

Lighting The Road To The Future

New Orleans

Data

News Weekly

"The People's Paper"

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National News

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October 14 - October 20, 2023 58th Year Volume 25 www.ladatanews.com

A Data News Weekly Exclusive

Get Out and Vote!



Shawn Wilson
Governor



William "Billy" Nungesser
Lt.. Governor



Lindsey Cheek
Attorney General



Mike Francis
Secretary of State

Data News Weekly Endorsements for the October 14, 2023, Election

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Saltwater up the
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Get Out and Vote

Data News Weekly Endorsements for the October 14, 2023, Election



Shawn Wilson - Governor



William "Billy" Nungesser - Lt.. Governor

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

In these perilous and divisive times for our Democracy, it is important that we as a community get out and vote. Not simply voting but putting our power at

the ballot box behind the right candidates. Therefore, we are formally endorsing the following candidates in the October 14th election Shawn Wilson for Governor, William "Billy" Nungesser for Lieutenant Governor, Lindsey Cheek for Attorney General, and Mike Francis for Secretary of State.

In endorsing these candidates, we had the privilege of witnessing their dedication, commitment, and contributions to the people of the city and state. These selfless individuals have consistently demonstrated integrity, dedication, and a deep understanding of the issues facing our community.

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DATA NEWS WEEKLY

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Lindsey Cheek - Attorney General



Mike Francis - Secretary of State

We need these types of leaders now if we are to thrive as a city and state. Therefore, get out and let your collective voices be heard at the polls. Our time is now if we

are to make history in the State of Louisiana. We must be an example for the nation that we will not let someone turn back the clock on our many gains. Today,

we must raise our voices and get to the polls.

We at Data News Weekly have continued to be the "The People's Paper" to light the torch of freedom

leading the way to educate, inform, and inspire our community. So, please let us get out and make history together.

I firmly believe that the candidates we have endorsed are the best choice to serve the citizens of our city and state. Their track records, vision for the future, and unwavering commitment to serving the community speak volumes about their readiness and capability for the role.

I urge all to get out and vote on October 14, 2023.

Shawn Wilson - Governor

His experience in state government and ability to bring diverse groups of people to the table to discuss solutions. This is why we are supporting his historic candidacy. It is important that we have numbers at the polls like never before. Let our voices be heard and be part of history and vote for Shawn Wilson for Governor.

Billy Nungesser - Lt. Governor

Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser is a proven leader who shows that

he can work with any constituency. In his tenure, he has done significant work to make life better for all across the State of Louisiana.

Lindsey Cheek - Attorney General

Lindsey Cheek has spent her career fighting for everyday Louisianans who've suffered

unfathomable losses and tragedies as a result of corporate abuse and greed.

Lindsey will continue this fight as Attorney General for ALL Louisianians. With Lindsey

Cheek at the helm, families will have a tried and true lawyer fighting for THEIR safety and for THEIR future. Let's Geaux!

Mike Francis - Secretary of State

In a state that needs a fair, honest candidate we can trust. We have one in Mike Francis who is running for Secretary of State. Throughout his career in public service, he has been a passionate and principled leader. He is what we need in the next Secretary of State.

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Shawn Wilson's
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- ✓ **PROTECT MEDICAID EXPANSION** AND WOMEN'S PRIVATE HEALTHCARE DECISIONS
- ✓ **FULLY FUND EDUCATION**, INVEST IN EARLY CHILDHOOD, AND PAY OUR TEACHERS WHAT THEY DESERVE
- ✓ **FIGHT FOR THE RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS** OF EVERY LOUISIANAN



Jeff Landry's
FIRST 100 DAYS
OF DESTRUCTION

- ✗ **LET VIOLENT CRIME RUN RAMPANT** AND CONTINUE TO BLATANTLY DISREGARD ETHICS LAWS AS HE'S DONE HIS ENTIRE CAREER
- ✗ **PROSECUTE WOMEN AND GIRLS** SEEKING LIFESAVING HEALTHCARE AND START STATE EXECUTIONS
- ✗ **SLASH EDUCATION FUNDING** IN ORDER TO ENRICH HIMSELF AND HIS MEGADONORS
- ✗ **ABUSE THE POWER** OF HIS OFFICE TO INFRINGE ON OUR FREEDOMS AND PERSECUTE VULNERABLE LOUISIANANS

VOTE SHAWN WILSON #16 GOVERNOR FOR A LEADER WE CAN COUNT ON

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Administrative Assistant

- Data News Weekly, "The People's Paper," is looking for an administrative assistant.
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In 2019, Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser began working with leaders to develop the Louisiana Civil Rights Trail which launched in 2021. Now, embark on a historic journey 30 years in the making at the **Louisiana Civil Rights Museum** – located in Hall A of the Morial Convention Center in New Orleans. Come learn about the past and be inspired to create a better future.

