

Lighting The Road To The Future

New Orleans

Data

News Weekly

"The People's Paper"

ILSI Engineering Marks 30 Years



FREE COPY

Data Zone
Page 4

July 19 - July 25, 2025 60th Year Volume 12 www.ladatanews.com

A Data News Weekly Exclusive

Bishop Paul S. Morton Honored



Page 2



Newsmaker

Mystic Krewe of Femme Fatale Kicks Off 2026 Mardi Gras Season

Page 6

Natinal News

Black Lives Matter Marks 12 Years with Global Expansion



Page 7

Bishop Paul S. Morton Was Honored at the Kingdom Achievement Awards Gala in Celebration of His 75th Birthday



Bishop Paul S. Morton pictured with family.

Glenda Bell
Data News Weekly Contributor

A Historic and Heartfelt Celebration took place on Friday, July 11, 2025, as Greater St. Stephen Ministries, Changing A Generation Ministries (Atlanta), and the Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship International

came together to host the Kingdom Achievement Awards Gala, honoring the 75th Birthday of Bishop Paul S. Morton.

This surprise celebration welcomed celebrity guests, national faith leaders, family, and friends for a powerful evening of honor and legacy. Confirmed Guests Included: Congressman Troy A. Carter, Mayor

of New Orleans, LaToya Cantrell, Louisiana State Senator, Royce Duplessis, Louisiana State Senator, Gary Carter, and New Orleans District E Councilmember, Oliver M. Thomas

Bishop Paul S. Morton is uniquely anointed for the body of Christ with a clear and distinct voice in the 21st Century, releasing into the atmosphere the truth

Cover Story photo credits Cecile Sydney Digital Artistry and Ashton Broden

Cover Story, Continued on page 3.

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

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	Glenda Bell	Production
Edwin Buggage	Edwin Buggage	Pubinator.com
Editor	Glenn Summers	Editorial and
Sharonda Green	DNW Staff Writer	Advertising Inquiries
Executive Assistant	Benjamin Bates	datanewsweeklyad@gmail.com
June Hazeur	Stacy M. Brown	Distribution
Chief Operating Officer		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.



From L to R: Bishop Bryan J. Pirece, Bishop Paul S. Morton, Bishop Joseph W. Walker, and Bishop Craig Oliver.



Bishop Paul S. Morton and Dr. Debra B. Morton.



Bishop Paul S. Morton

of God's word, and bringing about salvation, healing, deliverance and restoration for the continued up-building of God's Kingdom.

Bishop Paul S. Morton is the Founder of the Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship International, a Transformative Movement established in 1993 that reflects a divine vision for spiritual liberty and Kingdom order. Its inaugural 1994 Conference at the Louisiana Super-

dome drew over 25,000 attendees and marked the beginning of a global ministry impacting Christian communities worldwide.

Bishop Morton pastored Greater St. Stephen Ministries in New Orleans from 1974-2008, leading it to national prominence. In 2006 (after Hurricane Katrina), he founded Changing A Generation Ministries in Atlanta, embracing the vision to "Change the Way We

Do Church." He now serves as Founder of Changing A Generation and Overseer of Greater St. Stephen, continuing to guide both ministries with apostolic leadership and vision.

Bishop Morton is a Gifted Author and an Anointed Singer with six (6) Stellar Awards. He also holds multiple advanced degrees in Theology and Divinity and is celebrating 40 years of Musical

Excellence along with Greater St. Stephen's Choir.

"This celebration was not just about a birthday, it was about a legacy," said Dr. Debra B. Morton, Co-Overseer of Greater St. Stephen, Co-Founder of Changing A. Generation, and Co-Founder of Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship, Incorporated. "I've watched Bishop Morton serve with integrity, faith, and excel-

lence for decades. His love for God and His people is unmatched, and it was an honor to celebrate all that he has poured into the Kingdom."

The gala featured performances by Pastor and Stellar Award-Winning Artist, Bishop William Murphy, III, GRAMMY® Award-Winning Artist and Producer, PJ Morton, and Gospel Recording Artist, Anita Wilson.

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 July 16th - 23rd, 2025.

