

Lighting The Road To The Future

New Orleans

Data

News Weekly

"The People's Paper"

FREE COPY

Louisiana Cajun-Zydeco Festival

Data Zone Page 7

June 25 - July 1, 2022 57th Year Volume 9 www.ladatanews.com

A Data News Weekly Exclusive

NNPA Annual Conference 2022 Comes to New Orleans



Rep. Maxine Waters
NNPA 2022 Legacy Honoree



Deion Sanders
NNPA 2022 Legacy Honoree



Stephanie Mills
NNPA 2022 Legacy Honoree

Celebrating the 195th Anniversary of the Black Press of America "Amplifying Our Voices for Freedom, Justice, Equality, and Equity."

Page 2



Newsmaker
Reginald F. Lewis Scholars Honored at Universities

Page 4

State & Local
Dominique Walker of KIPP Leadership Primary



Page 5

NNPA Annual Conference 2022 Comes to New Orleans

*Celebrating the 195th Anniversary of the Black Press of America
“Amplifying Our Voices for Freedom, Justice, Equality, and Equity.”*



Black newspapers continue to be an important news source, giving information to the Black community.

Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior National
Correspondent

The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) kicks off its annual conference in New Orleans this week with a slate of panels aimed at inform-

ing and inspiring Black America and increasing voter registration rolls among individuals of color.

The NNPA is a trade association representing the more than 230 African American newspapers and media companies that comprise the Black Press of America.

In celebration of the 195th anniversary of the Black Press of America, the overall theme of the four-day conference is “Amplifying Our Voices for Freedom, Justice, Equality, and Equity.”

“Our convention is about promoting and continuing the legacy of Black newspapers and spreading our collective voices to impact another generation of readers,”

Cover Story, Continued on page 3.

INSIDE DATA

Cover Story	2	Commentary	8
Newsmaker	4	State & Local News .	10
Data Zone	6	National News	11

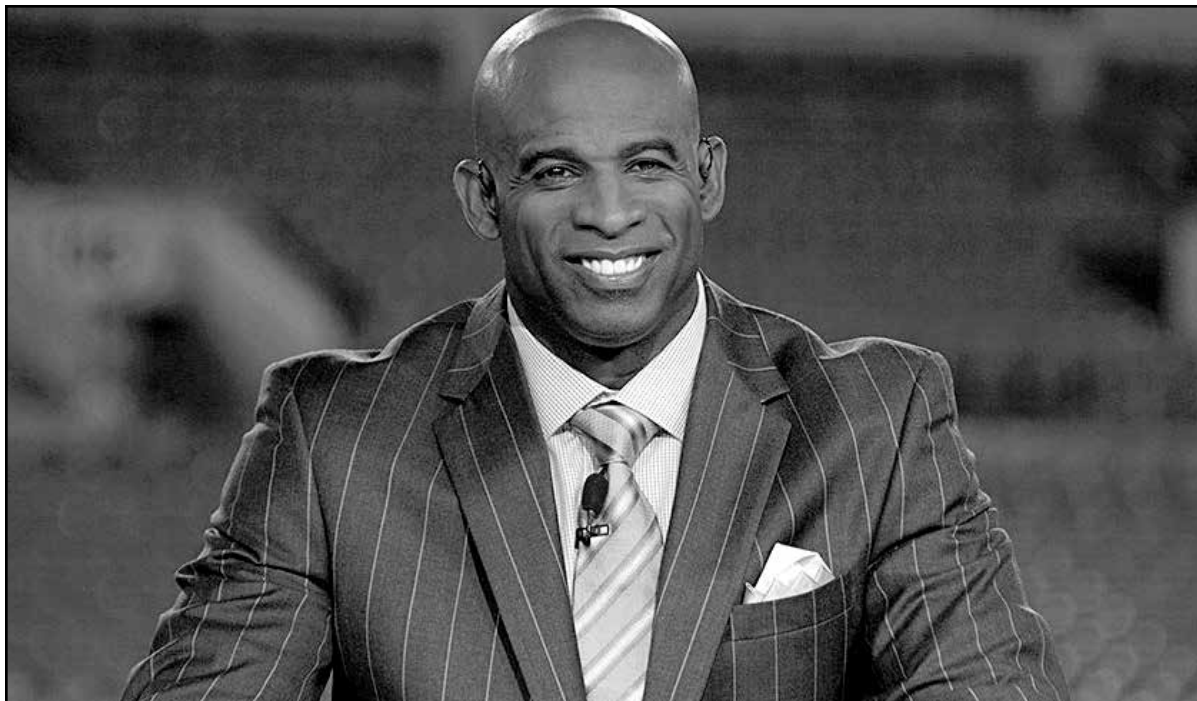
DATA NEWS WEEKLY

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	Stacy M. Brown	Production
Edwin Buggage	Ian Robinson	Pubinator.com
Editor	City of New Orleans	Editorial and
Sharonda Green	Tracee Dundas	Advertising Inquiries
Executive Assistant	Josephine McNeal	datanewsweeklyad
June Hazeur	New Schools for	@gmail.com
Accounting	New Orleans	Distribution
		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.