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MIKE FRANCIS

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ABOUT MIKE

- Now Serving as Louisiana Public Service Commissioner
- Conservative Christian Businessman for 40 Years
- Born and Raised in Jena, Now Living in Crowley
- Married to Sheila Stevens Francis of Lake Charles
- Member of The Bayou Church
- Founder of Gospel Oaks Ranch for Children 2010 - 2020
- Founder and Past Owner of Francis Drilling Fluids
- Former Board Member for Louisiana College
- Pro-Life, Pro-Family, Pro-2nd Amendment

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Statement from Arnie Fielkow

"War in Israel"

Arnie D. Fielkow
Former New Orleans
City Council President
and Former CEO, Jewish
Federation of Greater New
Orleans

The Jewish world, both here in New Orleans and around the globe, wakes up to a very different reality today. As of this writing, more than 700 Israelis have died, more than 1500 have been injured, and reportedly over 100 innocent civilians have been brutally kidnapped and taken hostage into the terrorist territory of Gaza. All of these numbers will assuredly rise in the coming days, as will the number of deaths and injuries inevitably to be faced by the Palestinian population as Israel responds to the weekend of terror.

I have heard commentators call the events of the weekend Israel's 9/11 or Pearl Harbor. Some have rightfully characterized it as the worst event in Jewish History since the Holocaust. But for me, it brings back those sickening moments of 1972 in Munich when innocent Israeli Olympians were pulled from their rooms by Palestinian terrorists and eventually murdered at the Munich airport. I am forever haunted by the words of the great Jim McKay who informed a global audience that "They're all gone, They're all gone". I am also reminded of the 1976 hijacking of an Air France plane to Entebbe, Uganda by Palestinian terrorists, where Jewish passengers (eventually freed) were separated simply because of their religion.

I spent the entire weekend crying, with alternating emotions of



Arnie D. Fielkow

anger, disbelief and sadness. There are obviously many questions which need to be answered such as how such a security breach could have happened, the role of Iran, and

how will Israel, the United States, and the international community respond. Israel has experienced many military conflicts with terrorist groups such as Hamas, Islamic Jihad and others, but I don't think anyone could have ever projected the level of cruelty and evil seen over the weekend.

Undoubtedly, some in the media will point fingers at Israel, condemn it when it responds to Hamas' actions, or try to justify everything based upon Israeli policies and politics. But people of good conscious and humanity need to stand up and say NO! Because what makes this weekend different and unprecedented is the animalistic conduct of the Palestinian terrorists who intentionally took hostage innocent women, children, seniors, and even Holocaust survivors. Terrorists who shot, cut throats, and viciously

murdered hundreds of innocent youth and teenagers (both Israelis and Americans) at a Pro-Peace Music Festival, or who dragged young children from their homes so as to create human shields against future Israeli response. How could one not cry in hearing the emotional pleas of fathers and mothers asking that their innocent children be returned? My wife and I have 5 children and all I could think about over the weekend was that these murder victims and hostages could easily have been my own kids targeted for only one reason: they are Jewish.

I fear for the worst in the coming days as thousands of lives will likely be lost. I have compassion for both the innocent Israeli and Palestinian populations, but emotionally my priority today is the

War, Continued on page 7.

Lindsey Cheek for Attorney General # 31



"I am not a politician. I am a damn good lawyer. I've dedicated my life to fighting for Louisiana families."

— Lindsey Cheek

Endorsed by Data News Weekly

State & Local News

Reprieve for New Orleans as Salt Water Creeping up the Mississippi River Slows its Push Inland

MISSISSIPPI RIVER SALTWATER WEDGE		
TIMING FOR LOUISIANA WATER PLANTS		
SOURCE: ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS	DATE	
FRESHWATER	BELLE CHASSE	OCT 13
NEW ORLEANS	DELCOUR	OCT 17
LA	ST. BERNARD	OCT 28
SALTWATER	NEW ORLEANS/ALGIERS	NOV 23
	GRETNA	NOV 26

Data News Staff Edited Report

Salt water inching up the Mississippi River from the Gulf of Mexico is progressing more slowly than projected, authorities said Thursday, meaning water systems in the Greater New Orleans area that draw drinking water from the river have additional weeks to prepare.

