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New Orleans

Data

News Weekly

"The People's Paper"

**Coming
2 America**

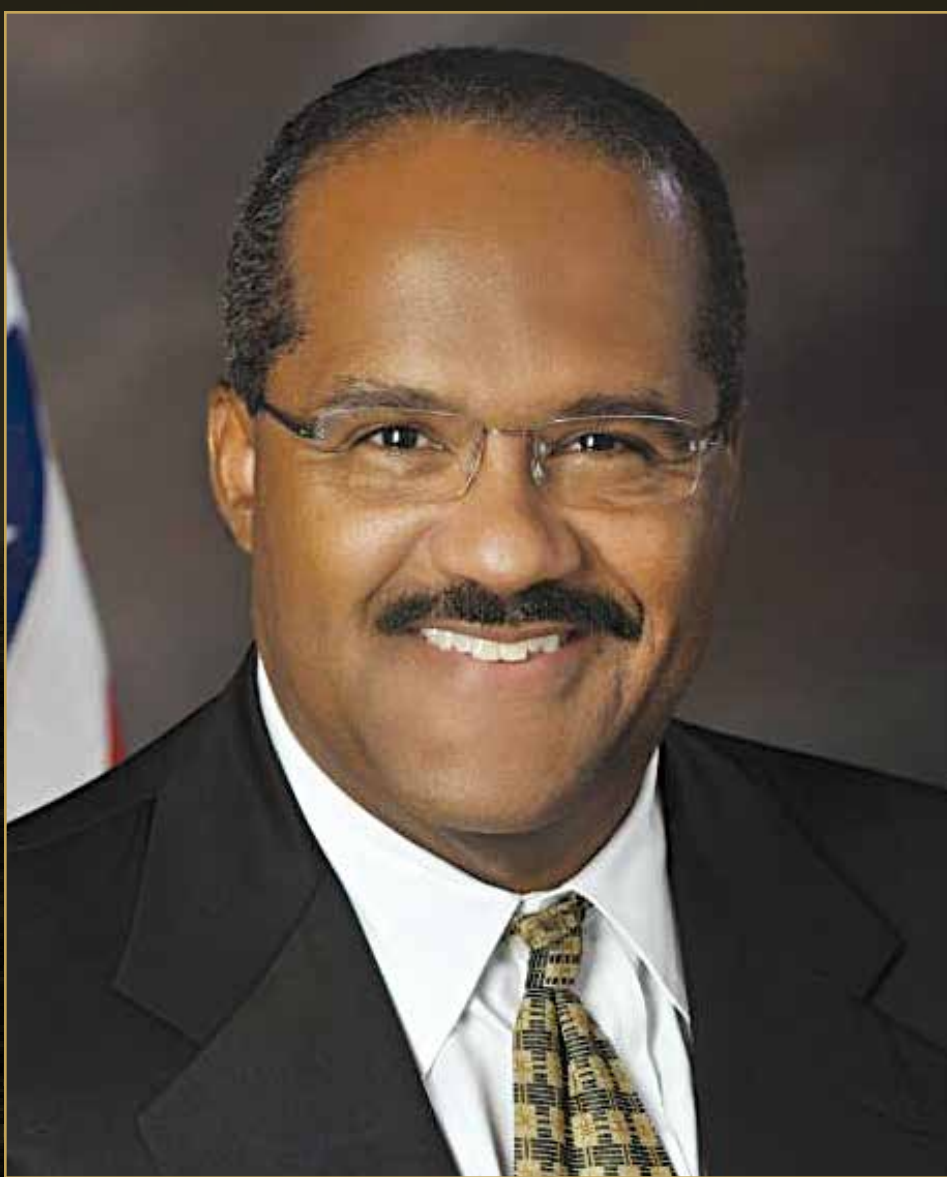
*A Funny Re-Boot of
a Great Film Starring
Eddie Murphy*

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March 13 - March 19, 2021 55th Year Volume 46 www.ladatanews.com

