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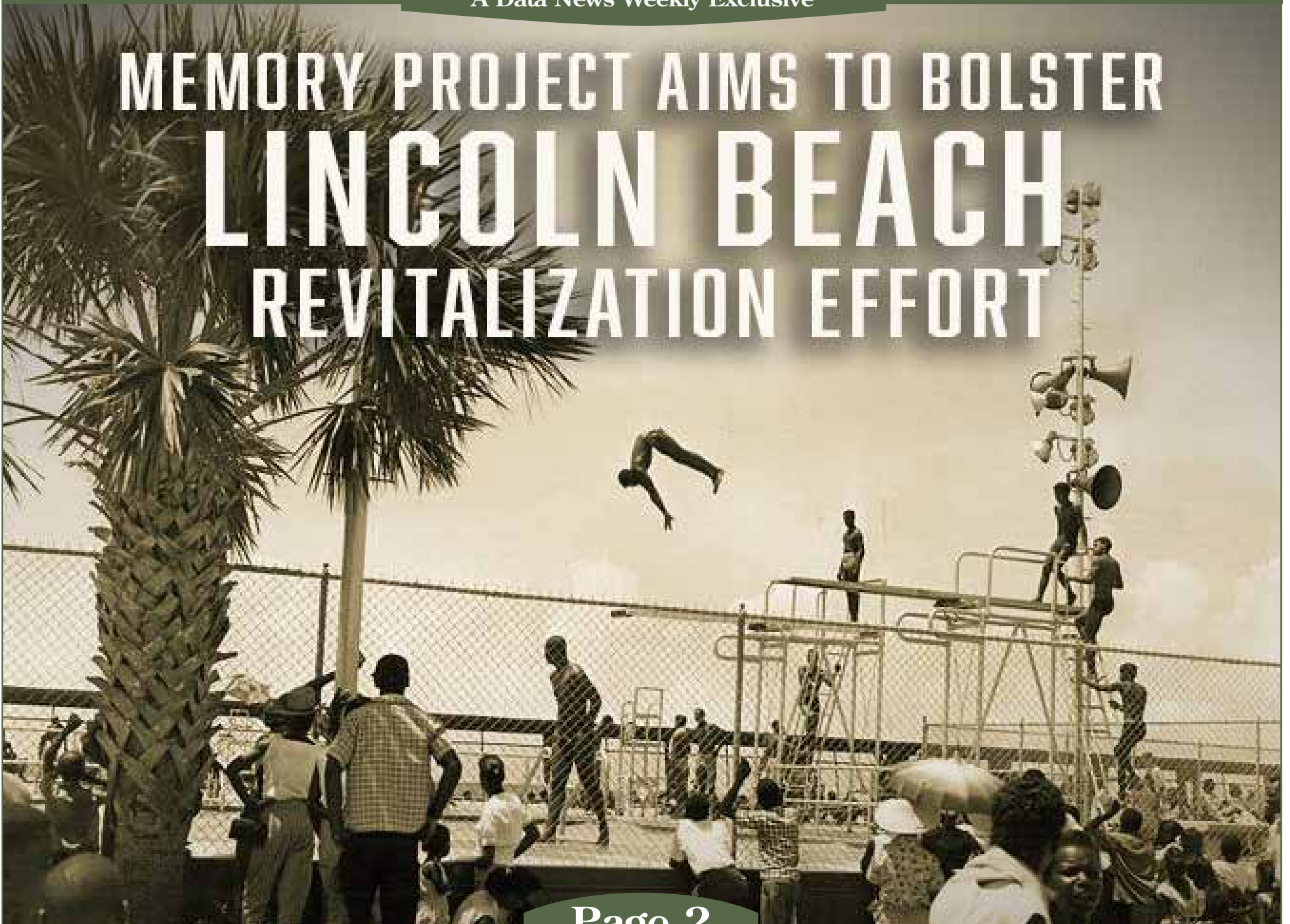
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A Data News Weekly Exclusive

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Memory Project Aims to Bolster Lincoln Beach Revitalization Effort



Lincoln Beach is an iconic place for African Americans in New Orleans. It was a public beach from 1939-1969 that became a home for the New Orleans Black community, creating an important and long-lasting landmark for the many families who frequented this safe public space during segregation.

By Ivanna Washington
Data News Weekly Contributor

Before you can restore a place, it is important to remember what it meant for the community. Residents engaged in a community memory project to retell stories that they hoped will help to restore an

iconic space for African Americans in New Orleans – Lincoln Beach. As part of the Voices of Lincoln Beach Project, coordinated by the City's Office of Resilience and Sustainability, residents shared their connections with the forgotten City Landmark on March 29, 2025, at St. Augustine High School's cafeteria, as part of the city's effort to revitalize a new

Lincoln Beach for the community.

