

Lighting The Road To The Future

New Orleans

Data

News Weekly

"The People's Paper"



FREE COPY

Congo Square Rhythm Fest 2024

Data Zone Page 4

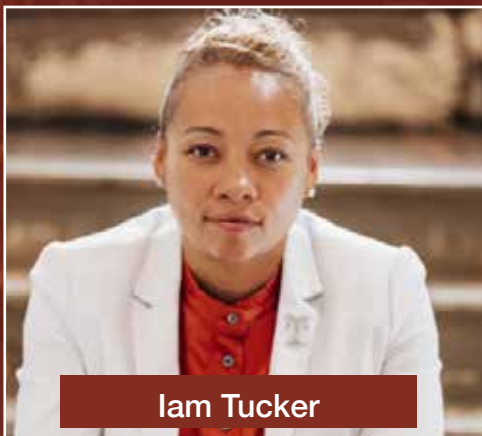
March 30 - April 5, 2024 58th Year Volume 49 www.ladatanews.com

A Data News Weekly Exclusive

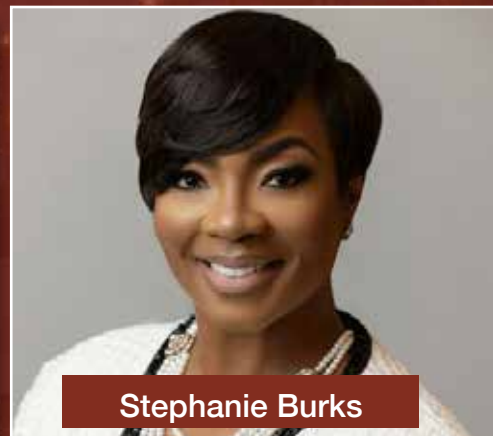
Phenomenal Women of New Orleans



Gia Hamilton



Iam Tucker



Stephanie Burks



Lynda Van Davis



Angela L. Young



Carmen James Randolph

Page 2



Newsmaker

Xavier Student
Terrol Perkins
Competition Victory

Page 6

National News

MC Lyte Releases
Empowering
Anthem



Page 7

Phenomenal Women of New Orleans

Marie Bell
Data News Weekly Contributor

New Orleans is a City filled with so many amazing women who are making an impact. In celebration of Women's History Month, Data News Weekly is featuring some of these amazing ladies who are adding to the rich legacy of women who have lived lives of vision and purpose.

Carmen James Randolph
Founding President & CEO, Women's Foundation of the South

Over the course of her 25-year career in Philanthropy, Carmen James Randolph has worked hard to successfully galvanize funders, donors, policymakers, and grassroots activists to forever change lives, systems, and communities for good.

In August 2021, she was thrilled to become the Founding President and CEO of a ground-breaking new foundation, the Women's Foundation of the South. Founded by and created for women and girls of color in the South, WFS boldly revolutionizes gender and racial justice in the Southern U.S. and is dedicated to building the health, wealth, and power of women and girls of color in the South. WFS has succeeded beautifully, having already raised over \$7M and provided \$1M in grants to nearly 100 nonprofit leaders.

Carmen is passionate about building prosperity for women and girls of color and firmly believes in the ineffable power a sisterhood holds to support, nurture, and amplify one another – this is why she always makes a point of collaborating with other women in Philanthropy. She has been a fellow in the Aspen Institute, the Neighborhood Funder's Group Philanthropy Forward Initiative, invited to join Fortune's Most Powerful Women Membership, and named one of the Top Women Leaders of Louisiana for 2024.

Iam Tucker
President CEO, Integrated Logistical Support (ILSI Engineering)

She is a visionary leader, driving Integrated Logistical Support, Inc. (ILSI Engineering) as its President and CEO. With a background in law enforcement and a degree from the University of New Orleans, Iam has propelled ILSI Engineer-



Carmen James Randolph
Founding President & CEO, Women's Foundation of the South



Iam Tucker
President CEO, Integrated Logistical Support (ILSI Engineering)



Gia Hamilton
Chief Curator & President of New Orleans African American Museum. Photo by Taja Janel.



Angela L. Young
Chief Communications Strategist & President of ALY Media Relations

Cover Story, Continued on page 3.

