of standing up and getting things done for working families and small businesses when they needed it most," says Carter-Peterson.

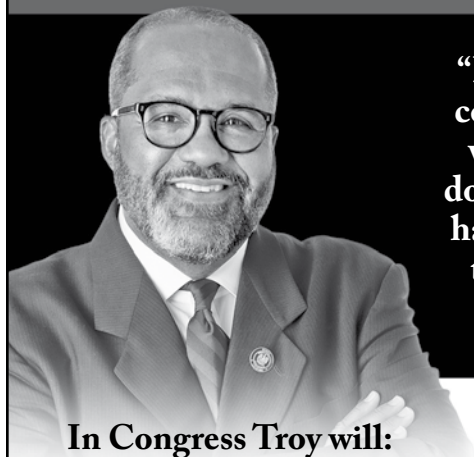
Speaking of her leadership ability and record of getting results she says, "After the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, I served as Chair of

the Hurricane Recovery Committee and helped ensure families had money in their pockets to rebuild."

Of her agenda if elected she says, "In Congress, the first thing I'll do is fight for continued, comprehensive COVID-19 Relief for working families and small busi-

Cover Story, Continued on page 7.

## THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE



"I've been fighting for our communities and working with others to get things done. I am a trailblazer that has and will continue to be the voice of the people."

— Troy Carter

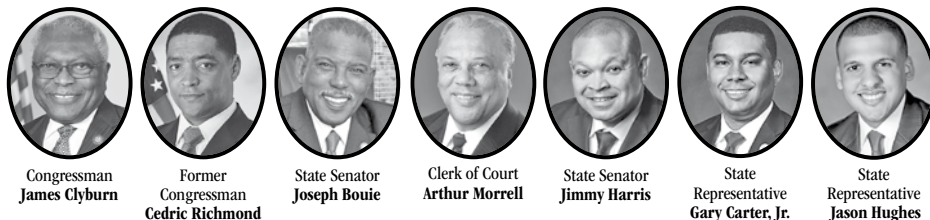
## In Congress Troy will:

- ☒ Ensure COVID-19 recovery funding reaches everyone and that our community is not left behind while supporting small business, creating job training programs, and individuals who are suffering financially because of the pandemic.
- ☒ Expand access to quality and affordable healthcare while guaranteeing all Louisiana residents have access to the COVID-19 vaccine.
- ☒ Fight without ceasing for Louisianians to be able to live the "American Dream" by creating equal and fair housing legislation.
- ☒ Continue the fight for our citizens who are living with disabilities.
- ☒ Fight for criminal justice reform, environmental justice, equal pay and a living wage for all Louisianians.
- ☒ Advocate for the reduction or elimination of student loan debt.
- ☒ Champion for government to allow women to make 100% of the decisions concerning their health and reproductive rights.

☒ ELECTION DAY: SATURDAY, MARCH 20  
EARLY VOTING: MARCH 6 - MARCH 13

Paid for by Troy Carter for Congress

## ENDORSED BY



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# Connecting the Dots



**Tracee Dundas**  
Fashion Stylist

While I wouldn't call it a trend, as they have never been out of fashion, polka dots can be classified as a print stable that works well for fashion-minded women and men. The resurgence of polka-dots is one that comes around seasonally and will definitely be on trend this spring season. The secret is mastering a fresh, modern twist that takes the style to the next level.

## Styling tips

- Experiment with color and texture for added interest and appeal
- Mix dots with other prints and patterns for a synergistic outfit
- Style your outfit with a cardigan or jacket for a polish look
- Opt for a mix of polka dot sizes, combining large and small dots in one look for added interest
- Add a pop of something unexpected with dotted accessories like a bow, scarf, shoes, or suspenders
- Go for a retro feel by pairing a polka dot top with a high waisted bottom
- Add a pop of color for a standout statement
- Think outside of casual outfits by incorporating dots into of-fice wardrobe & date night