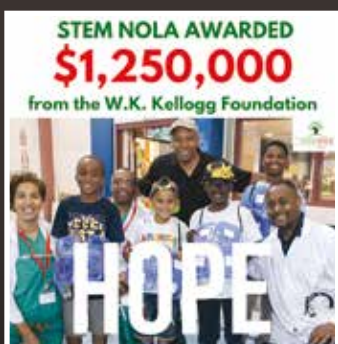
A Data News Weekly Exclusive



Troy Carter

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for Louisiana 2nd
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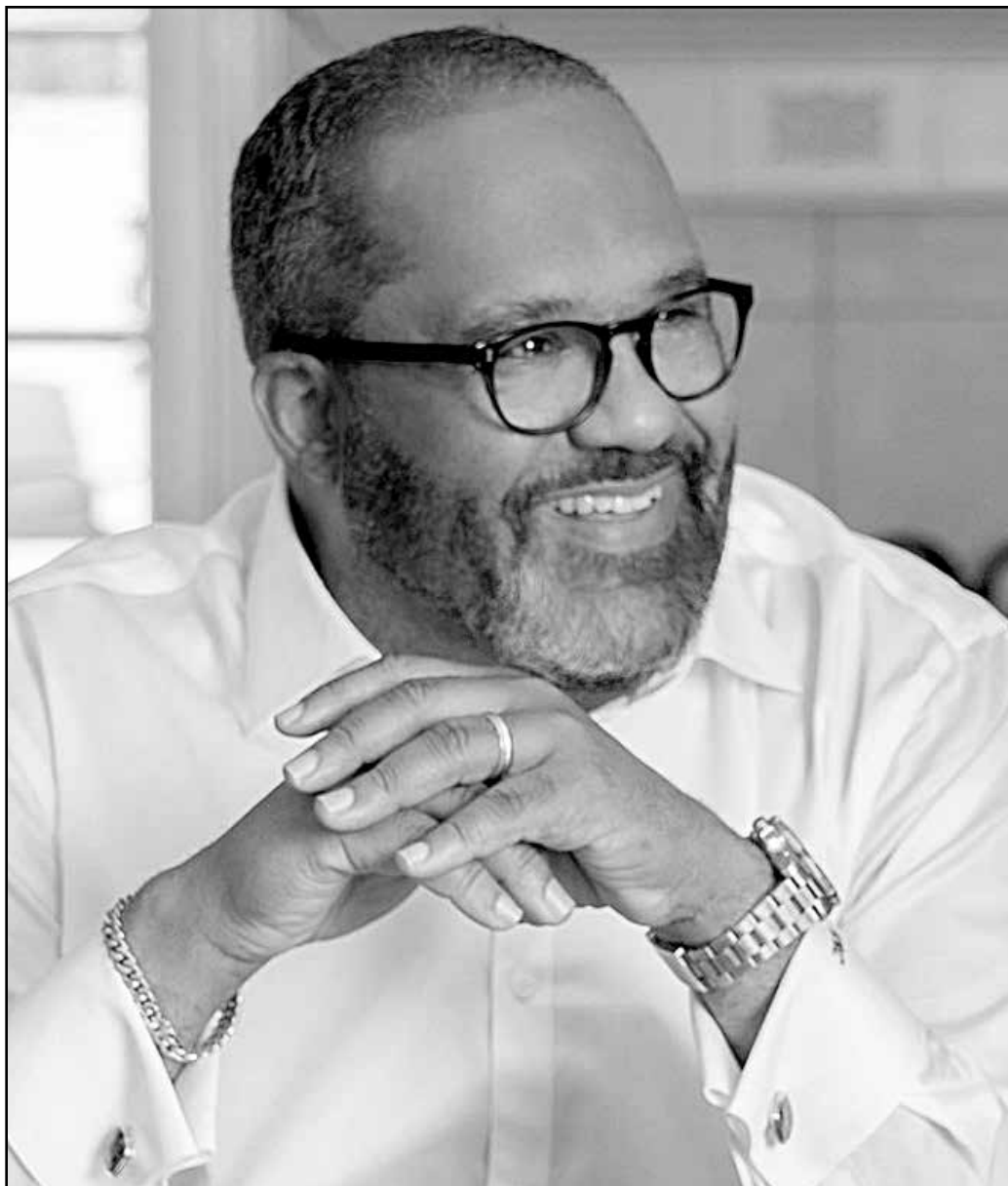
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Troy Carter

The Right Choice for Louisiana 2nd Congressional District



"Experience and accomplishments matter, and in this race, I have the strongest collection of both. However, what really matters is that I have the heart, drive and vision to truly work to improve the lives of the people of the Second Congressional District," says Carter of why he feels he is the best suited to represent the citizens of Louisiana 2nd Congressional District.