Sports legend Deion Sanders will be honored at the NNPA Annual Conference. Honorees also include Congresswoman Maxine Waters and recording artist and actress Stephanie Mills.



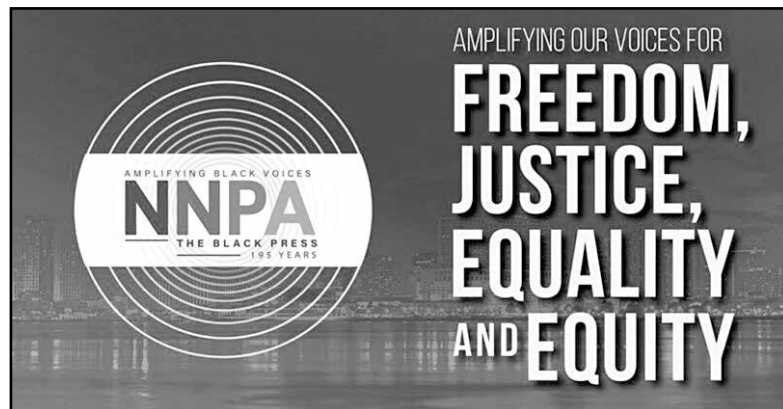
Dr. Benjamin Chavis continues to serve as President of NNPA, an organization consisting of over 230 African American media companies that comprise the Black Press of America.

stated Terry Jones, NNPA Convention Planning Committee Chair and Publisher of New Orleans Data News Weekly.

"I'm looking forward to seeing everyone, including the hotel staff," stated Cheryl Smith, an NNPA board member and publisher of Texas Metro News, the Garland Journal, and I Messenger Media.

On June 22 at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside, the conference begins with board meetings hosted by the NNPA and the NNPA Fund.

A Chairman's Reception formally starts the conference with greetings and acknowledgments from NNPA Chair Karen Carter Richards, NNPA President Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., NNPA Convention Planning Committee Chair Terry Jones, New Orleans Tribune Publisher Beverly McKenna, Louisiana Weekly Publisher Renette Dejoie Hall, and appear-



ances by local leaders.

The reception also will feature acknowledgments from convention partners, sponsors, and other guests.

Video and in-person tributes will include Vice President Kamala Harris, Congressional Black Caucus Chair Joyce Beatty, Universal Hip Hop Museum Executive Director Rocky Bucano, White House Press

Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre, California Rep. Barbara Lee, and Destiny's Child singer Kelly Rowland.

Among the expected highlights are panel discussions like "Amplifying Voices of Generation Z and Millennials Through the Black Press of America," moderated by Mark Thompson, the host of "Make It Plain."

The panel plans to explore how



NNPA Planning Committee Chair and New Orleans Data News Weekly Publisher, Terry Jones is excited about the conference coming to New Orleans, and says it is important to continue the legacy and mission of Black owned newspapers.



Legendary singer and actress Stephanie Mills will be honored and perform at the NNPA Annual Conference taking place in New Orleans.

young African Americans view the importance of the future of the Black Press. Featured panelists include Houston Forward Times On-Air Personality Jonita "Go JJ Go" Buchanan, Media Personality DaNeshia Bell, Videographer Joshua McMillian and The Bridge Publisher Lafayette Barnes.

Dr. Chavis will moderate "The Path to Inclusion is Electric: How GM Is Building an All-Inclusive Workforce to Build an All-Electric Future."

Melinda Hightower, the man-

aging director, and head of multicultural strategic client segments at UBS Bank, will host the session, "The Black Press on Equity and Wealth Building for Black America."

Rosetta Miller-Perry, the publisher of the Tennessee Tribune, will join Baltimore Times Editor Paris Brown, Inglewood Today Publisher Ken Miller, and Washington Informer Reporter James

Cover Story, Continued
on page 5.

Reginald F. Lewis Scholars Honored at Universities of Louisiana System Black Male Summit

Ian Robinson
Monroe News Star

The University of Louisiana Monroe hosted a luncheon and pinning ceremony Thursday where they honored 18 African American men from the University of Louisiana System's nine-member universities.

The second group of Reginald F. Lewis Scholars were pinned by the UL System board chair Liz Pierre, former board chair James Carter and UL System president and CEO Jim Henderson.

The ceremony was the culmination of a two-day Black Male Summit at ULM, which sought to identify solutions for systematic barriers and new opportunities for Black male faculty, staff and students in the UL System.

"In just a minute, you're going to follow the footsteps of those who came before you and then you're going to get a pin put in your lapel," Henderson said during the ceremony. "A pin that says the word 'scholar' underneath the logo you're used to seeing. You're joining a brotherhood whose history is just now being written. But 20 years from now, when one of you is standing on this stage as UL System president,



Joseph Johnson of Louisiana Tech (second from right) is pinned as a 2022 Reginald F. Lewis Scholar by (from left) former UL System Board Chair James Carter, UL System Board Chair Liz Pierre and UL System President and CEO Jim Henderson at the Black Male Summit at ULM on Thursday. Ian Robinson/The News-Star

you'll be able to shake hands with the 20th cohort of the Reginald F. Lewis Scholars."