"This is an honor to host this event here at St. Aug.," said Donald Neveu, the Director of Operations at St. Aug., who shared he is also a 7th ward native. "Especially since my grandparents was around when Lincoln Beach was here. So, to listen to the memories and listen to the experiences that's going on even though I've

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DATA NEWS WEEKLY

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never been to the beach is amazing," he added.

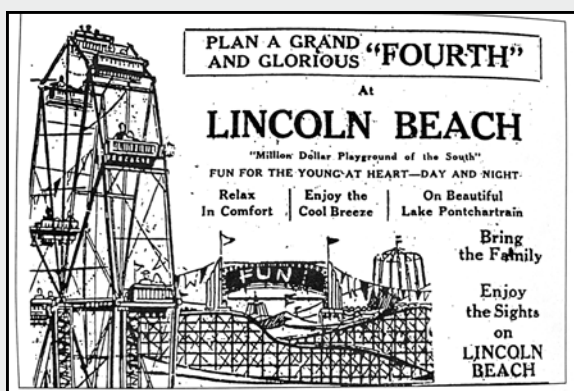
Lincoln Beach was a public beach from 1939 to 1969 that became a home for the New Orleans Black community, creating an important and long-lasting landmark for the many families who frequented this safe public space during segregation. The memories of the beach for the community, when many public spaces were closed off to African Americans at the time, is what the project hoped to capture.

The event was facilitated by the Lincoln Beach Redevelopment Project where two groups were present - Group A, who offered first-hand storytelling, and Group B, consisting of those who told stories on behalf of their loved ones or relatives. Residents enjoyed food as a film production crew documented the mostly unknown histories of the beach.

"It's important for us to collect the memories and the stories of Lincoln Beach especially for future generations so we know what the beach was, what it meant, and who it was for," said Cierra Chenier, a local researcher with the New Orleans Louisiana Creole Research Association,



Photo: Ivanna Washington



who guided participants in Group A in the school's chapel. "It's such a proud piece of history for those who got to experience the beach in New Orleans and those of us [like myself] who grew up in New Orleans East but didn't get to experience the beach," she added.

Chenier worked with organizers of the event to help push for rebuilding the beach, hoping those who spoke out and shared their stories would also help. Organizers played an archival video to recall memories of the beach. They also encouraged those who participated in the all-day event to join in to advocate for a possible redevelopment of the beach.

From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. residents stopped by, sharing stories back-to-back with small talk during breaks. Participants said they hope that in reviving spaces like these, it would help to foster community once again in many neighborhoods across the city.

"Everyone was a big family then and that's what they're lacking now," said New Orleans East native and Voices of Lincoln Beach participant, Paulette Dabney.

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Made to Match

Where Fashion Meets Interiors



Tracee Dundas
Fashion Stylist

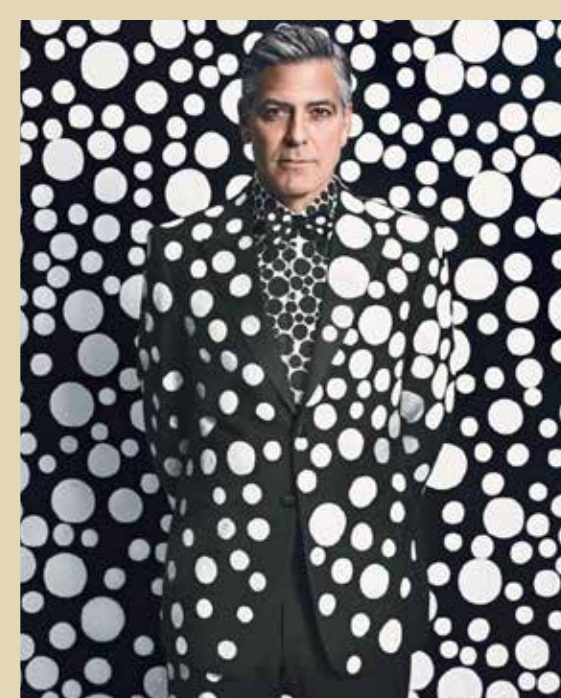
Fashion and Interior Design are two sides of the same creative coin, both shaping the way we express ourselves and experience the world around us. From the bold lines of Art Deco Architecture influencing structured silhouettes in couture, to the soft, organic forms of nature inspiring flowing fabrics and earthy palettes, the connection between these disciplines is undeniable. Fashion doesn't exist in a vacuum—it's a reflection of our surroundings, drawing influence from the spaces we inhabit, the cultural stories we embrace, and the artistry found in everyday life.