INSIDE DATA

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

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	Benjamin Bates	Production
Edwin Buggage	Edwin Buggage	Pubinator.com
Editor	Fleur De Lis	Editorial and
Sharonda Green	Marie Bell	Advertising Inquiries
Executive Assistant	Stacy M. Brown	datanewsweeklyad
June Hazeur		@gmail.com
Accounting		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.

ing to the forefront of the Civil Engineering Field in our state and beyond. Under her guidance, ILSI Engineering has garnered over 100 contract awards across state, local, and federal agencies, evolving from a small team to a workforce of over 50 employees engaged in projects nationwide and internationally. Beyond her professional achievements, Iam is a passionate advocate for the City of New Orleans and its people, actively involved in initiatives promoting diversity and empowerment.

Among numerous other prestigious awards, she was most recently recognized for her exemplary leadership. Iam was most recently honored as the SBA Small Businessperson of the Year for Louisiana and the 2023 winner of the Ernest N "Dutch" Morial Convention Center Small Business of the Year. She is dedicated to fostering positive change, serving on various boards and councils focused on economic development and small business entrepreneurship. Committed to community engagement, Iam, alongside her wife, Candace Tucker, initiated the #LocalHeroesChallenge, de-



Lynda Van Davis
Former Judge & Current Managing Partner at Tulane & Broad and Associates, LLC

living fresh meals to frontline workers during the Pandemic. With a vision for inclusive growth and social justice, she continues to lead with charisma and passion, leaving an indelible mark on her industry and community alike.



Stephanie Burks
Philanthropist and Co-Founder RYCARS Construction

Gia Hamilton
Chief Curator & President
of New Orleans African
American Museum

She is an esteemed Applied Anthropologist renowned for her

pioneering work in investigating the intersections of land, labor, and cultural production. With a unique approach known as Social Magic™ Methodology, she delves into the intricate dynamics of institutions and communities, exploring the

depths of social connectivity.

Hamilton's remarkable journey as a model builder began in 2006 when she co-founded Little Maroons, an independent African-Centered School. Recognizing the need for creative spaces, she went on to establish Gris Gris Lab in 2009, a dynamic incubator that nurtured and empowered emerging talents.

From 2011 to 2018, Hamilton's expertise and vision found expression as she served as a consultant and later director of the Joan Mitchell Center Artist Residency Program in New Orleans. During her tenure, she led the development of a transformative two-acre campus through the Innovative Workforce Development Project, Hyperlocal. Embracing a place-based and community-centered approach, she designed the program as a vibrant laboratory for visual artists, curators, and the creative community at large which includes acting as Co-Artistic Director of the Atlanta Biennial in 2016. Her guiding principle remained steadfast: that imagination and creativity are paramount in shaping a more equitable

Cover Story, Continued
on page 6.

ROUSES MARKETS

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE
WEEKLY SPECIALS

WWW.ROUSES.COM/WEEKLY-ADS

Prices good at New Orleans, Metairie, Gretna, Kenner, Marrero, Covington, Mandeville and Slidell locations
March 27th thru April 3rd, 2024.

SAVE \$161 LB

VALUE PACK

Ground Fresh Daily by our in-store butchers!

ONLY \$288 LB

SAVE \$300

ONLY 99¢ LIMIT 2

CHIQUITA GOLDEN Large Pineapples

SAVE \$298 When You Buy 2

2/\$3 LIMIT 2

3 LB BAG U.S. #1 Yellow Onions

SAVE \$200 LB

LOUISIANA LOCAL

WILD-CAUGHT HEAD-ON 9/12 Count Louisiana Shrimp \$599 LB

SAVE \$102

LOUISIANA LOCAL

30 OZ JAR Blue Plate Mayonnaise \$297

SAVE \$372

24 PACK 12 OZ Coca-Cola Soft Drinks \$997

BRINGING THE BEST SEAFOOD TO THE GULF COAST!

Congo Square Rhythm Fest 2024

Story and Photos by
Fleur De Lis

The 2024 Congo Square Rhythms Festival, presented by the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation, took place on March 23rd and 24th at Louis Armstrong Park and Congo Square. This annual event celebrates the rich heritage of what's known as the oldest neighborhood of free African Americans in the United States, showcasing New Orleans traditions that stem from the African diaspora. The festival was free and open to the public, featuring two performance stages with a vibrant lineup of local talents, including brass bands, African dance groups, and Mardi Gras Indian battles, as well as large local food and arts markets and Data News Weekly was there!!!