For some small systems downriver, the projected arrival of salt water was pushed back to later this month. For New Orleans and neighboring Jefferson Parish, the threat to water system intakes was pushed back from late October to late November. And intakes for large portions of the city and Jefferson Parish now are not expect-

ed to see salinity above 250 parts per million, a level that triggers health warnings.

Unexpected October or November rains could further delay and diminish the threat, said Col. Cullen Jones, Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' New Orleans District.

Typically, the Mississippi's flow is sufficient to prevent salt water from moving farther upstream. But for the second year in a row, hot and dry weather has lowered the river, allowing a denser, heavier layer of salt water from the Gulf to push inland.

State, local and federal officials discussed the latest projections at

Commentary, Continued on page 7.

Fat Joe, Rick Ross, Busta Rhymes, Method Man, French Montana, Chuck D, Unite with Power to the Patients in PSA Demanding Healthcare Price Transparency

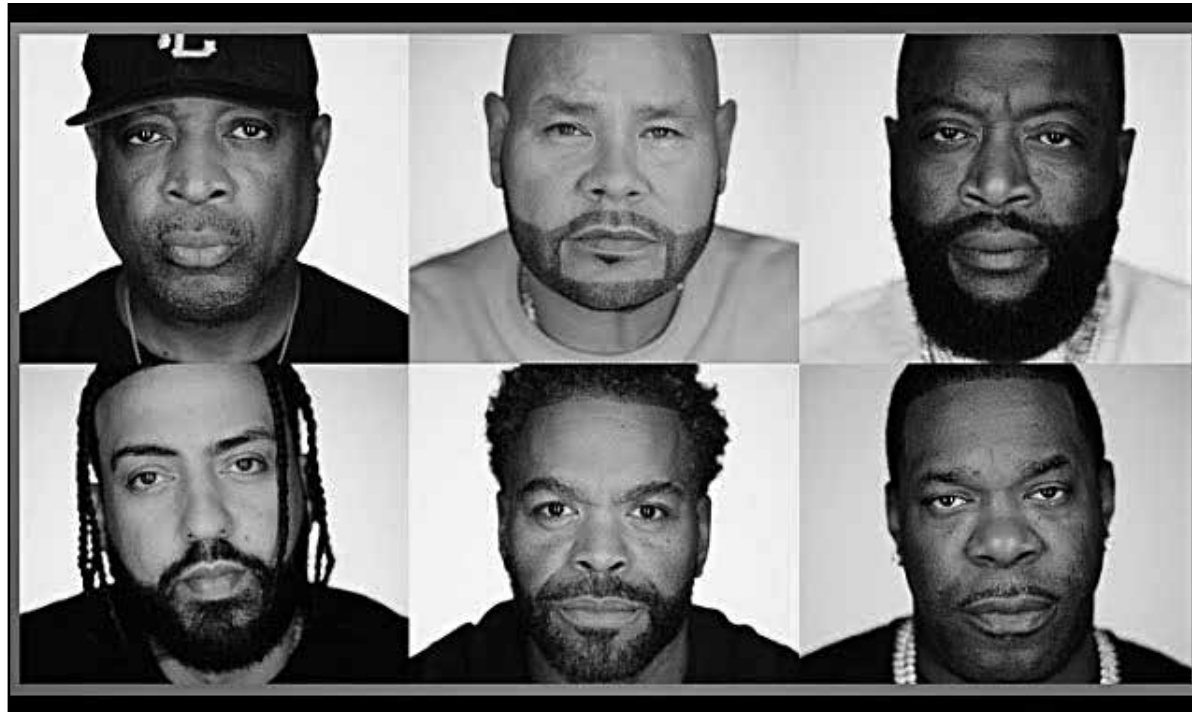
Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior
National Correspondent

Hip-Hop Legends Fat Joe, Rick Ross, Busta Rhymes, Method Man, French Montana and Chuck D have teamed up with Power to the Patients, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to achieving systemwide price transparency in healthcare, to unveil a public service announcement (PSA) that demands elected officials commit to creating a Healthcare System with transparency to allow for more honest, affordable, and equitable health care across the country.

