

*Lighting The Road To The Future*

New Orleans

# Data

**News Weekly**

*"The People's Paper"*

**Let's Be Fabulous**



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A Data News Weekly Exclusive

# Data News Weekly Endorsements



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Lesli Harris



Joseph Giarrusso



Oliver Thomas

# Get Out and Vote!!!


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# Data News Weekly Endorsements

## *Get Out and Vote!!!*



Lesli Harris, Candidate for New Orleans City Council District B.



JP Morrell, Candidate for New Orleans City Council-at-Large Division 2.



Erroll G. Williams, Candidate for Assessor.

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

It is that time again where our citizens are being asked to go to the polls and vote. At the time of writing this early voting is going on from Oct. 30th through Nov. 6th, so please get out and vote.

This election cycle we are endorsing candidates, who have experience in elected office as well as displaying competent leadership. Also, we are spotlighting some who are emerging as future leaders for our city. It is my belief that this is a winning formula for our city moving forward. To have visionaries, who are battle tested and have experience, with others, bring-

ing a fresh set of eyes to City government.

**Mayor: LaToya Cantrell**

In the Race for Mayor, we are endorsing LaToya Cantrell, she's not only made history as the first woman Mayor but shown that she has the right stuff to lead. During the COVID-19 Pandemic, she's been

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Freddie King III, Candidate for New Orleans City Council District C.



Darren Lombard, Candidate for Clerk of Criminal District Court.



Oliver Thomas, Candidate for New Orleans City Council District E.



LaToya Cantrell for Mayor of New Orleans.



Helena Moreno, Candidate for City Council-at-Large Division 1.

following the science and keeping people safe. In fact, New Orleans leads the state in person relieving the vaccine. She's also continuing to fight for equity of opportunities for all the citizens of New Orleans. She deserves a second term, so please get out and vote for LaToya Cantrell.

#### City Council-at-Large Division 2: JP Morrell

In the Race for Council-at-Large Division 2, JP Morrell, is our choice. He is a proven leader, who made history as the sponsor of the bill that overturned the controversial Jim Crow era, non-unanimous juries, something that left many, mostly African Americans, serving long prison sentences. Today this law is no longer on the book, turning the page on a sad time in our city and state history. He is a reformer, who can bring people together to help make public policies that will have a positive impact on all the people of New Orleans.

#### City Council-at-Large Division 1: Helena Moreno

In the Race for Council-at-Large Division 1, Helena Moreno, is our choice. She has all the things the city needs in a leader. She is competent, compassionate and is a bridge builder. As a city-wide leader, she's been able to garner support because she can get results for the residents. Also, because her great working relationship with Mayor Cantrell, the legislative and executive branches of our city government can function in a way that is not contentious and get things done.

#### City Council District E: Oliver Thomas

In the Race for Council District E, this is one that many are talking about. The return of Oliver Thomas, we are endorsing him because he is what is needed right now. We need a bold, passionate, and competent voice on the New Orleans City

Council. He has the experience understanding City government in a holistic way, something that is important in District E, which is an area that since Hurricane Katrina, hasn't gotten the attention it deserves. Oliver Thomas is someone who can give this District a leader who can work with all the people of the district regardless of their background. He is a proven leader, with a record of excellence.

#### City Council District B: Lesli Harris

In the Race for City Council District B, this is a race where a fresh new voice is on the horizon. Lesli Harris, is someone who has the energy and vision to bring together the people of many different interests in this diverse district. This is what is needed now, a bridge builder who can get more young people and disaffected people to the polls. To give them a voice on the council that's not tied to political organizations and the politics of old, but a fresh and progressive approach to governing. As an attorney, she's focused on young people and equity. Something that is much needed in a city, where our young people need advocates that can collaborate with communities so that all our citizens can have routes to success.

#### City Council District C: Freddie King

In the Race for District C, Freddie King III is a fresh new voice that's making an impact as an attorney and working to improve the city in business and civic activities. He is someone that's already working in many of their areas that the city needs moving forward; most importantly of these are economic development and the education. He's also worked as the Director of Constituent Services in the district, where he's had the opportunity to meet with residents across the spectrum. In this work he's spoken with the people about the various issues

that affect them on both sides of the river. He is the bridge that connects the East and Westbank. We are proud to announce this new voice of change for the City of New Orleans.