Many came out to the historic Congo Square in Armstrong Park for a weekend full of food, arts and crafts, and of course music. Data News Weekly was there!



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

St. Joseph's Night

Celebrating the Mardi Gras Indian and Black Masking Tradition

Story and Photos by
Edwin Buggage

St. Joseph's Night in New Orleans is a significant occasion for the Mardi Gras Indians, or Black Masking Indians, a vibrant and integral part of the city's cultural tapestry. These groups, known for their elaborate and meticulously handcrafted suits, engage in a tradition that intertwines African, Creole, and Native American Heritages. This tradition dates back to the 19th Century, rooted in both the solidarity among enslaved Africans and Native Americans; and the community's resilience in creating their own Carnival Celebrations when excluded from mainstream festivities. These rich traditions continue for generations to come. Data News Weekly was there to capture highlights of this celebration that showcases this part of the rich legacy and heritage of New Orleans.



Data News Weekly Editor-in-Chief Edwin Buggage with Ellis Gilton. "I truly love my culture, and it is always incredible to see our uniqueness on display. So many people from around the world come to experience what we create. I am proud to be from this city. St. Joseph's Night and many other events represent the best of who we are as New Orleans natives," says Gilton.



Xavier Student Terrol Perkins Competition Victory

"There Goes an Alpha Man"

Benjamin Bates
Data News Weekly
Contributor

This past weekend, Xavier University's Terrol Perkins, a student leader and graduating Senior, competed in the Belford V. Lawson Oratory Competition at the Alpha Phi Alpha Southwestern Regional Convention, winning first place among the collegiate speakers. Mr. Perkins joined Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. in Spring 2023 by way of the Beta Tau Chapter and has been setting the standard in terms of achievement and excellence. Terrol stated that he joined the fraternity because of its commitment to empowering communities and promoting mentorship and education.

In January, Terrol competed



Terrol Perkins

in the Belford V. Lawson Oratory Competition at the Alpha Phi Alpha Louisiana District Convention in Shreveport, Louisiana, where he won first place and advanced to the next level. He then went on to represent both Beta Tau Chapter and the State of Louisiana at the regional convention. The convention took place from March 21st-24th in New Orleans at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. Terrol competed against representatives from the Alpha Districts of Texas, Arkansas, and Oklahoma. The prompt that each contestant formulated their speeches to answer was the following: "How can Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. better leverage the power of education to overcome barriers and pave the way to a brighter future?" Through consistent preparation and support

from his chapter brothers, Terrol provided a stellar response to that question in an amazing speech! He made history as the first Beta Tau brother to win the Southwestern Regional Oratory Award in at least 12 years.

Besides being an outstanding brother in the Beta Tau, Terrol also serves as Chapter President for the Xavier Collegiate 100, where he devises initiatives to increase student engagement while promoting mentoring services. He plans on attending Southern University Law Center in the Fall. We congratulate Mr. Perkins on this impressive victory and wish him all the best in competing in the Alpha Phi Alpha General Convention Competition to be held next summer in Pennsylvania.

State & Local News

Southern University Baton Rouge Campus Names New Chancellor

to come to come

BATON ROUGE, La. (BRPROUD) — The Southern University System Board of Supervisors named a new Chancellor of Southern University's Baton Rouge Campus on Friday, March 22nd.

John K. Pierre was announced as the new Chancellor of Southern University's Baton Rouge Campus. Pierre currently serves as the Chancellor of the Southern University Law Center and SU System Interim Executive Vice President, according to a news release.

"As a higher education advocate, I am honored that the SUS Board of Supervisors and search committee are confident in my ability to champion and lead the Southern University and A&M University College," said Pierre.

The Board's approval comes at the Counsel of Southern University System President Dennis J. Shields. Shields arranged a search committee comprised of Southern



John K. Pierre, the newly appointed Chancellor of Southern University's Baton Rouge Campus.

University alumni, students, faculty and staff and community leaders, according to a news release. The committee got applications from a national search firm.

"I am committed to advancing the university's mission and fostering partnerships that will position our students, faculty, staff admin-

istrators and alumni to serve as transformational change agents," said Pierre.