The 18 recipients were chosen for the program based on academic merit, financial need and demonstrated leadership skills. The 2022 Reginald F. Lewis Scholars are:

Grambling State University
Korde' Cortez and Kamerius Palmer

Louisiana Tech University
Brandon Terrance and Joseph Johnson

McNeese University
Cadenley Francois and Chima Owunna

Nichols State University
Deon Charles and Charleston Rainey

Northwestern State University
Jairus Killings and Caiden Matthews

Southeastern Louisiana University
Nicholas Gibson and Joshua Randall

University of Louisiana at Lafayette
Frank Clavelle and Isaiah Crawford

University of Louisiana at Monroe
Braxton Jackson and Eric Lair, Jr.

University of New Orleans
Brandon Everett and Brandon "Blue" Irvin

In addition to a full-tuition scholarship, recipients will participate in the community experience which includes a partnership with the Universities of Louisiana Management & Leadership Institute and a service learning project; the social experience which includes an annual focused retreat and academic, social and professional mentorship from business, community and university leaders; and the academic experience which includes research projects and a study-abroad opportunity in their junior year.

Congressman Troy Carter (D-New Orleans) and Loida Lewis, the widow of Reginald F. Lewis, made appearances at the luncheon and pinning ceremony via pre-recorded videos.

In addition to the new scholars, outstanding faculty members from the Universities of Louisiana, including a scholar from the cohort, were recognized during the summit.

James Cailler Servant Leader Award

Ruben Henderson at University of Louisiana at Lafayette and **Sam Speed** at Louisiana Tech University

James Cailler Innovation and Inclusion Award

Krisshunn Youngblood at McNeese State University and **Devonia Love-Vaughn** at Louisiana Tech University

James Carter Exemplary Leadership Award

Ebenezer Aggrey, Reginald F. Lewis Scholar at Northwestern State University

Mayor Cantrell Announces Mental Health Initiatives that Support Youth and Families

City of New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS — Mayor LaToya Cantrell and the Office of Youth and Families (OYF) today announced City investments for parental support and mental health initiatives for families impacted by the justice system.

OYF introduced a new partnership with the Children's Bureau of New Orleans and Ubuntu Village to address the root causes of our public safety challenges through holistic, whole-family initiatives. These strategies were also identified as key solutions as a part of the city-wide Youth Master Plan, published in 2021 by OYF, in partnership with the Children and Youth Planning Board.



Mayor LaToya Cantrell

"We are taking a holistic approach to address public safety in our city, and my team has been very focused on supporting organizations that continue to prioritize the

mental health of families impacted by the justice system," said Mayor Cantrell. "Meeting our people where they are remains a top priority for my administration."

Research conducted prior to the pandemic demonstrated that as many as 70 percent of justice-involved youth had a diagnosable mental health disorder. These disorders included attention deficit hyperactivity disorders, behavior problems, anxiety disorders, depressive/mood disorders, and trauma-related diagnoses like post-traumatic stress disorders. With this support, the Children's Bureau of New Orleans will deploy mental health clinicians to provide trauma-informed care to youth involved in the justice system. Clinicians will

provide evidence-based trauma treatment to youth who are court-involved and are determined to have mental health symptoms secondary to trauma exposure.

"The funds from the City of New Orleans offer Children's Bureau the opportunity to continue its work in the justice system, but to do it with more intentionality," said Judge Calvin Johnson, Esq., Children's Bureau Board Member. "We will continue to deliver evidence-based trauma treatment to youth who are court-involved. But we will be working to figure out how to embed these services in existing programs — making these services part of the programming will increase access and allow us to deliver much-needed services to

our court-involved youth."

Additionally, with this support, Ubuntu Village will administer the Parent Leaders Educate for Action (PLEA) program, which works with families of youth who have had contact with the justice system. More than 100 parents and caregivers will meet monthly to receive peer-to-peer support, educational resources, and leadership development. Referrals for this program will come from the Juvenile Justice Intervention Center and other stakeholders. Numerous studies have found that a family-systems approach not only reduced recidivism rates for justice-involved youth, compared to other models of treatment but also reduced the rates of siblings' involvement in the justice system.

Cover Story, Continued
from page 3.

Wright for the session.

Attorney Barbara Arnwine, the founder and president of Transformative Justice Coalition (TJC), and Daryl Jones, TJC's chairman of the board, will host "Black America Get Out the Vote and the Black Press."

Northern Kentucky University Professor Dr. David Childs will lead Defender Network Managing Editor ReShonda Tate-Billingsley, and Defender Network Social Justice Journalist Aswad Walker in a discussion about "The Black Press and the Antidote to Racism in America."

The NNPA Fund will present its 2022 Messenger Awards during a dinner on Thursday, June 23.

Dr. John Warren, the San Diego Voice & Viewpoint publisher, plans to provide the invocation, while Mississippi Link Publisher Jackie Hampton will announce scholarship recipients.

NNPA Fund Chair and Wave Communications President & CEO Pluria Marshall Jr. and Fund Treasurer and Times Weekly Publisher Jayme Cain Casimere will present the Messenger Awards to NNPA journalists and publishers.

On Friday, June 24, the NNPA will host its 2022 Lifetime Achievement and



NNPA Chair and Publisher of the Houston Forward Times Karen Richards and member media organizations are celebrating 195 years of Black Newspapers at this years' conference.