Terry B. Jones
Publisher, Data News Weekly

In our role as "The People's Paper" we are encouraging all to get out and vote in this important election that's taking place on March 20, 2021. Data News Weekly is supporting Troy Carter because we feel he is the best candidate to represent us in the U.S. Congress.

Experience, Competence and Accomplishments Matter

"Experience and accomplishments matter, and in this race, I have the strongest collection of both. However, what really matters is that I have the heart, drive and vision to truly work to improve the lives of the people of the Second Congressional District," says Carter of why he feels he is the best suited to represent the citizens of Louisiana 2nd Congressional 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 member of Congress must hit the ground running and bring these unique issues to the attention of both the White House and congressional leadership immediately."

Effective From Day One

Troy Carter is being endorsed by many who feel, he is the best candidate. This is something he feels will help him be effective from day one.

"Having been endorsed by Majority 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 Public Engagement demonstrates my ability to put the district's priorities in front of the President."

An Agenda That Has Positive Impacts For All

Carter has an agenda that includes relief for COVID-19, education, equal pay for women and other priorities he's fought for throughout his career as an elected official.

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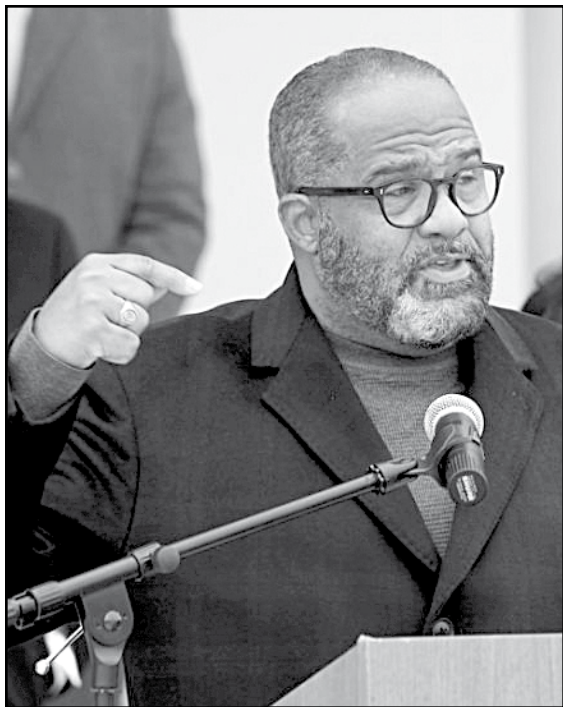
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Cover Story, Continued from page 2.



Troy Carter is being endorsed by many who feel, he is the best candidate. This is something he feels will help him be effective from day one.



Troy Carter is a man who has served his community with honor and is a dedicated family man.

“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, and provide equal pay and to improve our environment. 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. That’s my commitment.”

Building Bridges Of Unity In Louisiana 2nd Congressional District

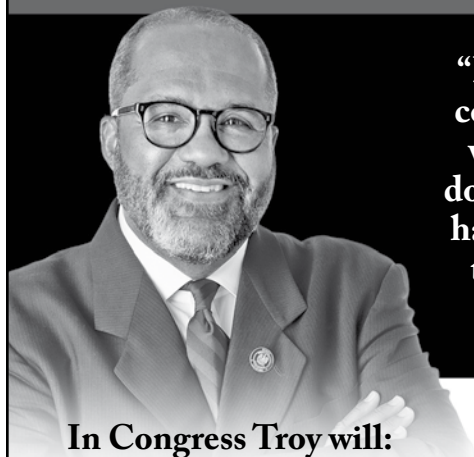
During this campaign Carter is traveling across the District listening to constituents concerns. Something he says will form his priorities if elected.

“COVID-19 of course, but the issues that have always concerned the district. How do I better educate my children? What can we do to make it easier to put food on the table? How does pollution effect my health and well-being? How do we end mass incarceration? We all know the issues. I’m ready to go to Washington and bring back the resources to fix them.”

This race is one with many different types of candidates representing various interest in the District. Carter is building a coalition to be effective if elected.

