

Lighting The Road To The Future

New Orleans

Data

News Weekly

"The People's Paper"

Helena Moreno's Historic Victory

FREE COPY

Data Zone
Page 4

October 18 - October 24, 2025 60th Year Volume 26 www.ladatanews.com

A Data News Weekly Exclusive



Helena Moreno Elected Mayor

A Renewed Vision for the Future of New Orleans

Page 2



Newsmaker

A New Chapter for New Orleans

Page 6

National News

America Fails Its Sickest Patients



Page 7

Helena Moreno Elected Mayor

A Renewed Vision for the Future of New Orleans



Helena Moreno celebrates her historic victory after being elected Mayor of New Orleans, addressing an energized crowd at the Civic Theater. Her win marks a new era of unity, renewal, and progress for the Crescent City.

Edwin Buggage
Editor-in-Chief Data News Weekly

A Celebration of the People

On this unforgettable evening, the city of New Orleans elected Helena Moreno as its next Mayor. The

atmosphere inside the Historic Civic Theater was electric yet deeply emotional, reflecting the heart of a community that believes in renewal and shared purpose.

“New Orleans, you are my everything,” Moreno declared from the stage, her voice steady yet filled with conviction. Surrounded by family, civic leaders, and supporters who had walked every step of the cam-

paign trail with her, her words measured, inspirational, and aspirational, resonated far beyond the theater’s walls and deep into the soul of the city she now leads.

A Victory for All of New Orleans

Throughout her campaign, Moreno spoke of building an administration rooted in transparency, equity,

Photos by Glenn Summers

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	Edwin Buggage	Production
Edwin Buggage	Eric Connerly	Pubinator.com
Editor	Justin Brown	Editorial and
Sharonda Green	Glenda Bell	Advertising Inquiries
Executive Assistant	Glenn Summers	datanewsweeklyad
June Hazeur	Terry B. Jones	@gmail.com
Chief Operating Officer	Benjamin Bates	Distribution
	Stacy M. Brown	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.

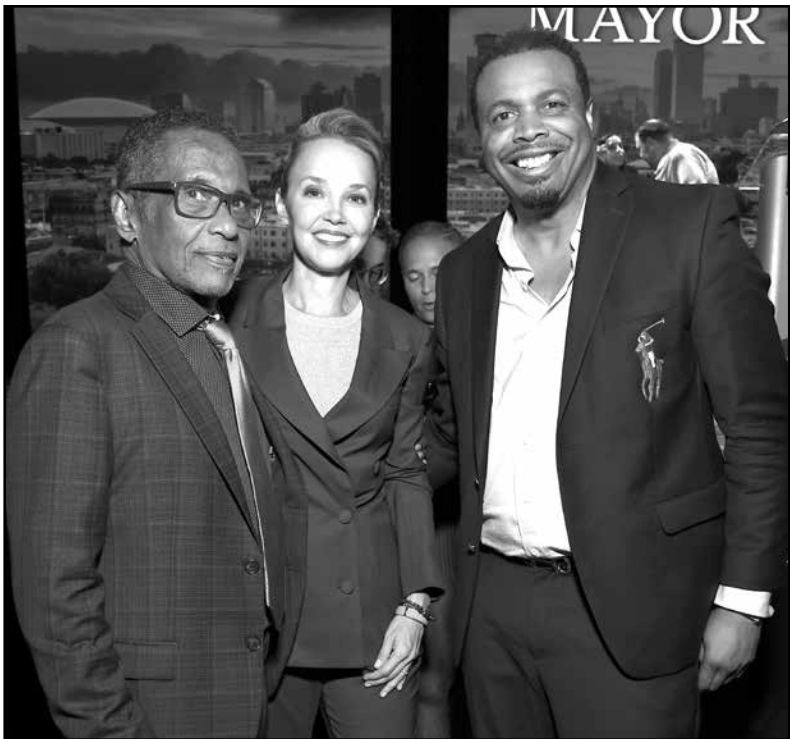
Cover Story, Continued from page 2.

and efficiency. She proved effective in forging political coalitions, drawing voters from Uptown to New Orleans East, Algiers to Gentilly. In this election, more than 100,000 residents cast their ballots for a candidate who promised not only to lead, but to listen.