SAVE
up to \$2.52
LB



CHAIRMAN'S
RESERVE

100% PREMIUM USDA
ANGUS CHOICE BEEF

**Boneless
London Broil Steak or
Boneless Top Round Roast**

ONLY
\$5.97
LB

SAVE
\$1.00
LB



SOUTH CAROLINA GROWN
**Lori Anne
Peaches**

Our #1 Summer Peach, Lori Anne peaches have been a Rouses exclusive for years! This is how a peach should taste.

ONLY
\$2.99
LB



CELEBRATING OUR FIRST 65 YEARS

TASTINGS • ALL ROUSES LOCATIONS | ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION | SAT, JULY 19 • 11 AM - 2 PM



PREVIOUSLY
FROZEN
**St. Louis Style
or Medium Pork Ribs**

\$2.65
LB



FRESH
**Hass
Avocados**

65¢



SAVE
up to \$4.50
When You Buy 2

10 PACK 7.5 OZ CANS,
8 PACK 12 OZ BOTTLES
Coke or Pepsi
OR 6 PACK HALF LITERS
Pure Leaf Tea

2/\$10



SAVE
\$5.98
When You Buy 2

14 - 29.3 OZ
SELECTED
**DiGiorno
Pizza**

2/\$8

ILSI Engineering Marks 30 Years of Excellence, Growth, and Legacy in New Orleans

Story by Edwin Buggage
Editor-in-Chief
Data News Weekly
Photos by Glenn Summers
Data News Weekly
Staff Photographer

Last week, ILSI Engineering celebrated its 30th Anniversary with a triumphant and inspiring gathering that honored the firm's enduring legacy of leadership, innovation, and community service. Held in New Orleans, the milestone event brought together business, civic, and political leaders to celebrate the impact of the company founded by the late Robert Tucker.

For three decades, ILSI Engineering has remained steadfast in its mission to deliver high-quality infrastructure solutions while uplifting underserved communities across Louisiana and the Gulf South. Under the leadership of current owner Iam Tucker, the firm continues to build on its founding principles, combining technical excellence with a deep commitment to equity, inclusion, and sustainable community development.

Data News Weekly was on site, capturing the Spirit of the Celebration and the ongoing legacy of a company whose work continues to shape the infrastructure, opportunity, and resilience of New Orleans and beyond.



Iam Tucker (center), CEO of ILSI Engineering, pictured with her mother Janee Tucker (left), wife Candace Brisco Tucker (right), and brother Robert DoQui Jr. during a celebration of the company's 30th anniversary. Founded by her late father, Robert "Bob" Tucker, Iam continues his legacy of engineering excellence and community impact.



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



Something About
Helena

Helena led the fight to ensure small and local businesses get a chance when the big show comes to town. Whether it's the Super Bowl or Essence Fest, for years, too many of these events have come and gone without our community reaping the benefits. Everyone knew this was wrong, but it took her courage and a commitment to our small minority-owned and women-owned businesses to make a difference.

Helena
Moreno
MAYOR

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

Mystic Krewe of Femme Fatale Kicks Off 2026 Mardi Gras Season with Annual Reveal Party

Data News Staff Edited Report

The Mystic Krewe of Femme Fatale officially launched its 2026 Mardi Gras season Saturday, July 12, 2025, with its Annual Reveal Party, announcing the parade theme, grand marshal, queen selection and float positions. The event took place in the Great Hall at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center.

The 2026 Theme, "Mystic Krewe of Femme Fatale presents Femmes Just Want to Have Fun," was unveiled to krewe members in a high-energy celebration that included performances by New Orleans Artist Rude Jude and MKFF's own Cherchez La Femme.

Leading the parade as Grand Marshal will be Queen Tahj Williams, a 27-year-old Cultural Ambassador, Mardi Gras Indian, and Cybersecurity Professional. Williams, known as Queen Tahj in the Black Masking Indian Community, has participated in the tradition since 2009 as a member of the Young Eagles Tribe. A Tulane University graduate with honors, she balances her professional career with mentoring youth on the art of suit-beading and preserving New Orleans' Cultural Heritage.