#### City Council District A: Joe Giarrusso

In the Race for District A, Joe Giarrusso is known as a fighter. Since being elected to the council, he's been a staunch advocate

fighting crime, modernizing our drainage system, diversifying our economy, and working to build a better infrastructure for our city. He's also been on the frontline protecting citizens and businesses in his district from paying higher property taxes. He continues to work with people across his district to be their voice. He is a proven leader, who deserves four more years to fight the good fight for the people of District A.

#### Assessor: Erroll G. Williams

In the Race for Assessor, we are proudly endorsing Erroll G. Williams. He's been someone who continues to win reelection because he's led the office with competence and professionalism. Throughout his many terms his accomplishments include making the Homestead Exemption and age freezes permanent, expanded special as-

Cover Story, Continued on page 6.

#36

JP

MORRELL

CITY COUNCIL AT LARGE

Nothing changes until we make it.

I've dedicated my life to equity and opportunity for the people of New Orleans, and now I'm ready to fight for you on the City Council.

Together, let's make change happen.

IWO

INDEPENDENT WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION

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# Let's Be Fabulous



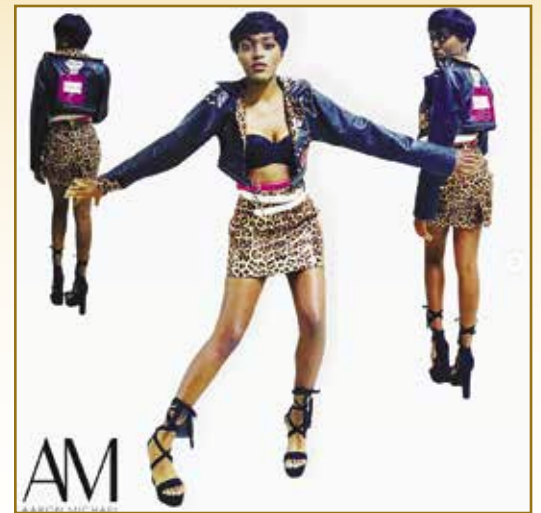
**Tracee Dundas**  
Fashion Stylist

Along with over fifteen other brilliant designers partaking in TASTE of FASHION WEEK, with fashion aesthetics ranging from ready-to-wear to avant-garde; New Orleans Fashion Week is thrilled to welcome back alumni Designer, Aaron Michael, who made his debut this fall on Project Runway Season 19, which airs on the BRAVO network.

I had a chance to chat with Aaron Michael since his recent Project Runway experience. He shared that his passion for fashion runs deep, he loves what he does and has learned to "get in the zone" when creating his timeless work. A normal workday for Michael is 10-14 hours which was helpful as he prepared for the challenges, he would encounter on Project Runway.

Michael had mixed emotions when cast for Project Runway that ranged from concerns of the Pandemic, to questioning his creativity in a competitive atmosphere. After much consideration, the answer was obvious to him and as the saying goes "nothing ventured nothing gained."

While his fashion aesthetic is far from traditional, it's designs that are flattering, classy with a hint of modern edginess. When he's in the creative zone he barely comes up for air; getting lost in his thoughts and the creative process of what he's working on. Michael enjoys the busy schedule and feels as though his look is constantly evolving, finding inspiration from travel, textures, jewels, and architecture. His creativity will be shared in a special collaboration with NOFW and Diamonds Direct. Michael, who has agreed to design three individual garments inspired by stunning pieces from Diamonds Direct. Each original design will be auctioned off to benefit three local sectors of the philanthropic community in the city - Son of a Saint, Second Harvest and



Dress for Success.

The designs will make their debut appearance at an exclusive preview party at Diamonds Direct in Metairie, Friday November 5th from 4pm-7pm.

This event is complimentary and open to everyone to enjoy an evening of fashion and show their support for the nonprofits by bidding on the fashions through the silent auction.