“This district stretches from New Orleans through the River Parishes all the way to Baton Rouge through a wide variety of diverse communities with different problems. Fundamentally, we all want the same things. We want to educate our children. We want to live in a clean environment. We want well-paying jobs with equitable opportunities. It’s my job to link all of these diverse communities together so that we can work together to achieve our dreams.”

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



Congressman
James Clyburn



Former
Congressman
Cedric Richmond



State Senator
Joseph Bouie



Clerk of Court
Arthur Morrell



State Senator
Jimmy Harris



State
Representative
Gary Carter, Jr.



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International Women's Day

Celebrating the Excellence of Women



Diva Dionne Character
Female Empowerment
Columnist

International Women's Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women.

As we celebrate women worldwide, we must not forget while some of us have had the privilege of living life at liberty, making our own decisions, there are a many of us who still remain voiceless in a world where men are continuing to make decisions pertaining to female mutilation, domestic violence, arranged marriages- creating obstacles that are continuing at the slowest pace, leaving some of us held hostage by governments, who are thoughtless as women remain in suffrage with no rights pertaining to their minds, bodies, and souls.

Today, let us be mindful as we should stand tall creating our own platforms for change, giving back to organizations focusing on the achievements of women increasing our visibility, raising our voices for those without the right to speak.

Let's start today, raising awareness, partnering with a school or program becoming mentors lending our voices as we give back, planting seeds of success and hope for change. Let us remember the words of world-renowned Feminist, Gloria Steinem who once said, "The story of women's struggle for equality belongs to no single femi-



Rosa Parks, American Activist in
the Civil Rights Movement



Toni Morrison, American novelist,
Nobel Prize Winner



Maya Angelou, World Renown poet,
author and activist.



Michelle Obama, Attorney and Author who
served as the First Lady of the United States.



Beyonce Knowles Carter, Award Winning
Entertainment Mogul and Philanthropist.



Oprah Winfrey, Media Mogul
and Philanthropist.



Ava DuVernay, American
Filmmaker, the first black
woman to be nominated for a
Golden Globe Award for Best
Director

nist nor to any one organization but to the collective efforts of all who care about human rights."

The success of one of us helps all of us as we share our passions with

the world, grooming other beautiful powerful woman who will change the minds of men. Let's take action and come together as we celebrate our excellence and achievements worldwide.

It is time for us to become decision makers of our own lives as women.

Dionne Character can be reached at characterinhollywood@gmail.com

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Coming 2 America

A Funny Re-Boot of a Great Film Starring Eddie Murphy

Eric Connerly
Data News Weekly Contributor

Everyone is talking about the much anticipated Eddie Murphy's *Coming 2 America*. It is a film that's hit the streaming jackpot once it was released on March 5th and is becoming one of the most-watched and talked about streaming debuts since theaters closed a year ago.

This franchise that's so nostalgic is a feel good flick for a date night or a small gathering of friends.

The 33-years-later sequel "*Coming 2 America*" has Murphy and much of the cast from the original film, but one of the standout performances is from Wesley Snipes, who is over the top military dictator of Nextdoria.

While a mature Murphy lets other shine, he still shows his comic chops are on full display. This is a film that is a good escapist entertainment during COVID-19, a time with many sad and uncertain days.

Coming 2 America, is something to just give your mind a break and kick back, relax, laugh and enjoy.

So it is recommended that all check out this great film that is now streaming on Amazon Prime.



Eddie Murphy and Wesley Snipes appearing in the entertaining *Coming 2 America*. The sequel to the classic film that is laugh out loud funny.

Girls' nights IN
are gonna take
COVID-19 OUT.



We don't get enough laughs these days. But, wherever they are, our friends are as close as a click. Vaccines are coming. But until enough of us are vaccinated, we still need to slow the spread. We can watch our distance, and not let COVID-19 keep us apart.