"Today, we confront a Healthcare System that's been rigged against all of us. Hospitals force patients to sign contracts for services without ever showing us actual prices," the artists said in a joint statement.

The new PSA comes as the House of Representatives prepared to vote on an historic healthcare price transparency bill. According to a news release, the iconic artists leveraged their collective voices "to advocate for stronger and more meaningful price transparency laws that would force hospitals and insurance companies to post actual prices for their services and procedures."

In the PSA, they call out hospitals and insurance companies that continue to hide prices by posting "estimates" or "average prices" instead of dollars and cents. They asserted



that the deception leads to the "stifling of competition, overcharges, fear, debt, and devastation all over the country." The icons further noted that "hospitals force patients to sign contracts for services without ever showing us actual prices" and that it's "creating so much fear that millions and millions of Americans refuse to enter a hospital, putting our health and our lives at stake." Public Enemy front man Chuck D also reminded viewers that this "an American humanitarian crisis."

Grammy-nominated artist and philanthropist Fat Joe, who visited the White House and met with lawmakers on Capitol Hill earlier

this year to advocate for millions of patients, families, communities, employees, employers, and unions across the nation who have been taken advantage of by our Healthcare System.

In June, Fat Joe and Power to the Patients' joined healthcare transparency efforts led by New York City Council and various union groups, culminating in Mayor Eric Adams signing the Healthcare Accountability and Consumer Protection Act in June 2023, which established the nation's first Office of Health Care Accountability to allow New Yorkers to compare costs charged by different hospitals for the same

services.

Reportedly, more than 100 million Americans suffer from medical debt, which is the leading cause of personal bankruptcy. According to the most recent semi-annual report by Patient Rights Advocate, only 36% of hospitals in America are compliant with the current Federal Price Transparency Rule.

As Hip Hop turns 50 years old, Fat Joe and his peers reflected on the music movement that changed "Our country and are leading a new movement to confront a healthcare system that has been rigged against all of us."

Commentary, Continued from page 6.

a news conference at the Corps' New Orleans Headquarters. Jones cited two factors in the latest projections: an underwater sill downriver has succeeded in impeding the heavy salt water's flow upriver; and weather and river forecasts, while still showing a continued drop in the river's usual downriver flow, are more optimistic.

Recent Stories from ABC News

Salt water that overtops the underwater sill is still lower in salinity than the water behind the sill toward the Gulf, Jones said.

"This updated projection is clearly a relief to all of us,"

said Collin Arnold, New Orleans' Emergency Director.

Salt water already has reached some Plaquemines Parish communities closer to the river's mouth — Boothville, Port Sulphur and Pointe a la Hache. But communities such as Belle Chasse, Dalcourt and St. Bernard have gained another week or two to prepare. In the immediate New Orleans metro area, people who had been told their systems would be threatened by late October saw projections pushed back to Nov. 23rd and beyond.

Officials said multiple efforts to provide safe water to the downriver systems continue, including

barging large amounts of fresh water to the intakes and installing better filtration systems. For the heavily populated parts of New Orleans and neighboring Jefferson Parish, where barging water is not practical, plans continue for pipelines to shunt fresh water from farther upriver.

For New Orleans alone, the pipe system costs have been projected at \$150 million to \$250 million. Local and state authorities expect much of the cost to be covered by the Federal Government. President Joe Biden said late last month that Federal Disaster Assistance would be made available to Louisiana.

War, Continued from page 6.

safe return of the hostages. I do not know how, or if, this can be accomplished but until it does, Israel is fully justified in taking whatever action is needed to accomplish the task. At the end of the day, Hamas and terrorist groups like it care little about the Palestinian population they purport to govern and sadly, by virtue of their actions, have likely signed a death sentence for their own civilians. How sad for all parties that this is where we are in 2023!

I ask all New Orleanians to come together in unity and partnership, as your Jewish brethren are today very much hurting. I have tried to live my entire life bringing people together and rejecting all forms of hate, including antisemitism and racism. If there was ever a moment for people to come together, put an arm around each other, and collectively condemn evil, that time is now. Let us all hope and pray that the cruelty seen this weekend will be defeated, and that both Israelis and Palestinians can one day live with peace and prosperity!

In Solidarity and Unity!
Arnie D. Fielkow

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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 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

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