

Lighting The Road To The Future

New Orleans

Data

News Weekly

"The People's Paper"



FREE COPY

Young Aspiring Fashion Designers and Models Shine

Data Zone Page 4

July 24 - July 30, 2021 56th Year Volume 13 www.ladatanews.com

A Data News Weekly Exclusive

YOUR VOICE...

The Issues That Matter



Page 2




Newsmaker

Delta Variant Increases COVID-19 in New Orleans

Page 6

National News

TruSo, Black Social App Set to Launch



Page 7

Your Voice...

The Issues That Matter



Data News Weekly in its role as The People's Paper will until Election Day on Oct. 9, 2021 give you news that you can use that will inform, educate and empower the citizens of the City as they head to the polls.

Edwin Buggage
Editor-in-Chief

Last week local candidates qualified in the races for Mayor of the City of New Orleans, various City Council Districts, and other races on the Oct. 9th ballot.

Although months away, these are important races and in our historic role as “The People’s Paper,” we encourage all citizens to become informed about pertinent, quality-of-life issues, and to use your voice at the polls.

The list of qualifying candidates is as exhaustive and complex as the list of issues they will face if elected. The candidates comprise a blend of incumbents, current office holders, community and busi-

ness owners and other community members.

And along with the issues at hand, several districts have experienced demographic shifts, bringing about other potential perplexities. These are all reasons why voters should caution themselves accordingly and engage intently with each individual candidate’s specific agenda and the issues that affect their districts, respectively. The Citizens of New Orleans must decide who are the candidates best suited to lead in

Cover Story, Continued on page 3.

INSIDE DATA	
Cover Story	2
Data Zone	4
Newsmaker	6
State & Local News . .	6
Commentary.	6
National News	7

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	Eric Connerly	Pubinator.com
Editor	Glenn Summers	Editorial and
Sharonda Green	Data News Weekly	Advertising Inquiries
Executive Assistant	Staff Writer	datanewsweeklyad
June Hazeur	Renee’ Dugue’	@gmail.com
Accounting	Fashion Institute of N.O.	Distribution
	Stacy M. Brown	by Terrence Lee

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.

these changing times.

What are some of the issues that people are talking about?



Crime and violence are serious problems in New Orleans and while it is all of the citizens responsibility to curb this spike in crime; our elected leaders must help in shaping policies and getting resources to help reduce crime and gun violence in the City.

Crime

Crime and violence in the City are of burgeoning and looming concerns to all citizens. With brazen car thefts and harrowing gun violence on the steady rise, we need working solutions that include educational and economic opportunities for our citizens, especially our young people.

We as voters and citizens must begin to ask ourselves, who are the candidates that are best suited to shape policies and provide the leadership necessary to be the advocates for making the City a safer place for our citizens.



Affordable housing, homelessness and quality of life are important issues facing the City.

Affordable Housing

New Orleans is a City where within the close proximities of our City Hall and Central Business District lies a tale of two cities. On the one hand you see commercial development and the gentrification and densification of these areas as residents live in high priced new developments with commercial corridors built to service them and tourists, while conversely, there are homeless encampments and panhandlers staked out at every red light.

And in truth, some are homeless for a host of reasons other than the lack of Affordable Housing. It seems the City, while trying to address this crisis is not doing an adequate job in working to address this serious problem - one that is about to possibly get considerably worse, as soon as the moratorium on rent ends and may leave even more people homeless. Those who offer themselves up for service must consider this issue as the City attempts to transition after COVID-19, to control the housing crisis that's affecting neighborhoods and communities across the City.

This is uniquely true in a City like New Orleans, where its people in historic communities are a valuable and viable resource. It is a living and breathing culture of everyday people doing extraordinary things, and the wrong approaches applied to redeveloping neighborhoods could potentially threaten its future.



Infrastructure, from potholes poor streets and interstates and an outdated sewerage system are major issues to the citizens of New Orleans.

Infrastructure

There are many great things people can say about New Orleans, but two things are problematic regardless of where you live: bad streets filled with potholes in any neighborhood and an outdated sewerage system, where at any time there is a rain event, streets could flood.

The present administration and many who have come before it has attempted to address these issues. In New Orleans, the ubiquitous street construction that's seen all over the City, seems to have minimal effect on the problem of bad roads. Regarding possible solutions, it may ultimately take investment and a rethinking of how we handle sewerage and willingness to develop green technology and better wastewater management systems that reflect a more modern approach to our sewerage dilemmas.



What does a City do with an amazing culture that's seeing demographic shifts that may lead to the erosion of heritage and traditions that must be respected and preserved?