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



Brought to you by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

STEM NOLA Receives \$1.25M to Seed 42,000sf Innovation HUB

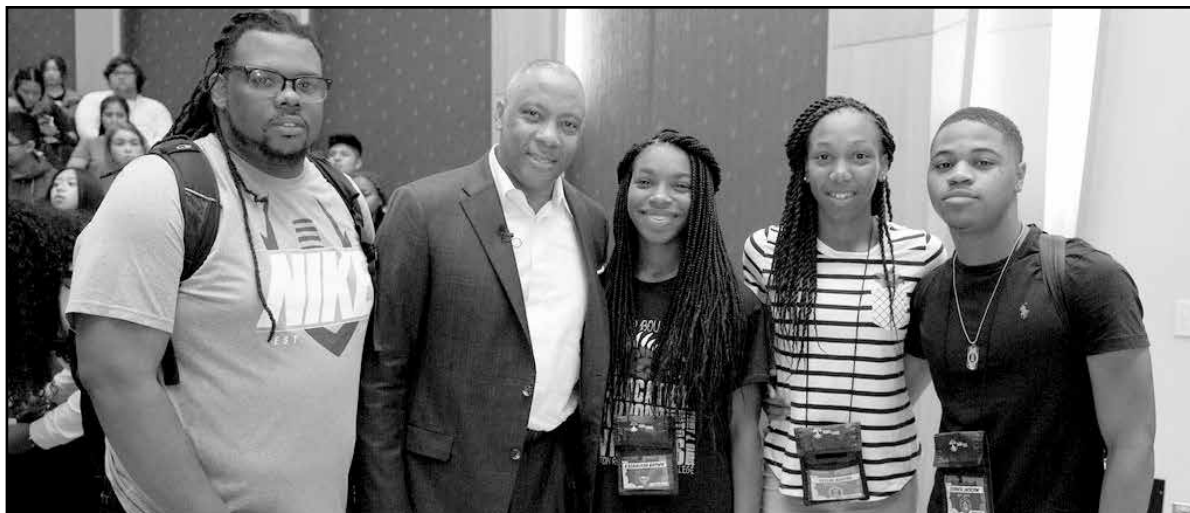
HUB to Expand Award-Winning STEM Programming

STEM NOLA

STEM NOLA starts the new quarter with a \$1.25 million dollar grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation (Kellogg Foundation). A portion of the grant will go towards transforming a local New Orleans East building donated by Ochsner Health into the first STEM NOLA Innovation HUB (The Innovation HUB).

The balance will support STEM NOLA's award-winning programming that addresses early childhood STEM exposure and skill gaps among Black and Latinx youth with engagement tools to improve mathematics and science proficiency, build confidence and performance in STEM-related subjects, and offer STEM-based professional development to childhood educators with STEM-based curriculum and materials. The grant will be distributed over a three-year period.

"We are grateful to the Kellogg



W. K. Kellogg Foundation Awards STEM NOLA Million Dollar Grant to Launch State-of-the Art STEM Innovation Center and Extend Award-Winning Early Programming and Training.

Foundation for their generous gift of a million dollars," said STEM NOLA Founder and CEO, Dr. Calvin Mackie. "This grant will support our innovative STEM Educational Ecosystem and kick off our plans to build the first STEM NOLA Innovation HUB, a hands-on, educational

incubator, exposing and inspiring STEM opportunities for little boys and girls to adults to cultivate their own STEM career dreams."

The future STEM NOLA Innovation HUB will be located in the New Orleans East Opportunity Zone. The 42,000 sq ft building was

donated last year to STEM NOLA by Ochsner Health. It will feature a specialized STEM-exploration laboratory space, classrooms, meeting spaces and serve as the headquarters for STEM NOLA's ongoing delivery and design of STEM programming. It will not only support

a community with the city's largest population of predominately African American, low-income students, but also meet the immediate needs of students and teachers across Southeast Louisiana, with a focus on under-resourced communities.

Since 2014, STEM NOLA has delivered high-quality culturally, environmentally, and developmentally appropriate programs to more than 60,000 children, 16,000 families, and 1,500 schools across the country and in four countries. Hundreds of early grade educators have benefited from its customized curriculum and professional development.

Prior to COVID-19, STEM NOLA reached more than 300 New Orleans children on a monthly basis. Since May 2020, the non-profit is engaging more than 2,000 elementary school-age children each month through its virtual hands-on STEM project-based workshops and activities.