In her victory speech, Moreno turned quickly from celebration to resolve: "The work starts tomorrow morning." The crowd's roar of approval captured the trust she had earned. To her supporters, she represented not a politician seeking power, but a public servant restoring faith in what City Government could be efficient, empathetic, and accountable. During her remarks, she pledged to govern on behalf of all citizens of New Orleans, vowing to build a city that leaves no one behind.

A Leader for a City of Contrasts

As she takes office, Moreno inherits a city of striking contrasts, where world-class festivals and cuisine co-exist with aging infrastructure, housing shortages, and persistent racial and economic



Data News Weekly Publisher Terry Jones, New Orleans Mayor-Elect Helena Moreno, and Data News Weekly Editor-in-Chief Edwin Buggage during her victory celebration.

disparities. Yet her record demonstrates that she possesses the experience and temperament for the challenges ahead.

Known as a bridge-builder,

Moreno has established herself as a pragmatic, compassionate, and effective leader. During her tenure in public office, she has championed Affordable Housing, infrastructure

improvements, and gender and racial equity, while demanding accountability across all levels of local government. Those who know her best describe her as both a listener and a problem-solver, and someone who believes that real progress happens when policy is grounded in humanity and inclusion.

Turning the Page on a New Era

Nearly twenty years after Hurricane Katrina, Moreno's election marks another defining moment in New Orleans' long story of resilience. The city, shaped by its ability to rise and rebuild, has again chosen a leader who reflects its enduring spirit. For Moreno, leadership is solution-driven, with equity and inclusion as central measures of success. Her commitment to rebuilding trust in government carries as much weight as her plans to fix streets, strengthen neighborhoods, and expand opportunity for all.

A City Reborn

With Helena Moreno at the helm, New Orleans stands on the

precipice of a new renaissance, ready to write its next chapter of inclusion, innovation, and inspired leadership. The work, as she promised, begins now. For a city that has always turned hardship into harmony, this moment represents not just victory, but rebirth under leadership rooted in compassion and vision.

True progress, however, is larger than any one person. Moreno's win sets a new tone for Civic Engagement and shared responsibility. The voters have spoken with a collective voice for progress, and now, every citizen must play a role in shaping a city where opportunity and justice are within everyone's reach.

True to its spirit, and much like its Signature Gumbo, New Orleans thrives when all its ingredients come together. And today, under Helena Moreno's leadership, the city's triumph is more than political; it is emblematic of New Orleans leading the charge into a modern-day renaissance, one defined by hope, unity, resilience, and opportunities for all.

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
October 15th - October 22nd, 2025.

SAVE
\$2.02
LB

*Ground Fresh In Store
Several Times Daily!*

ONLY \$4.97 LB

VALUE PACK
Fresh
85% Lean
Ground Round

SAVE
up to \$1.82
LB

ONLY \$2.99 LB

GREAT ON THE GRILL
Boneless
Center Cut Pork Chops

FALL INTO SAVINGS

SAVE
40¢
LB

12oz Chisesi Seasoned Ham \$4.99

CRISP
Fresh Green
Cabbage

Scan the QR code for our delicious Stuffed Cabbage Rolls recipe!

SAVE
90¢
LB

WASHINGTON STATE GROWN Premium Red Delicious Apples 99¢ LB

SAVE
\$5.98
When You Buy 2

LIMIT 6 DOZEN!