All Zip Codes Matter.... Economic and Racial Disparities

The City of New Orleans is a cultural jewel, but it continues to face many issues regarding race and class, where certain zip codes and people are not considered in conversations regarding how to make their quality of life better.

When you look around as a casual observer and see the cranes in the sky, you should ask yourself, "where is the development and who are these things being built for?" You will probably come to the conclusion that unfortunately; It is often not for the people who have historically lived in the City.

You should also ask yourself when will the City begin to make a more concerted effort in investing resources in the quality of life of Black people, especially the young Black men who inevitably become a part of the school to prison pipeline. They never reach their full potential and if more were invested in them, we all could benefit from their amazing talents if they were nurtured, their ability to be their best selves and strive for excellence.



Will the City begin to make a more concerted effort in investing resources in the quality of life of Black people? Especially, the young Black males who inevitably become a part of the school to prison pipeline.

Civic Engagement and Voting Matters

These are only a few of the issues in the City, but we are inviting you, our readers to let us know what your concerns are. The Election is on October 9, 2021, in our role as "The People's Paper" we will be interviewing candidates as well as citizens giving their input on the issues that matter to them.

Before you go to the polls...Be Educated...Informed and Empowered

Amazing Night for Young Aspiring Fashion Designers and Models Given the Stage to Shine

**Fashion Institute of
New Orleans (FINO)**
Photos by Glenn Summers

The Fashion Institute of New Orleans (FINO) is a program aimed at challenging students to maximize their talents in a way that will nurture growth.

This program is targeted to maximize the impact of the Fashion and Retail Industry in Louisiana – more specifically, New Orleans – as a catalyst to the growth of the state's cultural economy. Tapping the resources developed through various school curricula, we develop workshops, seminars, focus groups and field trips that educate and train youth and young adults in selected areas of the Fashion Industry. The program is designed – to allow students to creative talents and career interests in the fashion and retail industry to be enhanced and enriched.

Accordingly, the retail and fashion career forums are workplace- and marketplace-driven. Speakers, consultants, and facilitators bring an experiential, rather than merely academic, approach to imparting knowledge of the field and industry. Whether in the design or retail arenas of fashion, the guiding philosophy of the program is that the workplace must be experienced, as well as taught. To that end, District 2 identifies and participates in field trips to fashion and retail outlets. There are many aspects of retail and fashion that directly relate to marketing and packaging the right product for today's consumer. Exposure to that process – such as that provided through LSU's outstanding Textile, Apparel Design & Merchandising Program in the School of Human Ecology – are uniquely suited for involvement in our efforts.

While our program targets high-school students who are not enrolled in formal academic training in the field, the FASHION INSTITUTE OF NEW ORLEANS (FINO) makes available resources to provide consultants and industry advocates to our children. It is important for students to know collateral trade opportunities in fashion merchandising and to understand the nature, scope, and contemporary dimensions of the industry. Participation in "FINO" brings a real-life aspect to work in the industry inspired by the growing popularity of shows such as the BRAVO network's "Project Runway," which has created the highest ever visibility to the fashion design and merchandising industry.



The supportive staff of FINO have worked endlessly with students to produce and create an awesome night of bold and captivating styles as they graced the runway.



Gracing the runway with the passion for fashion.

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



These students are living out their dreams of becoming the future leaders in the fashion industry.

BRING BACK
LOUISIANA

Get the vaccine. Win cash.

YOUR SHOT AT A
MILLION

**\$1,000,000
CASH**

ONE GRAND
PRIZE WINNER

**\$100,000
CASH**

FOUR ADULT
(18+) WINNERS

**\$100,000
SCHOLARSHIP**

NINE YOUTH
(12-17) WINNERS

ShotAtAMillion.com

 LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Terms & Conditions apply. See Official Rules for details.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT!
REGISTER BY JULY 31 FOR A CHANCE TO WIN.

COVID-19 Cases Increase in New Orleans by 9 Times in Last 2 Weeks Due to Delta Variant

Eric Connerly
Data News Weekly
Contributor

Across the country in all 50 states there's been a rise in new COVID-19 cases. In a majority of these cases, it is the unvaccinated who are being infected.

Some cities, that have seen a rise, such as Los Angeles, are re-instating indoor mask mandates. It also seems they are divided between the vaccinated and unvaccinated in new COVID-19 cases.

The Louisiana Department of Health warns that COVID-19 cases among people who are not yet fully vaccinated are surging, and all people in Louisiana, especially those who are not yet vaccinated, are at an elevated risk of exposure to COVID-19 as the more contagious Delta variant continues to spread.