Legacy Award Gala. This year's honorees include Westside Gazette Publisher Bobby Henry, Congresswoman Maxine Waters, Jackson State University Football Coach Deion "Prime" Sanders and recording superstar and actress Stephanie Mills.

With hits like "Home," "Never Knew Love Like This Before," and "I Feel Good All Over," Mills will speak about the importance of the Black Press in her life and perform a medley of her songs.

"In the spirit of the 195 year his-

FREEDOM'S JOURNAL.

"RIGHTHOUSNESS EXALTETH A NATION"

CORNISH & RUSSWORM
Editors & Proprietors

NEW-YORK, FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 1827

VOL. I NO. 1.

TO OUR PATRONS

IN presenting our first number to our Patrons, we feel all the diffidence of persons entering upon a new and untried line of business. But a moment's reflection upon the noble objects, which we have in view by the publication of this Journal, the expediency of its appearance at this time, when so many schemes are in action concerning our people - encourage us to come boldly before an enlightened public. For we believe, that a paper devoted to the dissemination of useful knowledge among our brethren, and to their moral and religious improvement, must meet with the cordial approbation of every friend to humanity.

The proprietors of the Journal, render it important that we should advertise to the world the motives by which we are actuated, and the objects which we contemplate. We wish to plead our own cause. Too long has the public been deceived by misrepresentations in things which concern us dearly, though in the estimation of some mere trifles for though there are many in society who exercise towards us benevolent feelings still (with sorrow we confess it) there are others who make it their business to enlarge upon the least trifle, which tends to the discredit of any person of colour; and pronounce mathematics and disapprove whole body for the misconduct of this guilty one. We are aware that there are many instances of vice among us, but we are not in the least ashamed to present just and adequate views of it, and to urge upon our brethren the necessity and expediency of training their children, while young, in habits of industry, and thus forming them for becoming useful members of society. It is surely time that we should awake from the lethargy of years, and make a concerted effort for the education of our youth. We form a spike in the human wheel, and it is necessary that we should understand our position on the different parts, and their use in order to perform our part with propriety.

Though not desirous of dictating, we shall feel it our incumbent duty to dwell occasionally upon the general principles and rules of economy. The world has grown too enlightened, to estimate any man's character by his personal appearance. Though all men acknowledge the excellency of Franklin's maxims, yet comparatively few practice upon

works of trivial importance, we shall consider it part of our duty to recommend to our young readers, such authors as will not only enlarge their stock of useful knowledge, but such as will also serve to stimulate them to higher attainments in science.

We trust also, that through the columns of the FREEDOM'S JOURNAL, many practical points, bearing for their basis, the improvement of our brethren, will be presented to them, from the pens of many of our respected friends, who have kindly offered their assistance.

It is our earnest wish to make our Journal a medium of intercourse between our brethren in the different states of this great confederacy; that through its columns an expression of our sentiments, on many interesting subjects which concern us, may be offered to the public; that plans which apparently are beneficial may be candidly discussed and properly weighed; if worthy, receive our cordial approbation; if not, our marked disapprobation.

Useful knowledge of every kind, and every thing that relates to Africa, shall find a ready admission into our columns; and that vast continent becomes daily more known we trust that many things will come to light, proving that the natives of it are not so ignorant and stupid as they have generally been supposed to be.

And while those important subjects shall occupy the columns of the FREEDOM'S JOURNAL, we would not be unmindful of our brethren who are still in the iron fetters of bondage. They are our kindred by all the ties of nature; and though but little can be effected by us, still let our sympathies be poured forth, and our prayers in their behalf ascend to Him who is able to succour them.

From the press and the pulpit we have suffered much by being incorrectly represented. Men whom we equally love and admire have not hesitated to represent us as disaffected, without becoming personally acquainted with the true state of things, nor discerning between virtue and vice among us. The virtuous part of our people feel themselves wronged under the existing state of things - they are not appreciated. Our views and our degradation are ever arrayed against us, but our virtues are passed by unnoticed. And what is still more lamentable, our friends, to whom we concede all the principles of humanity and religion, from these very causes seem to have fallen into the current of popular feeling and are imperceptibly floating on the stream actually living in the practice of prejudice, while they deplore it in theory, and feel it not in their hearts. It is not very desirable that such should know more of our actual condition, and of our efforts and feelings, than in forming an abstract plan for our amelioration, they may do it more understandingly. In the spirit of candor and

narrative which they have published, the establishment of the republic of Haiti after years of sanguinary warfare; its subsequent progress in all the arts of civilization; and the advancement of liberal ideas in South America, where despotism has given place to free government, and where many of our brethren now fill important civil and military stations, prove the contrary.

The interesting fact that there are FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND free persons of colour, one half of whom might perish, and the whole be benefited by the publication of the Journal; that no publication, as yet, has been devoted exclusively to their improvement; that many selections from approved standard authors, which are in the reach of few, may occasionally be made; and more important still, that this large body of our citizens have no public channel all serve to prove the real necessity, at present, for the appearance of FREEDOM'S JOURNAL.