State & Local News

Digital Exhibit Celebrates Women's History Month

Spotlights Sojourner Truth

Amber Parks Data News Weekly Contributor

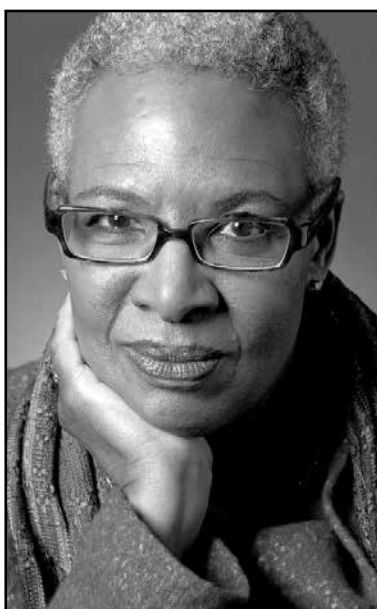
Women's history often overlooks the contributions of Black women to gender equality. The National Women's History Museum created a digital exhibit titled "Inspired by Faith" that celebrates the life of Abolitionist Sojourner Truth. The national digital exhibit was curated by Kerri Alexander, an education and public history fellow with the museum, who currently serves as an Assistant Vice President and Chief Inclusion Officer at Xavier University of Louisiana.

"Sojourner Truth was somebody who was really at the forefront of making sure that not only women's rights were advocated for, but Black women's rights were advocated for as well," Alexander said. "Truth was illustrating the fact that she was limited by not only racial discrimination but also limited by sexism. And they both needed to be addressed," Alexander said.

Alexander, whose work allows her to advocate for women's rights today, said that Truth was a freed slave who, after gaining her freedom, became a women's right activist and abolitionist. Her most notable speech: "Ain't I a Woman," called into question where the Black woman stood in the fight for both freedom from discrimination based on her skin color and also civil rights for her gender.

Understanding that as a Black woman, the fight to choose between gender identity or race and ethnicity always ended up with one side getting the shorter end of the stick, Alexander explained. Born during an era where Black people were enslaved, Truth wanted to shed light on both characteristics that made up her identity. No one was asking a Black male or a White woman to choose one or the other and recognizing that gave Truth fuel to fight for those rights that Black women were denied, Alexander said.

"Usually, people think of slaves as men, and they think of women



Historian Nell Irvin Painter wrote a Biography on Sojourner Truth. Painter contributed to the digital exhibit on Truth at the National Women's History Museum.

as White," said Nell Irvin Painter, a U.S. Historian, who published a biography on Truth. "Here Sojourner Truth is fighting for both of



Kerri Alexander served as an Education and Public History fellow at the National Women's History Museum. Alexander curated the recent digital exhibit on Sojourner Truth.

the rights for both of these groups essentially," said Painter, whose quotes were included in the exhibit.

Truth and many other women of

color opened doors for all women, especially Black women, to be able to have an equal voice and freedoms as men. With Truth's tenacity and perseverance, she was able to educate people on the neglect of Black women in both the first waves of the Women's Rights Movement and the Civil Rights Movement, Alexander shared.

Born Isabella Baumfree in Ulster County, New York, Truth emancipated herself in 1826 when she fled her enslavement and sought refuge with the Dutch Reformed Church. Her words at the time used the scriptures to show the immorality of slavery and to empower both women and enslaved Africans.

In Women's History, Truth's story has been often overlooked among abolitionists and women's rights activists.

"I'm excited to be one of the people who is invested in discovering the missing pieces of history that has been left out of textbooks for so many decades," Alexander said of the exhibit.

Senate Passes \$1.9 Trillion American Rescue Plan

Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior
National Correspondent

President Joe Biden promised help was on the way to an America still battered by COVID-19, and after a marathon session of debate known as vote-a-rama and some dissension in the Democratic ranks – particularly Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia—the U.S. Senate finally passed the president's \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan on Saturday, March 6.