Queen Tahj was selected for her dedication to community engagement, cultural education, and representation of the vibrant spirit of New Orleans. She was the creator of the official logo for Super Bowl LIX, hosted by New Orleans on February 9, 2025. Her appearances include performing at the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival,



Lisa Ballard Jackson, 2026 Queen-Select of Mystic Krewe of Femme Fatale.

tival, Teen Vogue Features, and the Grammy-Winning Jon Batiste "Freedom" Performance.

"We are beyond thrilled to have Queen Tahj as our Grand Marshal," said Founding Visionary Dr. Gwendolyn V. Rainey. "Her artistry and leadership embody the essence and mission of Femme Fatale: strength, community, and cultural pride."

The most anticipated moment of the evening came with the announcement of Lisa Ballard Jackson being chosen as 2026 Queen-Select.

Lisa Ballard Jackson is a dedicated Law Enforcement Professional, youth mentor, community leader, and history maker whose life is defined by service, purpose, and passion. Her extensive creden-

tials include Certification from the American Correctional Association in Adult and Juvenile Corrections. She is a 1993 graduate of the Louisiana State University Police Officer Standards & Training (POST) Academy and has completed ongoing professional development through the Juvenile Justice Governor's Conference and the St. Bernard Basic Training Academy. After Hurricane Katrina devastated the New Orleans Region in 2005, Jackson shifted her focus towards building youth programs. She launched Friday Night Mentoring and late-night basketball, then spearheaded the Revival of the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) Program in St. Bernard Parish. Lisa has taught the program since 2010



New Orleans Culture Bearer Queen Tahj to serve as 2026 Grand Marshal.

and currently serves as Supervising Commander.

A 1994 graduate of Francis T. Nicholls High School, Lisa attended Southern University in New Orleans, where she played basketball for two years before following a lifelong calling to become a police officer. In 1992, she began her law enforcement career with the St. Bernard Sheriff's Office, becoming one of the first officers hired at the newly opened Juvenile Detention Center. From 2004-2005, she served as Co-Commander of the Juvenile Detention Center and was nominated for Deputy of the Year.

Lisa has been married to Richard Leon Jackson Jr., for 37 years. Together, they have one son, Richard Leon Jackson III, and are blessed

with three beautiful granddaughters: Richelle Lisa Marie Jackson, Richaune Jonee' Marie Jackson, and Rikki Tyrieal Jackson.

As part of the Reveal, Krewe Lieutenants participated in float selections with a vote for the best "Boots on the Ground," igniting the crowd and highlighting the creativity behind each boot's design.

Preceding the Reveal, MKFF inducted 353 new members. As if by divine order, the 2026 Parade Season will see MKFF's Membership soar to 2,026 members across 26 states. Femme Fatale, voted best Mardi Gras Parade by nola.com in 2024, will roll Sunday, February 8, 2026, at 11 a.m., following the Traditional Uptown Route.

State & Local News

Data News Weekly is Urging New Orleans Voters to Get Involved Ahead of October 11 Election

Benjamin Bates Data News Weekly Contributor

With all qualified candidates now confirmed for the upcoming fall election, residents across the city are being called to action ahead of New Orleans' Open Primary for Municipal and Parochial offices, scheduled for Saturday, October 11, 2025.

This important election will determine key leadership positions, including mayor, city council, sheriff, and other important races that

directly influence city governance, public safety, and essential services. Voters are encouraged to educate themselves on the candidates and issues, and to prepare early for participation.

Key Dates and Deadlines:

Voter Registration:

In-person, by mail, or online: Deadline is Wednesday, September 10th
Online-only registration: Deadline is Saturday, September 20th

Early Voting:

Runs from September 27th

through October 4th (excluding Sunday). Voting sites will remain open until 8 p.m. on Saturdays.

Absentee Ballots:

Request deadline: Tuesday, October 7th at 4:30 p.m.

Return deadline: Friday, October 10th at 4:30 p.m.

If you miss the initial registration window, you can still register in time for the runoff election on November 15th, with deadlines set for October 15th (mail/in-person) and October 25th (online).

Preparing to Vote:

Voters are advised to explore the full list of candidates and ballot measures using trusted resources such as Ballotpedia, Vote411.org, and the Louisiana Secretary of State's website. Planning ahead for transportation, polling locations, and proper identification is also recommended.