It shall ever be our desire so to conduct the editorial department of our paper as to give offense to none of our patrons; as nothing is further from us than to make the advocate our partial views, either in politics or religion. What few days we can number, have been devoted to the improvement of our brethren, and it is our earnest wish that the remainder may be spent in the same delightful service.

In conclusion, whatever concessions we as a people, will ever find a ready admission into the FREEDOM'S JOURNAL, interwoven with all the practical news of the day. And while everything in our power shall be performed to support the character of our Journal, we would respectfully invite our numerous friends to assist in their communications, and our coloured brethren to strengthen our hands by their subscriptions, as our labour is one of common cause, and worthy of their consideration and support. And we do most earnestly solicit the latter, that if at any time we should seem to be zealous, or too pointed in the imputation of any important lesson, they will remember, that they are equally interested in the cause in which we are engaged, and attribute our zeal to the peculiarities of our situation, and our earnest engagement in their wellbeing.

THE EDITORS

From the Liverpool Mercury

MEMOIRS OF CAPTAIN CLIFFE

"On the first of the present month of August, 1811, a vessel arrived at Liverpool, with a cargo from Sierra Leone; the captain, master, mate and whole crew of which are free blacks. The master, who is also owner, is a very well skilled both in trade and navigation, as well as to the use of a very good and accurate chronometer. It must have been a strange and amusing spectacle to see this free and enlightened African, residing as an independent trader with his black crew into

of his countrymen he possessed a mind far superior to his condition, although he was engaged in the business of his master, and faithful to his interest, yet he great industry and economy he was enabled to purchase his personal liberty. At the time the remains of several Indian tribes, who originally possessed the right of soil, resided in Massachusetts. Cliffe became acquainted with a woman descended from one of those tribes, named Ruth Moon, and married her. He continued the habits of industry and frugality, and soon afterwards purchased a farm of 100 acres at the point of Massachusetts.

Cliffe and Ruth had a family of ten children. The three eldest sons, David, James, and John, are farmers in the neighbourhood of West Point filling respectable situations in society, and endowed with good intellectual capabilities. They are all married, and have families to whom they are giving good education. Of six daughters four are respectably married, while two remain single. Paul was born on the Island of Cornubia, near New Bedford, in the year 1770 when he was about fourteen years of age, his father died, leaving a considerable property in land, but which being at that time unproductive, afforded but little provision for his numerous family, and thus the care of supporting his mother and sisters devolved upon his brothers and himself. At this time Paul conceived that commerce furnished to industry more ample rewards than agriculture, and he was convinced that he possessed qualities which would enable him to procure his freedom, and to become a man of property.


He therefore resolved to leave his father's estate, and to seek his fortune in the West Indies, on a whaling vessel. A common hand on board of a vessel destined to the bay of Mexico, on a whaling vessel. His command was to the West Indies, but on his third he was captured by a British ship during the American war, about the year 1776. After three months detention in a ship, at New York, he was permitted to return home to Westport, where owing to the unfortunate continuance of howlities he spent about two years in his father's estate. During this interval Paul and his brother John Cliffe, were called on by the collector of the duties, in which they assisted, for the payment of a personal tax. It appeared to them, that by the laws and constitution of Massachusetts, taxation and the whole rights of citizenship were united. If the laws demanded of them the payment of the personal taxes, the same laws must necessarily and constitutionally invest them with the right of representation and being represented in the legislature. But they had never been considered as entitled to the privilege of voting at elections, nor of being elected to places of trust and honor. Under these circumstances they refused payment of the duties.

The collector resorted to the force of the laws, and after many delays and detentions, Paul and his brother deemed it most prudent to silence them by paying the duties. But they were not contented with this, it was necessary to obtain the rights which they believed to be connected with taxation. They presented a respectful petition to the state legislature. From some individuals it met with a warm, and almost indignant reception. The considerable majority was, however, favorable to their claims. They persistently presented and justice of the petition, and with an honorable discharge. It must have been a strange and amusing spectacle to see this free and enlightened African, residing as an independent trader with his black crew into

Started by Samuel Cornish and John Russworm, Freedom's Journal was the first African American owned newspaper beginning its publishing in 1827. Today NNPA continues in this storied tradition of giving Black communities across America a voice.

tory of Black Newspapers, we are continuing in our tradition of giving our readers news they can use that can inform, educate and inspire our

community into collective action. Today this is more important than ever," remarks Terry Jones, Publisher of Data News Weekly.



Help Wanted

Advertising Sales

- Our Sales Reps sell online and print advertising space to local, regional and national businesses of all sizes throughout the US.
- You must love talking to people, as this job requires you to be on the phone constantly. You will spend your time making contact and building relationships with business owners all over the nation.
- Uncapped commissions for unlimited earning potential.

Call
(504) 821-7421
to apply.

NNPA, Welcome to New Orleans!

Proud Producers of the NNPA Opening Ceremony

NOW BOOKING INDIANS BRASS BANDS BABY DOLLS





LOUISIANA

CULTURE & CURATIVES

CALL FOR SPECIAL EVENTS, CONVENTIONS & SECOND LINES

LACURATIVES.COM | CONTACT@LACURATIVES.COM

CALL FOR RATES & AVAILABILITY 504.495.6718

Step Up Dad's Fashion Game



Tracee Dundas
Fashion Stylist

Shopping for Dad can sometimes be a daunting task. Sure, it's easy to pick up a bottle of cologne at the corner drugstore, but why not help the dad in your life step up his fashion game by giving him the gift of style.