ONE DOZEN
Eggland's Best Large Eggs **2/\$3**

SAVE
\$1.12

4 LB BAG GRANULATED Rouses 100% Louisiana Sugar \$2.87

Helena Moreno's Historic Victory Ushers in a New Chapter for New Orleans

Photos by Glenn Summers
Data News Weekly
Photographer
Story by Glenda Bell
Data News Weekly Contributor

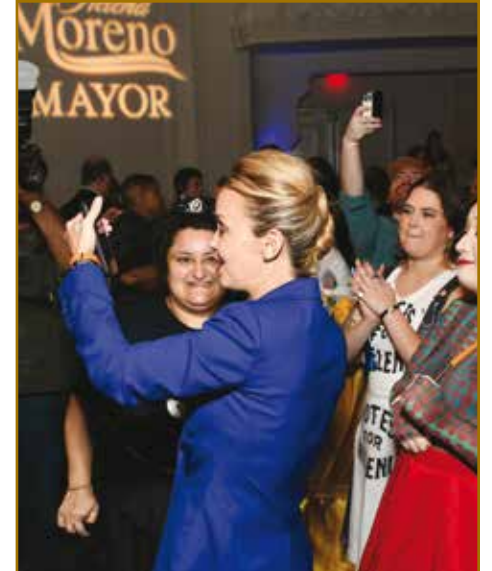
Surrounded by supporters from every cross-section of New Orleans, October 11, 2025, will be remembered as a night when the city stood on the threshold of a new era, and when Helena Moreno made history. As she stepped onto the stage of the Historic Civic Theater, embraced by jubilant voters waving signs and wiping away tears, the roar of applause filled the air like a joyful second-line. Her victory was not only personal, but it was also deeply communal, a resounding declaration that the people of New Orleans are ready to move forward together.

With 55 percent of the vote and no runoff needed, Moreno's triumph symbolized faith renewed in leadership that listens, serves, and delivers. Supporters—young and old, from every neighborhood, joined hands in celebration, their cheers echoing the city's heartbeat. "The work starts tomorrow morning," Moreno vowed, her voice steady yet hopeful a promise to turn celebration into transformation through stronger infrastructure, better public services, and safer neighborhoods.

In a city that has weathered countless storms, this night felt different, brighter, bolder, and filled with belief. These photos capture more than a victory; they capture a movement, a city embracing its future and a leader ready to guide it with courage and compassion.



Mayor-Elect Helena Moreno is surrounded by jubilant supporters during her victory celebration, marking a historic moment for New Orleans. Her win symbolizes a new era for the city. Her successful run was built on building a coalition among a cross-section of voters across racial, class, and economic lines.



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



New Orleans Mayor-Elect Helena Moreno thanks Data News Weekly Publisher Terry Jones for his support during her successful campaign for the city's highest office.



Turning the Page

Voters Lead the City Toward Progress

Terry B. Jones
Publisher, Data News Weekly

The citizens of New Orleans once again proved the power of participation in Democracy. The October 11, 2025, Municipal Elections brought renewed energy, optimism, and a spirit of collaboration as voters turned out to elect leaders committed to transparency, equity, and progress. Data News Weekly thanks every citizen who went to the polls, cast a ballot, and played a vital role in shaping the city's next chapter.

This year's election marked more than a routine change in leadership, it was a clear message that New Orleanians are ready to move forward with unity and purpose. The victories of Helena Moreno, JP Morrell, Freddie King III, Eugene Green, and Errol Williams represent a collective step toward accountable government, inclusive growth, and a brighter future for all who call this city home.

Helena Moreno: A Bridge-Builder for All

As the newly elected Mayor, Helena Moreno brings a record



Data News Weekly would like to congratulate Mayor-Elect Helena Moreno and all the candidates we endorsed during this election cycle. We are proud to continue our role as...The People's Paper," says Data News Weekly Publisher Terry Jones.

of competence, compassion, and collaboration. Having served as a Journalist, State Legislator, and City Council President, she has long demonstrated her ability to lead across differences. Moreno's focus

on improving public safety, expanding Affordable Housing, and increasing transparency in city operations resonated with voters across neighborhoods. Her victory reflects the confidence that citizens

have in her vision of a government that listens, innovates, and delivers. Under her leadership, New Orleans has an opportunity to rebuild trust between City Hall and the people it serves.

JP Morrell: Reform-Minded Stewardship

Re-elected as City Councilmember At-Large-District 2, JP Morrell continues to be a voice for good governance and fiscal responsibility. Known for his thorough understanding of public policy and commitment to oversight, Morrell has advanced initiatives that strengthen accountability, improve infrastructure, and enhance public safety. His re-election signals a mandate for thoughtful reform and effective management—qualities that will be vital as the city continues to modernize its systems and address community needs.