Interior Design often sets the stage for fashion trends, with textures, patterns, and color schemes translating seamlessly between home decor and wardrobe choices. Think of the rich velvets and ornate gold accents from historical mansions finding their way onto luxurious evening gowns, or minimalist modern interiors inspiring sleek, monochrome fashion statements. Even the grandeur of Historical Architecture and Lush Landscapes serve as muses for designers,

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Above: **Through the Lens of Bold Patterns** – Yellow dress with blue squares and identical wallpaper print matching Artist: Thandiwe Muriu | Photo Credit: Kenyan



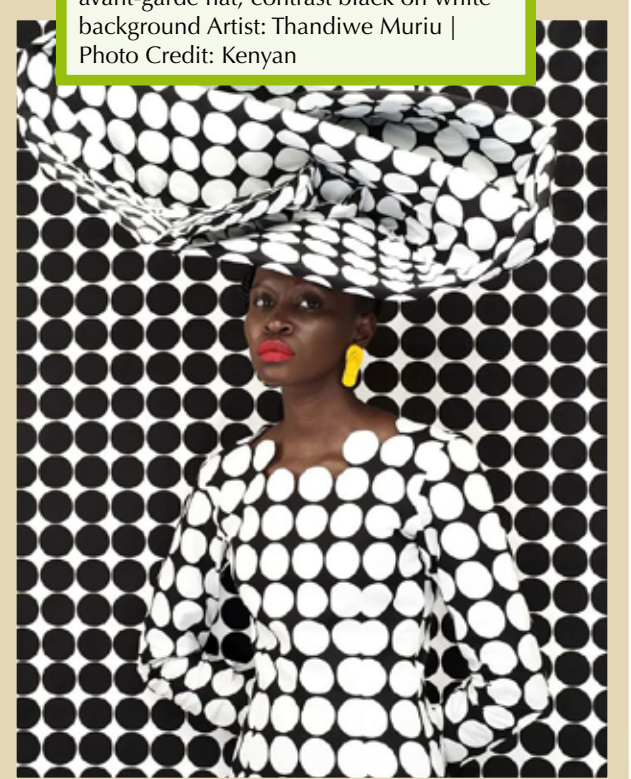
Left: **Black & White Dots** – George Clooney wearing Giorgio Armani polka dot suit in front of Yayoi Kusama artwork. Photo Credit: W Magazine.

Below: **White on Black Dots** – Mono-chrome white polka dot dress, matching avant-garde hat, contrast black on white background Artist: Thandiwe Muriu | Photo Credit: Kenyan



Left: **Reflection of Another Time** – Sage green gown with swing coat by Designer Gwen Hawkins, photographed in Longue Vue Gardens Dining Room | Photo Credit: Diego Bernal.

Right: **Gilded Glory** – A magnificent gold-embellished corset, intricate detailing and ornate design over white gown. Photo Credit: AMIRI Campaign.



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



Sunny and Sunflowers – Vibrant yellow Hoodie with tie-dye white heart



Mellow Yellow – Sheer yellow print dress with billowing sleeves, gold harness belt by Designer odAomo



Romantically Whimsical – Soft chiffon gown in pale tone, corset bodice with embellished rosettes by Designer Debbie Ales | Photo Credit: Diego Bernal



Mixing Patterns – Couple wearing bold mix-multipatterned in vibrant colors that reflect the background. Photo credit: Sco-sor on Pinterest.



Scarlet Red – Rose bodice with flowing red skirt – Designer Romey Roe, photographed in Longue Vue Gardens in Reception Room | Photo Credit: Diego Bernal



That 70's Vibe – Brown polka dot sweater and style reflect the retro vibe surroundings

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leading to garments that embody timeless elegance and structural brilliance.

Recognizing this deep-rooted synergy, Longue Vue Gardens is hosting its annual event, Design Symposium, April 2nd - 6th. As part of this celebration, Longue Vue

has partnered with New Orleans Fashion Week to present “Made to Match,” a live fashion exhibit that merges the beauty of interior design with the artistry of fashion. Taking place on Thursday, April 3rd, from 11 AM to 2 PM, this immersive experience highlights how fashion seamlessly complements the mansion’s historical elegance, proving that great design—whether in a home or on the runway—is timeless.

Through this collaboration, guests will witness firsthand how environment influences style, as designers craft garments that echo the textures, tones, and ambiance of the Edith and Edgar Sterns’ remarkable Home and Gardens. It’s a celebration of creativity where fashion truly becomes an extension of the spaces we live in.

LSU's Great Season Ends with Elite Eight Loss to UCLA

Elise Schenck
Data News Weekly
Contributor

The LSU Lady Tigers' 2024-2025 Basketball Season concluded with a 72-65 loss to the UCLA Bruins in the Elite Eight of the NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament on March 30, 2025. Despite a valiant effort, LSU was unable to overcome UCLA's balanced attack.