We know Father's Day just passed, but we should celebrate them every day. Here are a few gift ideas that are fashionable, unique and sure to put a smile on any dad's face.



FEELING SHADY – Rounded oversized silhouette frame with mirror lens from Krewe du Optic



EAST COAST STYLE – Long length Hip Hop tail t-shirts with East Coast Rappers print detailing, round neckline and tail from Streetstyle Wear United



HATS OFF – White, wet-fleet straw fedora with a UPF-50 rating, providing 98% UV radiation block from Goorin Hats



BEST FOOT FORWARD – Empada Slip-On Sneaker feature traditional, "pano di pinti" woven textile from Allen Edmonds



SUITED DOWN – Business casual, camouflage print jacket and slacks paired with brown v-neck soft t-shirt from Macy's



TIME KEEPER – Stainless steel watch made from reclaimed German oak beer barrels from Original Grain



CROSS BODY BAG – Leather, shoulder holster wallet, two front pockets and adjustable strap from Streetstyle Wear United



SOUTHERN CHARM – Traditional southern seersucker style suit from Haspel



The Urban League of Louisiana welcomes the NNPA Convention to New Orleans and congratulates Data News Weekly Publisher Terry Jones for serving as Convention Committee Chairman.

Like the Urban League of Louisiana, the NNPA member publishers in Louisiana share our mission to assist African Americans in ensuring economic self-reliance civil rights, racial equity and power.

Alexandria News Weekly
Data News Weekly
Louisiana Weekly
New Orleans Tribune
Shreveport Sun
Baton Rouge Drum



About SEE Change:

The Urban League of Louisiana developed and serves as the backbone organization of the ambitious SEE CHANGE Collective which is a catalyst for closing the wealth gap for African Americans, Hispanics, and Latinos in the Greater New Orleans Region. The SEE CHANGE Collective seeks to close the wealth gap by lessening and ultimately eliminating disparities and opportunity differentials that limit the human potential and economic contributions of people of color in the Greater New Orleans Region.

Louisiana Cajun-Zydeco Festival

Photos by
Demian Roberts
Data News Weekly
Contributor

Recently, the Louisiana Cajun-Zydeco Festival celebrated the rich traditions of southwest Louisiana. The combination of rollicking two-step music and spicy seafood is a potent example of how we in Louisiana love to "pass a good time."



Bruce Sunpie Barnes and Aurelien Barnes



Rosie Ledet



Chubby Carrier



Spyboy Rickey Cinnamon Black Juan Pardo



Crowd with Jennifer Jones



Corey Ledet



Dwayne Doopsie



Sean Ardoin



Welcomes NHPA to New Orleans

As a global leader in STEM education, we are proud to partner with Data News Weekly to welcome America's leaders in Black Press to our great city.

STEM Global Action's Mission is to successfully expand STEM education opportunities, especially for under-resourced communities and communities of color. We want every child regardless of their race, ethnicity or gender to have opportunities to excel in the STEM field, which will be engine for quality jobs and careers in the 21st Century.

Find us in a City Near You!

- ⚙️ STEM NOLA
- ⚙️ STEM Baton Rouge
- ⚙️ STEM Central Louisiana
- ⚙️ STEM Grambling
- ⚙️ STEM Shreveport-Bossier
- ⚙️ STEM Gulf Coast
- ⚙️ STEM Illinois
- ⚙️ STEM Saginaw

..and coming to your city SOON!

Learn more about us at

🌐 www.STEMGLOBALACTION.com



As COVID-19 Tore Us Apart, Black Music Kept Us Together

Josephine McNeal
Guest Columnist CMRignite
Public Relations

President Joe Biden declared June to be Black Music Appreciation Month, a time to celebrate the powerful influence Black music has had on American culture and heritage.

Originally created by former President Jimmy Carter in 1979, the appreciation month is reestablished every year with a Presidential Proclamation.

Time and time again, Black musicians have contributed a soundtrack for peoples' lives and a safe expression of emotions.

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, they performed at-home concerts. Kendrick Lamar's "Alright" and other songs expressed the emotions felt by so many navigating a life-stopping virus in the United States.

Music by Black artists also transformed our social media newsfeeds into safe havens. In 2020, social media became a space for the Black community to engage with light-



hearted and uplifting content, such as R&B duo Chloe x Halle performing songs from their tennis court. Social media influencers, including Jalaiah Harmon, used catchy dance challenges to bring happiness across people's timelines as they quarantined at home.

Some Black artists, including rapper Lupe Fiasco, have also taken to social media to advocate for COVID-19 vaccines.

After saying his fans would need to be vaccinated to attend his 2020 concert, the rapper received harsh pushback from people on Twitter.

Despite the comments, he did not backpedal. He told fans his decision came from searching for options outside of vaccines.

With more outdoor and indoor music events this summer, it's crucial for Black Americans to get shots into their arms.