Freddie King III: Leadership Rooted in Community

Representing District C, Freddie King III's re-election underscores the value of leadership grounded in accessibility and action. King's focus on youth opportunity, in-

frastructure investment, and economic empowerment for small businesses has made him a trusted advocate for Algiers and the historic neighborhoods of the Westbank. His collaborative spirit and commitment to practical solutions will continue to serve residents well, as New Orleans works to create safer, more connected communities.

Eugene Green: Experience That Delivers

Eugene Green's steady leadership in District D has long been defined by results. From improving public safety and revitalizing business corridors to expanding opportunities for homeowners and entrepreneurs, Green has proven that consistency and experience matter. His return to the Council ensures continuity in addressing pressing neighborhood issues while championing equity and growth in some of the city's most dynamic areas.

Erroll Williams: Fairness and Integrity

In his re-election as Orleans Parish Assessor, Erroll Williams con-

Newsmaker, Continued on page 7.

State & Local News

Last Escaped Inmate Derrick Groves Captured

Benjamin Bates
Data News Weekly
Contributor

On May 16, 2025, ten inmates escaped from the Orleans Parish Justice Center in New Orleans. They created a makeshift crawl-route by removing a toilet and cutting through a wall, then scaling a fence and fleeing. The graffiti they left behind taunted authorities—one message read: "To Easy LoL."

Among the escapees was Derrick Groves, a New Orleans native then serving a life sentence for a 2018 double murder during a Mardi Gras block party. While nine of the escapees were recaptured within weeks, Groves managed to evade law enforcement for nearly five months.

His lengthy time on the run intensified scrutiny on both his case



Derrick Groves

and the jail's security protocols. Officials flagged Groves as the most dangerous of the escapees, noting his "nothing to lose" mindset amid serious charges.

On October 8, 2025, Groves was finally located in a residential basement crawl space in South-

west Atlanta, Georgia, after a tip to Crimestoppers triggered a joint operation involving the U.S. Marshals, Atlanta's SWAT Team, and Louisiana Authorities. Tear gas and a K-9 Unit were deployed in the operation that lasted roughly three hours.

At the moment of arrest, authori-



ties discovered a firearm and approximately 15 pounds of marijuana in the hideout—factors that may lead to aggravated escape charges carrying higher penalties. Groves waived his extradition hearing and told a Fulton County Judge, "I want to return where I'm from."

Law Enforcement Officials described the capture as the culmination of a large-scale manhunt spanning multiple states and at least five months.

The escape itself had exposed critical vulnerabilities in jail operations—one report noted staffing of only four supervisors and 36 staff overseeing 1,400 inmates at the time of the break.

With Groves now back in custody and slated to be transferred to Louisiana's maximum-security prison at Louisiana State Penitentiary (Angola), State Officials are shifting focus to investigating the network that helped him evade capture. They believe Groves received assistance from associates, some of whom already face drug and weapons charges.

State & Local, Continued on page 7.

Denied Care, Divided Nation

*How America Fails Its Sickest Patients—
and the People Fighting Back*

Stacy M. Brown
Lack Press USA Senior
National Correspondent

Across America, families are being broken not by illness alone, but by the quiet cruelty of denial letters from insurance companies. Patients in crisis are told their care is not medically necessary. Others learn too late that their coverage has been canceled. The denials come swiftly, the appeals take months, and the system often feels rigged against the very people it was built to protect.

A ProPublica investigation revealed just how devastating those denials can be. In North Carolina, Teressa Sutton-Schulman and her husband, identified as “L” to protect his privacy, endured escalating Mental Health Crises. After two sui-



cide attempts in 11 days, Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield repeatedly denied payment for psychiatric treatment. Hidden on page seven of a denial letter was a single line about a right to an external review. Desperate, Sutton-Schulman filed for that review. An independent physician overturned the insurer's decision and forced the company to pay for more than \$70,000 in care, ProPublica reported. “Appeal, appeal, appeal, appeal,” said Kaye Pestaina, a Vice President at the Nonprofit Health Policy Group

KFF, who has studied external appeals. “That’s all you have,” she told ProPublica.