Fashion Editor: Tracee Dundas  
| @fashionablyoursnola

New Orleans Fashion Week  
| @nolafashionweek

Photos: Courtesy of Pinterest



It's dotty-time



Rock the dots



Three or more dots is a movement



Dots and stripes forever



Spot on style



Haute dot



Mix-dot-logist



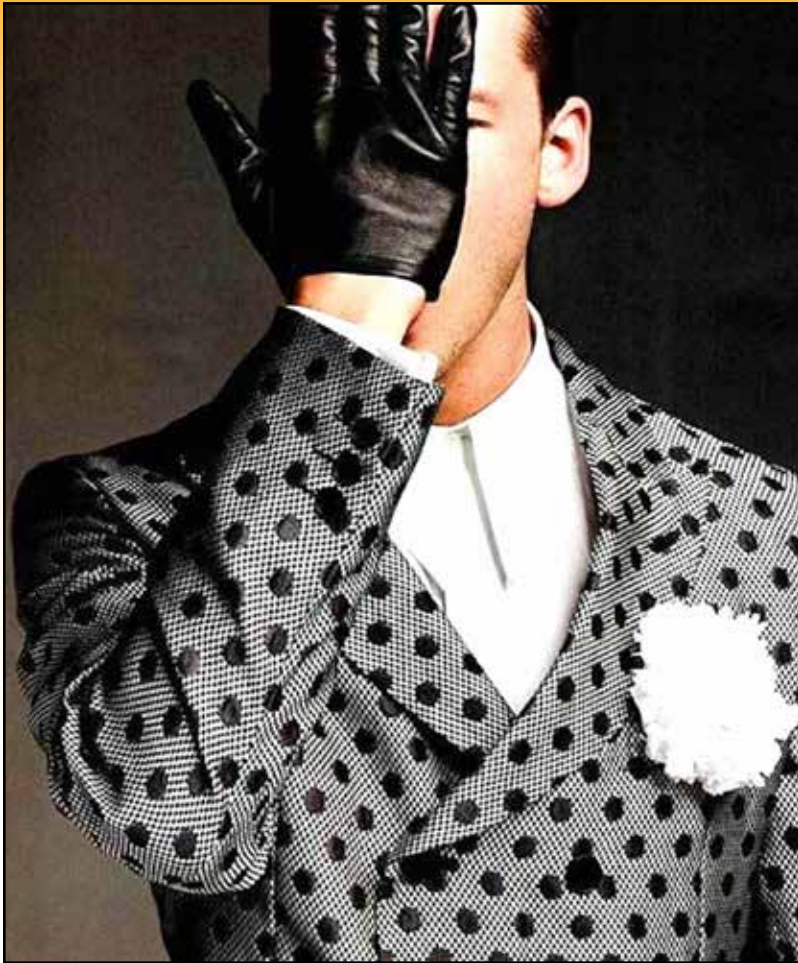
Connecting the dots



Spot the dot



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Dot it to me



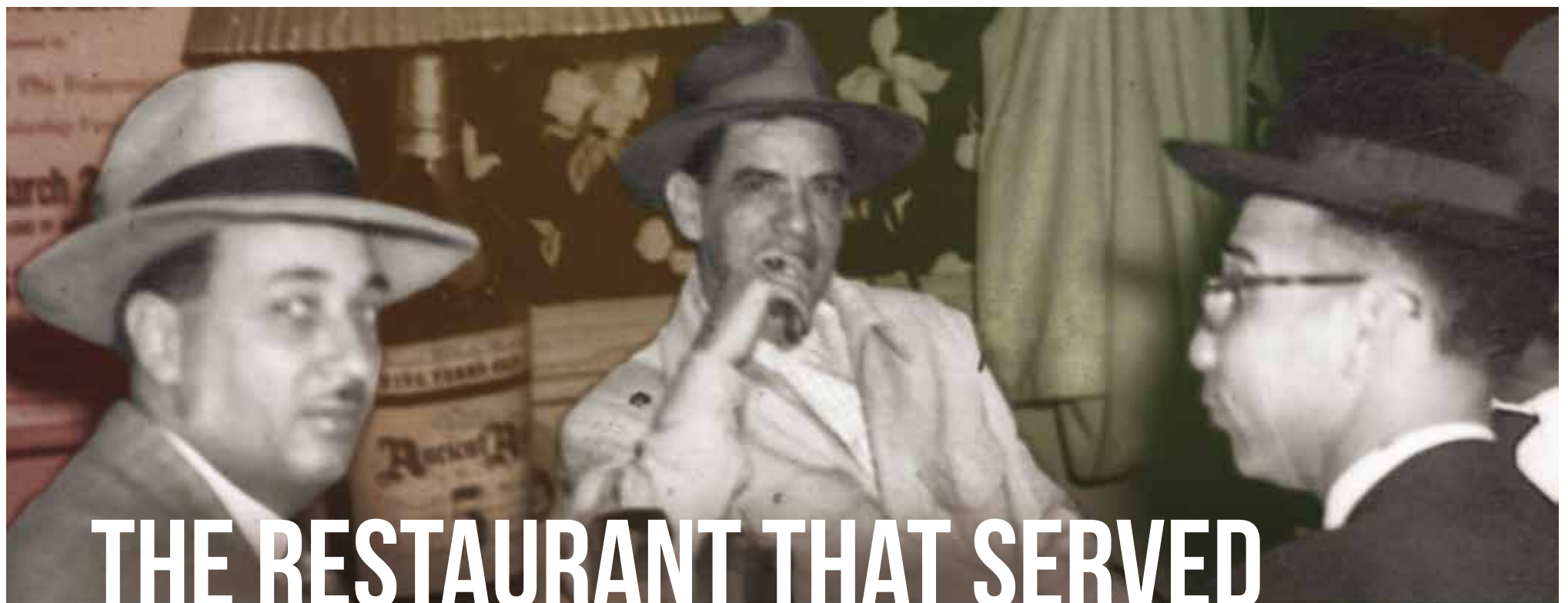
Think outside the dots



Polkadot time



Polka-man



In the upstairs back room at Dooky Chase's in the nation's oldest African American neighborhood, Chef Leah Chase and her husband Dooky Chase served Martin Luther King, Jr., Thurgood Marshall, and many Freedom Fighters. Learn their stories on the Louisiana Civil Rights Trail.



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# Data News Weekly Endorses Troy Carter for U.S. Congress

*Experience and a Record of Getting Things Done*



**Terry B. Jones**  
Publisher,  
Data News Weekly

It is time for Citizens to again go to the polls and vote. As Publisher of Data News Weekly... "The People's Paper"; it is my view that we must send someone to Washington, who can hit the ground run-

ning and get things done.

It seems through the fog of candidates only one stands out and that person is Troy Carter. In his many years as an elected official, he's been able to build coalitions to get elected and once in office he has a proven record of getting things done.

He's done this on the City and State level and now he can bring this to Washington D.C. as our next Congressman representing Louisiana Congressional District 2. These are serious times and on many fronts the District needs a fighter, but also someone who has the relationships with the leader-

ship in Congress and the ear of the White House.

These are qualities that Troy Carter possesses, as he's earned the endorsement of a cross-section of leaders on the City, State and National levels, from Cedric Richmond, to Civic, business, and everyday people of all races, classes, and gender in Louisiana Congressional District 2. They are all supporting him because he can bring the resources, we need to get the things we need to improve our District.

While the field is a large one, with 15 candidates, I am asking you to consider electing someone



Data News Weekly endorses Troy Carter in the race for Louisiana 2nd Congressional District.

who has the relationships to have a seat at the table and make the case for our district. I am asking all to come out in the primary to vote and make the clear choice for who I feel is best suited to lead our District and that is Troy Carter.

A Proven Leader, with a record of excellence. A bridge builder, who can bring people together and someone who can once elected get things done. In this race there is only one candidate who can accomplish this and that is Troy Carter.

So please join me in supporting my friend Troy Carter for U.S. Louisiana 2nd Congressional District.