"Be vigilant, vaccinated, boosted, double boosted, sanitized and distanced," said Gary Hines director and producer of the three-time Grammy Award-winning inspirational group Sounds of Blackness. "This will be the first full celebration of Juneteenth, which is now an official, national holiday. Our latest song release, 'Juneteenth,' is an anthem about the themes of this season: celebration, liberation and freedom. And part of that freedom and celebration should be vaccination."

The bottom line: The pandemic became a space where Black musicians took the time to make sense of the world around them and defiantly tell their stories, personal and political. Their musical talents and uplifting mantras have moved us onward and upward. With more vaccinations, we can keep moving in the right direction.

For resources and toolkits to help you build vaccine confidence in your community, visit the We Can Do This website, www.wecan-dothis.hhs.gov.

"YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO STRONG"

BUT IF I'M NOT, WHO WILL?

Being a caregiver takes a special kind of commitment. We know your strength is super, but you're still human. FIND SUPPORT FOR YOUR STRENGTH.

AARP.ORG/CAREGIVING
1-877-333-5885
AARP Real Possibilities



Our Shero

"In retirement, I want to stay fit... financially and physically."

Visit **AceYourRetirement.org** for:

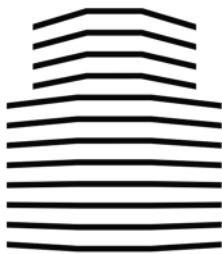
- 3-minute online chat with a digital retirement coach
- Free personalized roadmap based on your retirement goals
- Free tips to start boosting your retirement savings now

ad COUNCIL

AARP



GROW CONNECTED.



NEW ORLEANS
CHAMBER

The New Orleans Chamber is over 1,200 members strong and growing.
With so many connections at your fingertips, now is the time to build your business.

DON'T DELAY, JOIN TODAY!
DUES AS LOW AS \$180!

NewOrleansChamber.org

Dominique Walker of KIPP Leadership Primary

New Schools for New Orleans

In Dominique Walker's class this year, the students wore crowns.

Crowns made of paper and decorated by the children in conjunction with a picture book they read. But Walker, who teaches kindergarten at KIPP Leadership Primary (KLP), also sees them as a metaphor.

"You always have a crown on your head, even when you don't," she explains. "It doesn't matter how old you are, you're never too young to help other people. We just let them know that they're special, and just work on that identity affirmation," she says.

Walker wants her kindergarteners to feel empowered, strong, and ready to take on the world. Part of that means getting to know the world right around their school building, which is on St. Claude Avenue. Walker teaches students about New Orleans history and culture.

"From the beginning of the year, we started checking out ways for them to learn about Gentilly, and Pontchartrain Park, and the Seventh Ward," she says. "All the rich history that's just literally all around our school in itself where we're located."



Dominique Walker is an example of excellence as an educator in New Orleans.

"We've learned about A.P. Tureaud. We've learned about the Zulu Club, we've learned about many of the social aid and pleasure clubs. We've talked about the environment and how Claiborne Avenue used to look very different," she says.

When students learn about role models like Tureaud, Walker is careful to make a leader's path seem possible.

"All these people you learn about, they were also young," she tells them. "They also started somewhere."

Students made their own shoebox dioramas of examples of Black and African heritage in New Orleans' culture and architecture. Walker says that part of what students need to learn in kindergarten is a sense that school is a place they belong. It's not just about getting the basics for math and reading, but understanding that school is a comfortable, fun, and welcoming place to be.

For Walker, this can have a powerful ripple effect. She feels frus-



trated with what can be a negative public dialogue around New Orleans' students.

"You really must focus on the positive, because these kids are the future. So, if you don't like what's going on in the city, really the way to change that is to give children the education they need and these loving, fun experiences," she says. "So, it means a lot to me to sometimes step away from the content and give them opportunities to learn about each other,

and learn about their history, and just have fun."

Walker builds in opportunities to have fun throughout the school year, not just when students are learning about local history. They have a weekly Friday celebration that ties into whatever they are learning about. In the spring, when they were learning about colors, they made tie-dye t-shirts.

"Really seeing them in those moments is the most joyous thing for me," Walker says. "A lot of times, play gets cut. And for a kindergartener, playing is really important to their communication, and their sharing, and their social skills."

Walker's ability to build this type of joyful, productive environment comes from training, experience, and mentorship.

She hadn't planned on becoming a teacher. She arrived at Xavier University of Louisiana in 2009 from Los Angeles, California, with the intention of being a doctor. She found she wasn't feeling passionate about the classes, and she came from a family of educators, so she decided to try that path. She loved the first education class she took.

"From there on I never looked back. It was never a second guess about what I was going to do."

Congressman Troy Carter, Senators Cassidy, Kennedy Ask FEMA to Extend Hurricane Katrina Recovery Deadline

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Troy A. Carter, Sr. and U.S. Senators Bill Cassidy, M.D. and John Kennedy yesterday requested that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) extend the August 2023 deadline for the city of New Orleans to use the public assistance it received in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. The city received nearly \$2 billion in relief from FEMA to repair roads and pipes damaged during the storm.