Louisiana is currently experienc-



In the City of New Orleans top health leaders are warning residents that coronavirus cases are climbing across the City due to the Delta variant.

ing widespread increases in the spread of COVID-19. Since early May, 19,200 new COVID-19 cases have been reported among Louisiana residents, with 94% of these cases occurring among individuals

who were not fully vaccinated. On July 13th, LDH announced 9 additional COVID-19 deaths; all individuals were unvaccinated.

In the City of New Orleans top health leaders are warning resi-

dents that coronavirus cases are climbing across the City due to the Delta variant.

"The data is very clear," said Dr. Joseph Kanter, Louisiana's State Health Officer. "COVID-19 cases

among unvaccinated people in Louisiana are surging. COVID-19 hospitalizations, percent positivity and COVID-19 outbreaks are all on the rise. All people in Louisiana, especially those who are not yet vaccinated, should know they are now at increased risk of exposure to COVID-19 due to the more transmissible Delta variant, and they should consider their personal risk and their family's risk."

According to NOLA Ready, COVID-19 cases in the City have increased by nine times in the past two weeks.

There are over 300 confirmed cases of the Delta variant in the City according to NOLA Ready.

The City urges residents to get vaccinated to protect themselves from COVID-19.

State & Local News

Teen Brain Spark 2021

Data News Staff Edited Report

On Saturday, July 24, 2021, BrainStorm Educational Services will be hosting Teen Brain Spark 2021. This event is being held at Alice Harte Charter School, 5300 Berkley Avenue in Algiers.

Teen Brain Spark 2021 is a back-to-school summit that will include live entertainment, motivational speakers, educational resources and give a way's from local partners such as Raising Canes and Chick fil A Restaurants.

The host for this event is Destinee Singleton, MSW a recent graduate of SUNO. The main guest speaker is local author, community leader and motivational speaker, Jared Green. Jared, also known as Jared the Dreamer, is currently promoting his soon to be released book entitled, Madam Mayor, which features New Orleans Mayor, LaToya Cantrell.

BrainStorm Educational Services is a non-profit organization established in 2003 by local educator Tonia L. Muse-Baker and her husband, the late Andrew Wilson Baker, III. The mission of BrainStorm Educational

State & Local,
Continued on page 7.



Dwayne Powell, III will be participating in BrainStorm Educational Services' 2021 Teen Brain Spark 2021. Dwayne recently finished 8th grade at Lake Forest Charter School and will be entering high school in the fall.



Main Guest Speaker: Jared Green "Jared the Dreamer"- Author/ Speaker/Community Leader. He is a local children's book author. His new book, entitled, "Madam Mayor" is soon to be released. His goal is to put 13,000 books in the hands of children across the City of New Orleans.



Host: Destinee M. Singleton, MSW. She is a recent graduate of SUNO. She finished with her Master's Degree in Social Work. She's very active in her church and has a passion for helping others live a fulfilling life.



Brooklyn Powell (left) Bailey Powell (right) students at Lake Forest Charter School. Bailey will perform a solo at the event.

Commentary

From Desire to Purpose... A Dreamer's Journey

*"It's Hot In Here! Are You
Summertime Fine?"*



Find support on your health food and wellness journey. Visit DiaBeastKitchen.com to connect with Vegan Chef, Percy Robinson Jr. His premier interactive eCookbook, From Diabetic To DiaBeast, will instantly show you how to eat healthy without compromising the flavors you love!



Renée Dugué
Co-Founder and Executive
Director of Reborn and Rising

With the heights of heat soaring as we reach our deep Southern

summer, I'm reminded of life in The Desire, and somebody saving us from sweltering by opening the fire hydrant, blasting us with cool water. Illegal and all, those were the days and just another way we beat the heat. My skin stayed perfectly tanned, while my lips were permanently stained red by the candy lady's tropical punch flavor frozen cups. My favorite, second only to

Commentary, Continued
on page 7.

TruSo, a Black-Owned Social Networking App Set to Launch

Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior
National Correspondent

A new app could end the so-called “Black Twitter” experience and allow African Americans their own social media platform.

Backed by celebrities Sway Calloway, Kareem Grimes, Terrell Owens, and Miki Barber, the Black-owned social networking app, TruSo, is poised to debut.

“I believe in the power of community – especially cultural communities,” Matthew Newman, the founder and CEO of TruSo noted in a news release.

“As it relates to the Black community, the entire world has witnessed what we can accomplish when we join together behind a cause – we create a phenomenon.”

Newman continued:

“Now, we are introducing a social community that is built and funded by Blacks for Blacks and has monetization built-in so that everyone wins. Those who use the app should also benefit financially. That’s what we’ve built.”