“Every state needs one of these programs,” said Cheryl Fish-Parcham, Director of Private Coverage at Families USA. “Health Care is so complicated, and people really need experts to turn to,” she told ProPublica. Those experts are often housed in Attorney General Offices, state insurance departments, or nonprofit agencies. Maryland’s Health Education and Advocacy Unit, for example, has been a lifeline for residents struggling with denied care. “The numbers are low because some people just give up. They’re frustrated. They’re tired. They’re battling cancer,” said Kimberly Cammarata, the Unit’s Director. “And sometimes the information about why the claim was de-

nied or about how to appeal is terribly unclear. A lot of these outcome letters will say you have a right to an external appeal, but they don’t exactly tell you where to go,” she told ProPublica.

Still, millions of Americans remain in states without fully funded Consumer Assistance Programs. For those individuals, even knowing that an external appeal exists is a struggle. ProPublica found that the process is buried under jargon hidden in small print, or placed deep within denial letters that few patients have the time or emotional strength to decode. Experts say one step can make a difference: persistence. “Appeal, appeal, appeal” has become a mantra not only for patients but for advocates who have watched insurers exploit confusion and fatigue to wear people down.

State & Local News

Michelle Woodfork Elected Criminal Sheriff of Orleans Parish



Michelle Woodfork was victorious in the hotly contested race for Criminal Sheriff.

Eric Connerly
Data News Weekly
Contributor
Photo by Justin Brown

In a decisive victory for change and public safety reform, Michelle Woodfork has been elected Sheriff of Orleans Parish. The former Interim Superintendent of the New Orleans Police Department ran on a platform centered on transparency, accountability, and community engagement.

Throughout her campaign, she

emphasized improving jail conditions, increasing deputy recruitment and training, and strengthening trust between law enforcement and the communities they serve.

Her victory reflects voters’ confidence in her experience in providing competent, accountable leadership in the Criminal Sheriff’s Office. As she prepares to take office, Woodfork has pledged to lead with integrity, collaboration, and a renewed focus on safety and rehabilitation across Orleans Parish.

Newsmaker, Continued from page 6.

tinues to bring integrity, professionalism, and fairness to an office that affects every property owner in New Orleans. His commitment to equitable assessments, public transparency, and responsive service has earned the trust of residents across the city. Williams’ experience will remain crucial as the Assessor’s Office modernizes systems and ensures property valuation practices that are both accurate and just.

Moving Forward Together

The success of these leaders is ultimately a reflection of the people of New Orleans, citizens who chose to believe in the promise of

progress and the power of participation. Their votes affirm a shared desire for a government that listens, leads, and delivers results.

As Data News Weekly celebrates these victories, we also look ahead with hope and determination. The challenges facing our city, economic inequality, infrastructure renewal, and community safety, require unity of purpose and continued civic engagement. With this new leadership team and an active, informed electorate, New Orleans is poised to move in a bold, forward direction.

Our Democracy works best when every voice is heard. Thank you, New Orleans, for showing

State & Local, Continued from page 6.

For victims’ families and community members, Groves’ capture brings a long-awaited sense of closure but also raises lingering questions about accountability inside the Penal System and the conditions that made the jailbreak possible. The investigative spotlight now includes employees, contractors, and possible internal collusion at the jail—underscored by pending arrests related to the escape.

In the wake of this incident, the Orleans Parish Sheriff’s Office has

pledged reforms: enhanced physical security measures, updated surveillance protocols, and stronger oversight of prison infrastructure. The escape of Groves and nine others is being reviewed as one of the largest and most significant jail breaks in recent U.S. correctional history.

As Groves awaits his return to Louisiana and additional charges the manhunt’s end offers both relief and a cautionary tale: a systemic failure that underscored the consequences of lapses in oversight—and a chase that finally ended with the last fugitive back behind bars.

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 ...

🔍 trouble with familiar tasks

A loved one struggling with their daily routine may be experiencing a symptom of Alzheimer’s or other dementia.