"I'm proud to join Louisiana's Senators in a bipartisan manner to request FEMA extend the deadline on these important public assistance funds it received after Hurricane Katrina," said Congressman Carter. "No matter the mistakes and failures



Congressman Troy Carter

in allocating these funds, and there have been many, we must do everything we can to secure these dollars and complete this critical work

for the people of New Orleans. Our city needs these resources to fix our roads and pipes."

"Families in New Orleans had their lives uprooted by Hurricane Katrina. It changed the city forever," said Dr. Cassidy. "FEMA should not impose arbitrary deadlines on recovery and rebuilding."

"Hurricane Katrina devastated our state, and Hurricanes Laura, Delta, Zeta and Ida have only slowed recovery and dealt their own blows. South Louisiana's communities and economy need this \$2 billion in FEMA aid to keep rebuilding what Katrina damaged, and I hope the agency gives the state an extension quickly," said Senator Kennedy.

The lawmakers discussed the need for an extension further in the letter.

"When Hurricane Katrina ripped through the Gulf Coast in August 2005 with maximum sustained winds of 175 mph, it killed 1,833 people. It took some 43 days after Katrina made landfall for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to pump the last of the floodwaters out of the city" wrote the lawmakers. "In the more recent years, New Orleans' rebuilding has

been challenged by the COVID pandemic and the unprecedented 2020 hurricane season that included Hurricanes Ida, Zeta, Barry, and Laura."

"The Louisiana Congressional Delegation requests the August 2023 deadline be extended in order to fulfill much needed maintenance to roads and pipe repair in New Orleans," continued the lawmakers.

This space can be yours for only \$80

CALL NOW!!!

504-821-7421

Vice President Kamala Harris Talks Voting Rights, Racism with Black Press Publishers

Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior
National Correspondent

Vice President Kamala Harris held an exclusive discussion with publishers from the National Newspaper Publishers Association, which represents the Black Press of America, to discuss various issues from voting rights to Roe v. Wade and racism in the United States.

"The Black Press has been very special," Harris told the publishers in a 30-minute conversation moderated by NNPA President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr.

"[The administration] doesn't expect special treatment, just fair treatment to cover the accomplishments because they are significant and will have, in many cases, a generational impact on families and communities," Harris remarked.

With a record number of women of color representing the administration in various capacities, Harris asserted that "when people hold office reflect those impacted, we can effect change."

"At the top, as vice president, I am humbled and honored to hold this position," she insisted.

"I'll say that I think this administration and President Joe Biden have been exceptional. For example, I recently gave a speech in South Carolina, and it was in South Carolina that President Biden, then a candidate, said he was going to put a Black woman on the United States Supreme Court."

In April, Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson earned Senate confirmation as the first Black woman to the nation's high court.

"This president, our administration, has appointed more Black women to the federal court than, I believe, any administration in the history of this country," Harris demanded.

Also, she noted the appointment of former Congressional Black Caucus Chair Marcia Fudge as secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

"One of the big issues affecting our country right now is affordable housing, and one of the accomplish-



ments of our administration is the work we've been doing on home appraisals and how Black families' homes get appraised for less than white people," Harris said.

"We have confronted that issue of biased appraisals," she added.

Harris said the administration understands the vital issue of voting rights, despite the Senate failing to pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and the suppression laws that Republican-led states have adopted.

She acknowledged how the large voter turnout in the 2020 election and the special Senate election in Georgia in January 2021 helped catapult Democrats to the White House and control both chambers of Congress.

"We need to pass legislation. But, short of that, we're going to have to keep uplifting states that are doing good work around the right to vote every election cycle," Harris offered.

"If we help people to understand when they turned out in record numbers in 2020, what we were able to accomplish. We must remind people of what they get when they vote; that's the reality we face, but we must speak up and keep fighting."

The vice president noted that many states with voter suppression

laws also have statutes restricting other rights.

"There's an overlap that I think we should be aware of," Harris insisted.

Additionally, Harris offered concern about racism within politics.

"I'm very concerned about elected officials around the country who won't put a name on white supremacists," Harris stated.

She said part of the solution

lies in communities.

"One of the strongest tools is to build coalitions around communities that are targeted, to speak up and be informed so that nobody would be made to stand alone," Harris said.

"We know we have more in common than what separates us, but part of this has to do with people spewing online and other places the things that are not facts."

KMEZ 102.9
New Orleans' Best Mix of R&B

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

KMEZ 102.9
@mykmez1029
@kmez1029

www.kmez1029.com

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 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!

Job Opportunity

Administrative Assistant Wanted

Data News Weekly, "The People's Paper," is looking for an administrative assistant.

Compensation is competitive and detail orientation will be appreciated.

If you are interested, please email your resume to: terrybjones@bellsouth.net

This space can be yours for only \$80

Call Now!

504-821-7421

ladatanews.com
The People's Website



Care and Choice at the End of Life

A photograph of three people, two women and one man, sitting at a table and smiling. The woman on the left is older with grey hair, wearing a red top. The woman in the middle has curly brown hair and glasses, wearing a light blue shirt. The man on the right is older with grey hair, wearing a blue shirt. They appear to be engaged in a pleasant conversation. A semi-transparent white box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the main title.

END-OF-LIFE PLANNING EQUALS PEACE OF MIND

Have you had a conversation with your family yet?

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
WWW.COMPASSIONANDCHOICES.ORG