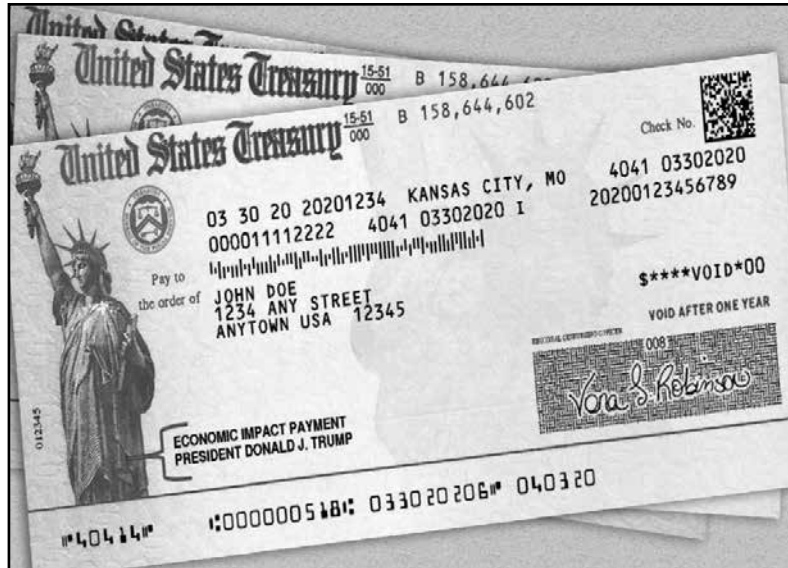
"Today, the Senate passed the American Rescue Plan bringing us one step closer to delivering much-needed relief," President Biden said from the White House shortly after the measure passed along party lines.

"When I took office, I promised help was on the way. Thanks to Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer and Senate Democrats, we've taken one more giant step forward in delivering on that promise. I hope the American Rescue Plan receives quick passage in the House so it can be sent to my desk to be signed," the president continued.

Schumer (D-N.Y.) declared just prior to the vote that "we're not going to make the same mistake we made after the last economic downturn, when Congress did too little to help the nation rebound, locking us into a long, slow, painful recovery. We are not going to be timid in the face of big challenges."

The vote was the first significant test of the Biden Presidency.

It served as a litmus test of



Congress has passed a 1.9 Trillion America Rescue Plan, that will help many affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic.

how united Democrats would be after four years of having debilitating Donald Trump-led legislation rammed through a favorable Senate.

During the four years of Republican control, a host of Democrat-proposed bills stalled in the upper chamber in what became known as former Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell's graveyard.

The bill still must be returned to the House for final approval before it heads to President Biden's desk for signature.

Once the bill becomes law, it's believed that the IRS would quickly begin sending out a new round of stimulus payments. Single tax filers making \$75,000 or less would receive \$1,400, while married couples who file jointly and make less than \$150,000 would receive \$2,800.

Families will also receive \$1,400

per child, and adult children claimed as dependents would also receive \$1,400.

Unlike previous stimulus payments, single tax filers making at least \$80,000, or couples earning more than \$160,000, will not receive a check.

It's also important to know that the IRS will determine eligibility based on either a 2019 or 2020 tax return.

If you have not filed your 2020 taxes, the government will use 2019 income.

Individuals who may have lost their jobs or whose incomes decreased in 2020 should file as soon as possible.

Otherwise, the IRS will use your 2019 income.

Like the previous stimulus, you are not required to pay taxes on the payments, and those owing child

support or student debt to the federal government will be protected from garnishment.

However, lawmakers did not make provisions to protect anyone from garnishment who might have private debt.

The bill allows for the first \$10,200 of unemployment payments tax-free, and those who receive food stamps will see a 15 percent increase in those benefits through September. Families whose children's schools have remained closed are also in line to receive EBT benefits through the summer.

The legislation sends about \$20 billion to state and local governments to help low-income households cover back rent and utility bills.

It also contains a provision that allows families with minor children to claim a larger tax credit this year.

Those who qualify would receive a child tax credit of \$3,600 for each child under six.

Families will also receive \$3,000 for each under age 18, up from the current credit of up to \$2,000 per child under age 17.

The American Rescue Plan also provides \$15 billion to the Emergency Injury Disaster Loan Program, which provides long-term, low-interest loans from the Small Business Administration.

Severely impacted small businesses with fewer than 10 workers will be given priority for some of the money.

Additionally, more people will qualify for higher premium subsidies through the Affordable Care Act.

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Compensation is competitive and great story ideas will be appreciated.

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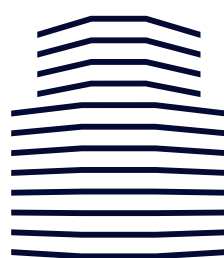
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