Accepted forms of ID include:

A Louisiana Driver's License
Louisiana Special ID
LA Wallet Digital License

Other government-issued photo ID with name and signature
Voters without ID may complete a voter affidavit.

As Election Day approaches, New Orleanians are encouraged to talk with family, friends, and neighbors about the importance of civic participation. Every vote helps shape the direction of our city.

**Make your voice heard,
New Orleans needs you
at the polls this fall.**

Black Lives Matter Marks 12 Years with Global Expansion and Renewed Calls for Accountability

Stacy M. Brown
Black Press USA Senior
National Correspondent

Black Lives Matter has reached its 12th Anniversary, and the organization's co-founder and prominent scholar-activist, Dr. Melina Abdullah, says the movement is not only growing internationally but also confronting what she described as an unprecedented wave of "fascism and unmasked racism." During an appearance on Black Press USA's Let It Be Known News, Dr. Abdullah detailed the recent Summit in Los Angeles, where organizers from 51 chapters—including the newly established Black Lives Matter Stockholm—gathered for workshops, tours, an action, and a Celebration at the Center for Black Power on Crenshaw Boulevard. "This is the largest that Black Lives Matter has ever been," Abdullah said. "We are now 51 chapters in 2025 and thousands of boots-on-the-ground organizers."

The Summit, which lasted several days, included discussions on the group's principles and strategy. Abdullah noted that the movement's work has taken on new urgency as attacks on Black communities intensify. "I think the world hasn't seen this level of fascism and unmasked racism," she said. "I haven't witnessed a world where African American men from Texas, born and raised, the child descendants of enslaved people, can be deported." Abdullah also described personal moments of fear, including seeing an unknown truck parked in front of her home after delivering groceries to elders in the community. "I was going, should I get out my car? Because I don't know who these two men sitting in this truck are," she recalled. "And will somebody see me if they snatch me up?"



The BLM Grassroots leader announced the release of the organization's Annual Action Report, detailing initiatives ranging from mutual aid to political advocacy. Among the work highlighted was the successful campaign to free Brittany Martin, who was sentenced to prison for remarks made to police during a 2020 protest in South Carolina. "This pregnant mother of six, now of seven, was arrested for simply speaking words," Abdullah said. "She wound up being ripped away from her family, forced to have her seventh child inside the prison. But we kept fighting, and at the end of 2024, we were able to free Brittany Martin." In addition to campaigns for policy reforms like Wakiesha's Law—requiring 24-hour family notification when a loved one dies in custody—the report describes

BLM Grassroots' Youth Scholarship Programs, food distributions, and International Solidarity Work.

Dr. Abdullah also addressed internal conflict over financial stewardship within the broader BLM Network. She said that while BLM Los Angeles purchased a community building used for mutual aid and youth programs, the Global Network Foundation bought what she called a "\$6 million mansion" in Studio City. "Families of those who have been killed by police and White Supremacy have been blocked from being able to ever use or set foot inside that house," she said, adding that BLM Grassroots leaders recently visited the property to demand accountability and the return of resources. "We stood outside with at least six or seven family members and said, return

the money, return the resources to the movement so that we can use it for the good of Black Liberation."

Abdullah said that repeated attempts to speak directly with foundation leaders—including letters, calls, and legal filings—have been met with silence or legal counteractions. "They've never spoken with us," she said. "We would love to speak with them and ask them why they feel entitled to travel in private jets with makeup teams and stand on red carpets wearing couture." She described BLM Grassroots' Philosophy of Abolition and the need to dismantle systems that profit from Black suffering. "We have to transform a state that allows for and enables and really sometimes benefits and profits from the murders of Black people," Abdullah said.

VOTE

DATA NEWS WEEKLY

Your Voice Matters

ladatanews.com
- The People's
Website

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



Search for ...

🔍 decreased judgment

A loved one showing impaired decision making may be experiencing a symptom of Alzheimer's or other dementia.

Learn the signs at 10signs.org

 **ALZHEIMER'S[®]
ASSOCIATION**

ad
COUNCIL