Tracee Dundas Fashion Editor @fashionablyyoursnola  
Fashion Editor - Tracee Dundas | @fashionablyyoursnola  
Photographer: Zee Amer | @zeeamerphoto  
Makeup Artist: Pilar Miranda | @pilarsvanity  
Location: Gallier Hall | @embracetheculturenola

Visit [www.ladatanews.com](http://www.ladatanews.com) for more photos from these events

FACT:

SARS-CoV-1  
was  
discovered  
19 YEARS  
AGO.

The COVID-19  
vaccine took  
NEARLY  
20 YEARS  
to develop.



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Vaccine Hotline at 1-855-453-0774.



2002  
Coronavirus Vaccine research  
began in 2002.

*So much has  
happened since then...*



2004  
Facebook founded

2007  
Original iPhone revealed



2009  
Fitbit Tracker launched

2012  
Ring Doorbell created



2013  
Amazon Alexa released

In 2020,  
SARS-CoV-2  
virus begins  
COVID-19  
pandemic.

Vaccine target identified quickly  
thanks to research.  
3.3 billion doses of the COVID-19  
Vaccine have been administered.



# Next Man Up

## Saints Finding A Winning Formula

### *Jameis Winston Injured Out for the Season*

**Fleur De Lis**  
Data News Weekly  
Contributor

What's up Who Dat's, this is Fleur De Lis, giving you everything 5-0-4. Another week and the Saints showed that they could find a way to win. This time against the defending Super Bowl Champion Tampa Bay Buccaneers and Tom Brady. They are now 5-2 and a half game behind the Bucs. This season, their first without Drew Brees, the Saints have defeated the two teams that were in the NFC Championship last year. (Earlier this year defeating the Green Bay Packers 38-3).

This is a testament to Sean Payton, and his coaching staff that includes defensive coordinator, Dennis Allen, finding ways to win.



New Orleans Saints Quarterback Jameis Winston, suffered a torn ACL in his left knee and MCL damage that will have him out for the rest of the season. However, despite injuries to Winston and other star players, the Saints are finding ways to win games against some of the leagues best teams.

While not an offensive aerial fest like during the Drew Brees era, it gets the job done. Wins are what matters, and the Saints are getting it done on both sides of the ball. This year the Saints defense is presently ranked second in the league. Indeed, it was on full display as they took it to Tom Brady and the Bucs, forcing turnovers and making big plays when the game was on the line in a 36-27 win.

The bad news is that quarterback Jameis Winston, suffered a torn ACL in his left knee and MCL damage that will have him out for the rest of the season. Team members expressed their sadness of losing their offensive team leader, but in true winning spirit, third string QB Trevor Siemian, stepped up got the job done.

What the quarterback situation will look like is an open question, with the eventual return of fan favorite Taysom Hill. But next up on the platter, is our archrival Atlanta Falcons, who's coming into town. This game is always fun to watch and is much more than simply a football game. Additionally, we should see a sea of Red and Black in N.O. next weekend for this friendly rivalry. Also, it will be a good time to see relatives from the N.O. who are living in Atlanta, who are heading down to support the Black and Gold. The Saints are playing like true winners, with their next man up philosophy, they are getting it done this season. Until next time this is Fleur De Lis, repping the 5-0-4 forever.

## State & Local News

# Mayor Cantrell Lifts Mask Mandate Citywide

**Data News Staff Edited Report**

Last week, New Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrell announced that the City will suspend its mask mandate for most public spaces, effective Friday, Oct. 29th. New Orleans will move largely in line with the State to lift its mandate following yesterday's announcement from Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards.

The mask mandate will remain in place for all K-12 schools and healthcare facilities throughout Orleans Parish. Masks will also be required for use of public transportation as detailed in the federal guidelines, for all residents ages two and older. COVID-19 mitigation measures implemented for certain businesses requiring proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test for entry announced in August, will remain in place with one minor adjustment; to include proof of either a PCR or antigen test for all indoor activities.

For several weeks, COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths drastically decreased due to the City's more stringent mitigation



Indoor New Orleans Mask Mandate has been lifted, but New Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrell is still encouraging all that the Pandemic is not over and to remain safe and follow the science.

measures, strong vaccine rates, and indoor proof of vaccination and negative COVID-19 test within

72 hours for entry required for all businesses and other facilities previously implemented. The New Or-

leans Health Department (NOHD) encourages residents to continue to wear masks in public indoor spaces – especially when social distancing is not possible as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines.