Flau'jae Johnson's Performance:

Junior guard Flau'jae Johnson led the Tigers with an impressive 28 points, attempting to rally LSU in the final quarter. Her determination kept the game competitive, narrowing the deficit to three points late in the game.

Aneesah Morrow's Injury:

Senior forward Aneesah Morrow contributed 13 points before suffering a broken nose late in the third quarter. Demonstrating resilience, she returned in the fourth quarter to aid her team.

LSU struggled with ball control, committing 15 turnovers that led



Junior Guard Flau'jae Johnson led the LSU Lady Tigers this season averaging 18.6 points, 5.6 rebounds and 2.5 assist a game. If this is not enough, she's building a career as a rap artist, philanthropist and role model for young women across America.

to 16 points for UCLA, significantly impacting the game's outcome.

This defeat marks the second con-

secutive season that LSU has been eliminated in the Elite Eight, following their National Championship win

in 2023. Despite the loss, the Tigers showcased resilience and determination throughout the tournament.

Despite their loss, the Lady Tigers continue to be a force in Women's College Basketball.

Louisiana Voters Rejected All Four Proposed Amendments to the State Constitution

Eric Connerly
Data News Weekly
Contributor

On March 29, 2025, New Orleans voters participated in elections that included statewide constitutional amendments and local measures.

Louisiana voters rejected all four proposed amendments to the state constitution:

Amendment 1:

Sought to grant the Louisiana Supreme Court authority to discipline out-of-state lawyers for unethical practices and allow the legislature to establish specialized trial courts. Approximately 65% voted against this measure.



Amendment 2:

Proposed a comprehensive revision of the state's tax and budget laws, including lowering the maximum income tax rate and implementing a government growth limit. Around 65% opposed this amendment.

Amendment 3:

Aimed to give the legislature authority to determine which felony crimes committed by individuals under 17 could result in adult prosecution. This was rejected by approximately 66% of voters.



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Orleans Parish Juvenile Court's Teen Court Program Announces 2025 Know your Rights & Make it Right Conference

Data News Staff Edited Report

The Orleans Parish Juvenile Court's Teen Court Program, in partnership with the Tulane Law Moot Court Program and Loyola Law's Stuart H. Smith Law Clinic, is excited to announce the 2025 Know your Rights & Make it Right Conference, taking place on Saturday, April 5, 2025, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at St. Augustine High School, Raymond M. Fritz, Jr. Multi-Media Center, located at 2600 A. P. Tureaud Ave., New Orleans, LA 70119. This event is free and open to the public. To register in advance, please visit bit.ly/nolakyr2025.

The conference seeks to educate teens, immigrants, and the broader community about their Constitutional Rights and how to effectively invoke and exercise them, especially in encounters with law enforcement or immigration authorities. In addition to informative sessions, participating teens will be eligible to receive community service hours, and attorneys can earn Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits. Refreshments will be provided.

"Teen Court has a proven track record of promoting public safety. Since its inception in 2018, the program has engaged over 150 youth participants. Of those, the recidivism rate is just 1.3%, with only two juveniles re-arrested and zero convictions to date," says Judge Ranord J. Darensburg of the Orleans Parish Juvenile Court. Dr. Clarence J. Bickham, Sr., Program Director of the Teen Court Program adds, "Teen Court harnesses the strength of teen leadership and positive peer pressure to teach accountability in



a way that's educational, supportive, and sustainable."

2025 KNOW YOUR RIGHTS & MAKE IT RIGHT

SCHEDULE

APRIL 5, 2025

St. Augustine High School
Raymond M. Fritz, Jr. Multi-Media Center

Presented by Orleans Parish Juvenile Court Teen Court Program, Tulane Law Moot Court Program, and Loyola Law's Stuart H. Smith Law Clinic. Sponsored by St. Augustine High School.

11:00a - 11:30a

Judge Ranord J. Darensburg | Opening

11:30a - 12:00p

Tulane Legal Assistance Program Attorney Carolyn Cooper | Your Rights, Your Defense: What You Need to Know

12:00p - 12:30p

Troi Bechet, CEO and Founder of the Center for Restorative Approaches | Restorative Justice Circle

12:30 - 1:00p

Break PLUS: Conversations on Family & Children's Rights by Loyola Law Clinic Professors Tobie Tranchina and Ramona Fernandez (refreshments will be served)

1:00p - 1:15p

Regroup

1:15p - 1:45p

Immigration Services and Legal Advocacy Attorney Jessica Gutierrez | Know, Support, Advocate: Immigration Rights & Resources

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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

Administrative Assistant Wanted

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