## State & Local News

# Amistad Research Center Exhibit Curates Turn of the Century Black New Orleans

**Kai Davis**  
Data News Weekly  
Contributor

The Amistad Research Center and Hancock Whitney Bank teamed up with Dillard University to launch a digital exhibition for Black History Month that highlighted African American life in New Orleans with a collection of over 200 Black organizations, leaders, and businesses from the 19th Century through the mid-20th Century.

"This exhibition is a survey of African American leadership in New Orleans and the areas of business, philanthropy, education and other areas during the Jim Crow Era," said Christopher Harter, the Deputy Director for Amistad Research Center at the February 24, 2021 launch of the exhibit.

The exhibit titled: "Things We Do For Ourselves: African American Civic Leadership in New Orleans," shows how Black businesses sustained the community.

"[The exhibit] fosters an appreciation for African American contributions, to the diverse and unique culture that distinguishes New Orleans from all others," said Tamara Wyre, a Senior Vice President and the Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for Hancock Whitney.

The exhibit was designed to be



Dr. Rivers Frederick, the Chief of Surgery, performs an operation in this 1930s photo by Arthur P. Bedou at Flint-Goodridge Hospital with African American Physician Assistants.

permanently virtual through the center and Hancock Whitney's sites. It pulls from the Amistad's collections of Black Life in the city at a time when African Americans had to provide their own restaurants, facilities, and hospitals.

"The digitalization of these documents and public access, I think it's very important, especially as we all seek to understand more about our local history and Black progress," said Dr. Kalenda Eaton, a Professor of African and African American Studies at the University of Oklahoma and a Dillard alumna, who spoke at the virtual launch.

Special artifacts that depict African American history within the Black community of New Orleans shown in the exhibit include the first Black Benevolent Associations and Social Clubs that are still in existence and some that are no longer around, like the first Black owned life insurance company, the Unity Industrial Life Insurance.

"[It] comes from the idea of taking care of ourselves," said Dr. Kara Olidge, the Executive Director of the Amistad Research Center.

"During that time, we had to have those particular organizations, we had to look out for each other,"



Sewing classes at a New Orleans Y.W.C.A. were created to provide skilled training for African Americans during Reconstruction.

added Dr. Kristen Broady, the Director of The Hamilton Project. "We couldn't go to the White funeral homes; we couldn't go to the White insurance companies. I think part of what Integration did, while of course it was a good thing, it caused us to lose some of what we had ourselves. I think students need to learn these things," Broady said.



Straight University was the first school for African Americans in the City that taught from elementary school to post-graduate education. The photos of the school were taken by O.C.W. Taylor.



This image by Villard Paddio captures African American-owned insurance companies toward the end of the 19th Century.

Images courtesy Amistad Research Center



# Activist Shares the Ups and Downs of Fighting for Social Justice

Nia Brown  
Data News Weekly  
Contributor

The work of activism is every day, every month, every year and not just during Black History Month alone. Those were the reflections of Bronx native Tamika Mallory, the co-founder of Until Freedom, and one of the co-organizers of the 2017 Women's March in Washington, D.C. held on the day after the inauguration of President Donald Trump.

"We are not here to just remember but to commit, to commit to what our lifestyles and lives mean, as people who recognize the greatness of Black excellence, Black people, and the Black story, the Black journey," said Mallory, who spoke to New Orleans student activists as part of a virtual panel discussion jointly sponsored by The Center for Equity, Justice, and the Human Spirit and the Center for Student Involvement at Xavier University of Louisiana on Feb. 25.

Mallory, who was criticized for her support of Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan and of activist Assata Shakur shared her experiences in activism alongside student activists Azhae'la Hanson, Brooke Jones, and Larry Mason, Jr.

"We have had one tough year. A year that has challenged us all to really look deep within ourselves, what are we willing to sacrifice, how far are we willing to push the needle, and do we really want justice," Mallory said. "Do we really want to be free or do we just want to



Former Women's March Co-Chair Tamika Mallory shares her journey as a national activist with New Orleans student activists Brooke Jones, Larry Mason Jr. and Azhae'la Hanson on Feb. 25. Photo by Nia Brown

be more comfortable. I think most of us have stood up and said that we really want to see justice and equity happen in this nation," she said.