"The indoor mask mandate that was in place over the past several months helped us reduce the surge in cases we saw due to the Delta Variant," said Dr. Jennifer Avegno, Director of NOHD. "Even though the numbers are currently low, we must remind our residents that this Pandemic is not over and remains dangerous for all that may come in contact with the virus."

The mask mandate was reinstated to slow the spread of the virus on July 30th following the devastating surge of new COVID-19 Delta Variant cases and hospitalizations statewide. Currently, the City of New Orleans reports that 60.3 percent of the total population is fully vaccinated, and 75.6 percent of the eligible population is fully vaccinated.

For more information regarding COVID-19 updates, restrictions, and vaccination calendar visit <https://ready.nola.gov/home/>.

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assessment freezes to those who meet certain military or public service criteria. Also, he has modernized the office and working to place a cap on residential assessment increases in any one year by 10 percent. Errol G. Williams, a proven leader for our city for decades, and we are asking all to get out and vote for him on Election Day.

## Clerk of Criminal District Court: Darren Lombard

In the Race for Clerk of Criminal District Court, Darren Lombard has the experience that matters, and is competent, and has the integrity that this job requires. He's previously worked as a Deputy Clerk in this office. Presently, he is serving a term as Clerk of Second City Court, doing an excellent job improving its efficiency, transparency and developing partnerships. He is also civically engaged working the Silverback Society and Fore!Kids Foundation, mentoring and inspiring the next generation of future leaders of the City of New Orleans. Darren Lombard is a leader on many levels in our community, and we are asking all to support him on Election Day.

Data News Weekly is Encouraging All to Get Out and Vote!!!

# Black America Supports Biden's Build Back Better and Infrastructure Bills

**Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr.**  
President and CEO of  
the National Newspaper  
Publishers Association  
(NNPA)

For 194 years the Black Press of America has consistently "pleaded our own cause" for freedom, justice, equality and empowerment. Today we continue to plead that all elected officials at the federal, state, and local levels do all that is politically possible to act and to ensure progress that significantly improves the quality of life for our families, communities and businesses.

Now is the time for the Congress of the United States to act and to vote to pass President Joe Biden's bold and consequential legislations: Build Back Better Framework and Infrastructure bills. Surveying across African American communities throughout the nation reveals overwhelming support for President Joe Biden's legislative initiatives.

Let's be clear. This is really not about being a conservative, liberal, progressive or someone who is indecisive in the middle of today's political spectrum. These two historic bills are about moving the nation forward. Time is out for bickering and further debate. The time to enact is now.

Decades ago when The Honorable Congressman Adam Clayton Powell (D-NY) would repeatedly say, "Keep the faith, baby," it was actually a call to action for Black America and for the U.S. Congress.

The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) salutes all the members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC), Congressional Hispanic Caucus, and the Progressive Caucus. In particular we acknowledge the outstanding leadership of CBC Chair, The Honorable Joyce Beatty (D-OH).

Here are the pertinent racial equity facts concerning Biden's legislative agenda that must be voted on now without delay:

- President Biden believes we must invest in our country and communities of color by creating good jobs, lowering costs that hold back families, and building an economy where not just the wealthy get ahead.
- The Build Back Better Agenda and the bipartisan infrastructure deal will deliver progress towards

this vision for working families across the country.