TruSo reportedly is designed to “empower and advance personal and career aspirations.”

It includes a content calendar



Upon launch, TruSo will be available for both Apple and Android users.

Backed by celebrities Sway Calloway, Kareem Grimes, Terrell Owens, and Miki Barber, the Black-Owned social networking app, TruSo, is poised to debut.

“I believe in the power of community – especially cultural communities,” Matthew Newman, the founder and CEO of TruSo noted in a news release.

Calloway said his partnership with the app was a strategic one and one that he felt others would use very well.

“I got involved with TruSo because this technology is truly disruptive in the social networking space,” he said.

Grimes said Newman “has a clear vision and go-to-market strategy. I’ve worked with him on other projects, so I’m well-aware of his business acumen, and I welcomed the opportunity to get involved.”

Upon launch, TruSo will be available for both Apple and Android users.

that engages prominent individuals within several categories: Arts & Culture, Business & Marketing, and more.

State & Local, Continued from page 6.

Services is to collaborative work with individuals in improving their literacy, self-confidence, and self-esteem as they become productive and self-sufficient citizens. BrainStorm has sponsored various events such as Breakfast with Santa, book giveaways and Prime Time Family Reading sessions.

Teen Brain Spark is the result of hearing a news story that many youths will experience “re-entry anxiety” due to the experiences and losses throughout the Pandemic. Mental Health Experts will be on hand to provide resources as well. It will be like a one stop shop, fill up your “backpack” for a successful year.

The event is free; however, we are asking all who wish to participate to register at www.eventbrite.com. If you type “brain” in the search box, you should be able to find the event to get an e-ticket. Follow us on Facebook at [brainstormeducationalservices](https://www.facebook.com/brainstormeducationalservices) and Instagram @brainstormeducationalservices.

Commentary, Continued from page 6.

my Momma’s condensed milk vanilla cream! Life was simple and oh so sweet then. Now, as we’re wrapping up July, feeling more than 400 Degrees, Nelly plays in my mind on repeat... “I am gettin’ so hot, I wanna take my clothes off!” You too! I know right!?! But are you as summertime fine as you resolved to be last December? Let’s do an internal temperature check to assess where we are, where we desire to be, and what we need to get there.

Grab a notebook and pen to capture thoughts as you reflect on the intentions you set for this year. Be encouraged and purpose to be kind to yourself as you identify areas that need improvement. Transparent Moment: Hi, my name is Renée, I’m an addict. My drug of choice is sugar. Although I have relapsed on my journey, I choose to forgive myself. I am grateful for another day to make better choices. This

is my Step 1: Realizing that Our Creator woke me up this morning, not my alarm. This signifies grace, mercy, and forgiveness, and should serve as the ultimate encouragement to continue on our paths, by letting go of the past and focusing on right now. So, as you access and identify, take moments to celebrate your self-awareness and desire to know better and be better. This is my Step 2: Acknowledging that the more intentional I am in my desire to be who I am purposed to be, the more I will attract what I need. Like how in my pre-diabetic sugar struggles, the stars aligned to connect me with Percy Robinson Jr., who transformed himself, rising from a diabetic coma to living insulin-free within one month, healing himself with nature’s medicine, fresh and whole foods. He’s maintained his dedication not only to his health but also to others, becoming a Vegan Chef and Cookbook Author, known for his amazingly tasty recipes,

demonstrated weekly on YouTube @DiaBeastKitchen.

I’m truly grateful for our friendship, as Percy reminds me daily that we are what we eat, and I remind him we are also what we intake mentally, spiritually, and physically. Be encouraged to connect with kindred souls that inspire and empower you to fulfill your purpose, holding you accountable, yet not expecting perfection. That is my Step 3: Balanced and whole is the goal. Not perfection. Balanced and whole will have you living your best life, feeling free and summertime fine all year round, no matter what the weather is!

An LMT based in Houston, TX, Renée Dugué provides massage, holistic healing, and wellness coaching services. Visit RenéeDugue.com to schedule an in-person or virtual session, learn more about her personal philosophy of healing through helping, and support her nonprofit Reborn & Rising’s WALK4WATER Campaign.

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

JOIN THE CONVERSATION ABOUT WHAT'S REALLY HAPPENING IN OUR CLASSROOMS.

Because our children are worth it.



Real Talk, Real Change returns with a candid discussion, in episode three, on the racial disparities in our education system, and more importantly, what can be done to rebuild it.



Hosted by
Carlos Watson

JOIN THE CONVERSATION AT [OZY.COM/REALTALK](https://www.ozy.com/realtalk)