Sometimes society forgets that activists are humans too, with emotions, Mallory noted of the public criticism of her advocacy. Activists also need time to gather their emotions that they are feeling from the latest current events, she said. The rest of the world might feel that the activist needs to be the first responder or take the first initial act, which can be impossible sometimes. As important as it is for the average citizen to find their balance in everyday life, it is just as impor-

tant for activists to also find a balance. They do not always have it together, she said. At times, activists can try to turn their attention away to focus on family and friends or another hobby, but they end up finding themselves back to being an activist, Mallory shared.

"It becomes your lifestyle, it's not a job, it's not something you can separate yourself from," Mallory said.

Social media is now an important tool for advocacy but the panelists shared that it was not enough to simply repost, but to show up in numbers to protest.

"I wish that people online could

be more connected to the movement on foot," said Xavier student activist Azhae'la Hanson.

And while the Black Lives Matter Movement is the current name for Black activism, the panelists noted that the fight for rights and justice will be passed on for generations to come.

"The work is always going to be there. There's always going to be inequity for us to work on dissolving," said Xavier student activist Larry Mason Jr. "Advocacy is not just being the voice for voice, it's being able to say okay I'm going to empower you to use your voice," Mason Jr. said.

## Cover Story/ Continued from page 3.

nesses. I'll push for additional stimulus checks, work to expand the unemployment insurance system to cover more workers, and fight to freeze rent increases, evictions, utility shutoffs, and late fees for rent to ensure no family loses their home during this pandemic and fight to fix an unjust Criminal Justice System that targets Black and Brown communities."

Karen Carter Peterson is being endorsed by Georgia Democrat Stacy Abrams, who heads Fair Fight Action, an organization that addresses voter suppression.

"If elected as the first Black woman to represent this district in Congress, I'll continue to speak



The election takes place Saturday, March 20th. Voters can cast their ballots early daily from Saturday, March 6th through Saturday, March 13th, with the exception of Sundays and holidays and the election is on Saturday, March 20, 2021.

truth to power and shake things up to get things done for people."

In Baton Rouge, the District has seen the emergence of community organizer and activist Gary

Chambers, whose video confrontation with East Baton Rouge School Board Member Connie Bernard over renaming a school that carries the name of Confederate Robert E. Lee went viral.

He played this clip during his campaign launch video, as he is positioning himself as a different kind of candidate that is not of the status quo.

Gary Chambers believes that this message will resonate with voters. In a recent article he stated, "We can't be satisfied with being dead last and we can't elect career politicians if we want change to

happen," Chambers said. "If you vote the way you've always voted, you get what you got, and we'll end up where we've always

been at the bottom of the map."

Chambers is a political outsider, whose campaign is an uphill climb because of access to funds and only 11 percent of voters reside in East Baton Rouge Parish. So, while his campaign is one that is inspirational to most political experts, it seems that it may be a two-person race. But ultimately, it is for the voters to decide.

Whoever is elected will complete the rest of Richmond's unexpired term.

The election takes place Saturday, March 20th. Voters can cast their ballots early, daily from Saturday, March 6th through Saturday, March 13th, with the exception of Sundays and holidays and the election is on Saturday, March 20, 2021.

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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](mailto:terrybjones@bellsouth.net) and [datanewseditor@bellsouth.net](mailto:datanewseditor@bellsouth.net).

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# This shouldn't be how we say hello...or goodbye.



It's our reality right now. But it won't be if we do what it takes to beat COVID-19. Vaccines are coming, but until enough of us are vaccinated, we all still need to wear our masks, stay at least six feet from others, and avoid indoor social gatherings. The more we slow the spread, the faster we'll return to normal hellos ... and fewer goodbyes.

Learn more about vaccines and slowing the spread at [cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)



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