- The Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal will create good-paying, union jobs all across the country by fixing our roads and bridges, replacing lead pipes, installing electric vehicle charging stations, and more.
- And the Build Back Better Agenda invests in our people and gives working people in this country a fair shot to build a decent middle-class life, succeed, and thrive – instead of just trying to get by.
- The Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal includes investments that will take critical steps in advancing equity and racial justice throughout our economy – making our economy more fair, equitable, and just.
- BROADBAND: Ensures every American has access to reliable high-speed internet with a historic investment in broadband infrastructure deployment, helping lower prices for internet service and helping all Americans do their jobs, equally participate in school, access health care, and stay connected. Black families are 9% less likely to have high-speed internet than their white peers, and Latino Americans are 15% less likely. The deal will help close the digital divide.
- CLEAN WATER: Makes the largest investment in clean drinking water in American history, replacing all of the nation's lead service pipes to deliver safe and clean drinking water to families and children – including the families of color who are at highest risk for lead exposure. Communities of color in cities like Chicago, Milwaukee, and Newark are also at particular risk.
- TRANSIT: Makes the largest federal investment in public transit to modernize our transit and replace thousands of transit vehicles, including buses, with clean, zero-emissions vehicles – reducing commute times and creating more opportunity for communities of color. Bus and transit workers are 31% Black and 19% Hispanic, compared to 12% and 18% respectively of the workforce overall.
- ELECTRIC BUSES: Delivers thousands of electrical school buses nationwide, including in

rural communities, while helping school districts buy clean, American-made, zero-emissions buses and help make sure kids can breathe clean air since polluted air disproportionately impacts kids of color

- LEGACY POLLUTION: Makes the largest investment in the country's history to address legacy pollution, cleaning up Superfund sites, Brownfields, coal and hard rock mines, and abandoned oil and natural gas wells to create good-paying, union jobs and advance environmental justice – including in rural communities and communities of color. 26% of Black Americans and 29% of Hispanic Americans live within 3 miles of a Superfund site, a higher percentage than for Americans overall.
- RESILIENCE: Makes the largest investment in the resilience of physical and natural systems in American history, helping safeguard communities of color from the climate crisis and extreme weather events since people of color are more likely to live in areas most vulnerable to these risks that can wash out roads, cause power outages, or flood schools. People of color are more likely to live in areas most vulnerable to flooding and other climate change-related weather events.
- And, President Biden and Democrats in Congress are making progress on the Build Back Better which will:
- CLIMATE: To position the U.S. to tackle the climate crisis and advance environmental justice, the plan creates good-paying, union jobs – like those building electric cars – that build a clean energy future, strengthens our nation's resilience to more frequent extreme weather events, puts people to work capping wells and restoring abandoned mines, and puts in place tax cuts that accelerate clean energy technology and bolster domestic supply chains.
- + HEALTH: The plan makes health care costs and premiums more affordable by extending the American Rescue Plan's cost savings, closing the Medicaid gap for low income Americans, letting Medicare negotiate drug prices to lower

prescription drug costs, and helping seniors access critical health care services like dental, vision, and hearing care.

- + Extending the ARP's cost savings helps 360,000 Black people and 730,000 Latinos save an average of \$50 per person per month, and allows 328,000 uninsured Black people and 580,000 uninsured Latinos to gain coverage.
- + The plan also adds dental, vision, and hearing coverage for the more than 5.8 million Black people and 5 million Hispanic people on Medicare and closes the Medicaid gap for low-income Americans.
- + FAMILY: The plan makes caring for your family more affordable by extending the Child Tax Credit; making child care and elder care more affordable; helping people, especially women, get back into the workforce; and making sure every 3- and 4-year old in America can go to pre-k.
- + Only 62.6 percent of all three- and four-year-old Black children and only 59.4 percent of all three- and four-year-old Hispanic children are enrolled in preschool or kindergarten programs.

- The President is working to get both pieces of legislation across the finish line, and the American people are demanding exactly the kind of investment that President Biden and the Democrats are proposing. These are investments that will create jobs, lower taxes, and make life more affordable for working families.

Keeping the faith is not about patience or procrastination. It is about the courage to act, vote, and to enact legislation in real time. That time is now. Congress finally must now vote to approve Biden's Build Back Better and Infrastructure bills. The future of our communities and the future of the nation are at stake.

Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. is President and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) and Executive Producer/host of The Chavis Chronicles weekly on PBS TV stations throughout the United States; and can be reached at dr.bchavis@nnpa.org

## DATA CLASSIFIED

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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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# TALK TO HIS DOCTOR ABOUT COVID VACCINES. BECAUSE HE'S IRREPLACEABLE.

COVID hospitalizations of young people have tripled since the start of summer. However, vaccines are highly effective in preventing hospitalizations and deaths, even from the Delta variant.

Find vaccines near you at [vaccines.gov](https://vaccines.gov)