Pierre will take over as Chancellor of Southern University once the Southern University System Board of Supervisors approves a contract. His official start date has not been announced.

Cover Story/ Continued from page 3.

and socially just world.

Gia serves as a board member for the Katrina National Memorial Foundation Museum and The Louisiana Doula Registry Board. With an unwavering commitment to challenging the status quo, Gia M. Hamilton continues to inspire and influence those around her, leaving an indelible mark on the Fields of Anthropology, education, and the arts as the CEO and Chief Curator of the New Orleans African American Museum in Tremé, the oldest Black neighborhood in the United States.

Angela L. Young
Chief Communications
Strategist & President of
ALY Media Relations

Young is founder and principal of ALY Media Relations, a full-service public relations, marketing and political consulting firm based in NOLA. For over 30 years, Angela has demonstrated herself as a communications specialist in various areas including: public relations, media relations, crisis communications, government relations, faith-based and community outreach and event management.

A highly respected strategic advisor, she has been a driving force behind the success of her clients' public relations, outreach, and political campaigns. Her most notable clients include National Urban League, Greenfield Louisiana,

Women's Foundation of the South, Councilmember Andre Dickens (Atlanta, GA), AT&T Humanity of Connection, The Memorial Foundation (Washington, D.C.), The House of Joy, Dillard University, Enterprise Community Partners and numerous NOLA elected officials.

Despite her ever-growing, professional and social life Angela still finds time to give back. She's the founder and president of Le Sanctuary Book Club, a nonprofit organization that's dedicated to serving the community and helping with the immediate needs of people in the areas of literacy and safety.

A few of Angela's favorite things to do are working out, attending social & networking events, shopping, mentoring and spending time with her sorority sisters. Angela is a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Lynda Van Davis
Former Judge & Current
Managing Partner at
Tulane & Broad and
Associates, LLC

Davis has recently been added to Greenfield Louisiana's Executive Team as Counsel – Head of External Affairs. Greenfield Louisiana plans to construct a new state-of-the-art grain export terminal in Wallace, LA.

Judge Davis has had an extraordinary career. Most notably, she

Cover Story, Continued
on page 7.

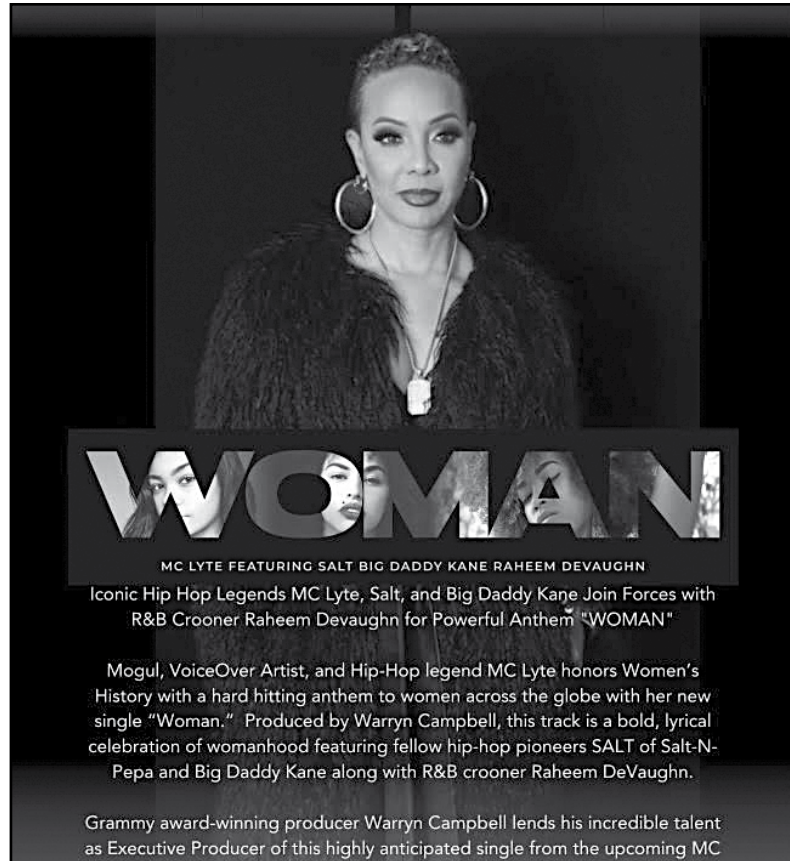
EXCLUSIVE MC Lyte Releases Empowering Anthem "Woman" Featuring Hip Hop Icons

Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior
National Correspondent

In a powerful ode to womanhood, MC Lyte, the mogul, voice-over artist, and hip-hop legend, is dropping her latest single, "Woman." The track collaborates with fellow hip-hop pioneers Salt from Salt-N-Pepa, Big Daddy Kane, and R&B crooner Raheem DeVaughn. Produced by Warryn Campbell, "Woman" is a bold and lyrical celebration of women across the globe.

The single, a joint venture between My Block Inc. and Sunny Girl Inc., with distribution by Vydia, promises to uplift and inspire all women. Lyte, known for her groundbreaking career spanning over 30 years, was the first female rapper nominated for a Grammy Award and the first rap artist to perform at Carnegie Hall.

"We were in a studio, me, Kane, Raheem with Warryn Campbell and the music was already done," Lyte told the NNPA Newswire. "We were listening to it, trying to assess



MC Lyte

what might happen. Raheem went into the booth and started singing

'woman,' and just hearing that, I was like, 'this is an ode to women.'

Lyte noted how she often speaks about her experience, and contemplates how everyone can celebrate women, particularly sending a message to individuals of color that their struggle isn't in vain. "My greatest hope is the acknowledgment of what has been and what has gotten us here," Lyte affirmed.

"Generally speaking, women are taking back their power," she proclaimed. "There are many women who sit in their power and have the ability to nurture and empower others, but there's so many others who have yet to understand that they can claim their power back, whether it's through a domestic violence scenario, starting their own business, empowering young people in their community, or realizing it takes a village. I want to give admiration and gratitude to those women who really are superwomen. They lead businesses, they lead families along with their husbands and sometimes alone; they have sisterhoods that are strong; and they've been able to provide support to other women."

Cover Story/ Continued from page 6.

served as a District Court Judge in New Orleans, Louisiana for nine years. While on the bench, Judge Davis resolved complex legal issues during capital murder cases and various violent crimes and narcotics cases. Elected at the age of 32, she remains the youngest judge ever elected to the judiciary in the State of Louisiana.

After her early retirement from the bench in 2012, Judge Davis lived in Cairo, Kuwait, and Jerusalem with her husband who worked for the Federal Government. In 2019, Lynda returned to the practice of law as General Counsel for

a strategic advisory and risk intelligence firm in Washington, D.C. Prior to being elected, Judge Davis worked as an Assistant United States Attorney and an Assistant District Attorney in New Orleans. She also worked as an Adjunct Professor at Tulane University School of Law from 2000 to 2012.

Stephanie Burks Philanthropist and Co-Founder RYCARS Construction

Burks is the Co-Founder, Vice-President, and Division Leader of Administration at RYCARS Con-

struction, LLC. With a vision for generational significance, she helps to establish the company in 2002, crafting its name from family initials. Leading the Accounting and Human Resources departments, Stephanie fosters professional growth within her team. RYCARS has completed over \$300 million in commercial roofing projects across healthcare, hospitality, and military sectors. Recognized in publications like Black Enterprise and New Orleans BIZ Magazine. RYCARS has earned accolades such as Top Workplaces in 2021 by Times-Picayune. RYCARS was recently recognized as one of UNCF MASKED

Award Recipients of the year.

With offices in four states, Stephanie ensures RYCARS remains community-focused, contributing over \$800,000 in scholarships and service. Active in organizations like the Links, Incorporated, and serving on boards like NOBA and WYES, Stephanie is dedicated to community empowerment. Recognized as Entrepreneur of the Year and a Women of Fashion honoree, She, alongside her husband Ryan and their three children, Arielle, Ryan II, and Caleb, continues to make impactful strides in both business and Philanthropy.

This space can be yours for only \$100

CALL NOW!!!

504-905-3235



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 \$50

Call Now!

504-821-7421

ladatanews.com - The People's Website



Who adopted who?

Adopt a teen.
You can't imagine the reward.



ADOPTUSKIDS.ORG