

Lighting The Road To The Future

New Orleans

Data

News Weekly

"The People's Paper"

Tremé Fall Festival

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A Data News Weekly Exclusive

EARLY VOTING BEGINS

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Early Voting Begins

Data News Weekly Endorsements in Runoff Election



Darren Lombard for Clerk of Criminal District Court



Jason Hughes for City Council District E

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

Early voting will take place across Orleans Parish from November 1st

– 8th (excluding Sunday, November 2nd) as residents prepare to cast their ballots in the city’s Upcoming Runoff Election that takes place on November 15, 2025. Voters will de-

cide key races that will help shape the future of local leadership on critical issues such as public safety, infrastructure, education, and economic opportunity.

Clerk of Criminal District Court – Darren Lombard

Darren Lombard, who currently serves as Clerk of Criminal District Court, continues to demonstrate the

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leadership and professionalism needed to move the office forward. Since his election, Lombard has focused on improving efficiency in court operations, expanding access to justice, and modernizing record-keeping systems.

Supporters praise his commitment to transparency, community engagement, and building public trust. As voters head to the polls, Data News Weekly encourages citizens to recognize Lombard's proven record of service and effectiveness. His steady leadership has helped create a more responsive and accountable Court System for all New Orleanians.

City Council District E – Jason Hughes

Jason Hughes represents bold, new leadership for the city's future. Currently serving in the Louisiana House of Representatives for District 100, where he's shown leadership where he has earned the right to be promoted to the City Council. Hughes sits on key committees addressing education, commerce, and workforce development. A proud na-

tive of New Orleans East, he has made it his mission to expand early childhood education, support small businesses, and attract new investment into local neighborhoods.

Hughes's legislative record reflects his dedication to improving teacher pay, promoting economic inclusion, and fostering collaboration between government and community. In this runoff, he offers voters a forward-looking, solutions-driven approach that prioritizes equity, opportunity, and accountability.

Participating in Early Voting

Early voting in Orleans Parish runs through November 8th at designated registrar's offices. Voters are encouraged to check their registration status, review sample ballots, and bring a valid photo ID.

Local elections have a profound impact on daily life, from neighborhood safety to schools and city services. Data News Weekly, "The People's Paper," urges all citizens to make their voices heard. Your vote is your power, use it to help shape the future of New Orleans.

VOTE

DATA NEWS WEEKLY

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The Scarf Comeback

Retro Revival for Fall 2025



Tracee Dundas
Fashion Stylist

Fall and winter has always been the traditional time to layer up with sweaters, hats and scarves. This season take note to how everyone is embracing a cozy fashion comeback with a modern vibe— the scarf.

Once a defining accessory of the 1960s and '70s, scarves are reclaiming their place as a statement piece for both women and men. From silky, patterned neck ties reminiscent of mod-era icons to oversized knits draped effortlessly over tailored coats; this season's scarves blend nostalgia with modern flair.

Designers are reinterpreting the classic look with sustainable fabrics, bold prints, and inventive styling. Think loosely knotted at the neck or layered over blazers and turtlenecks. The beauty of this trend lies in its versatility: scarves add instant sophistication, color, and individuality to any outfit. Whether channeling vintage charm or contemporary cool, the scarf is once again proving it's more than an accessory — it's a fashion essential. Reminding us that some classics never truly go out of style; they just return, beautifully reimagined, ready to wrap us in timeless elegance.

Data Zone, Continued
on page 5.



Hermes Silk Scarf



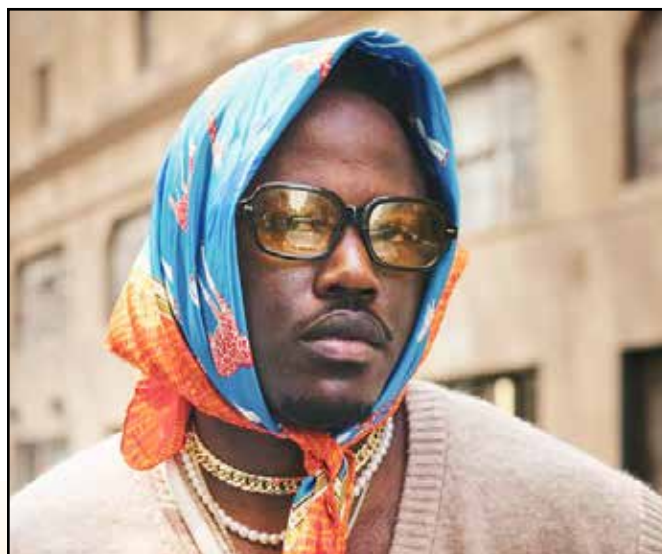
Cape Scarf



White Oversize Scarf



Belted Scarf



Babushka Street Scarf



Burgundy Silk Scarf

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

Tremé Fall Festival Celebrates 10 Years of Culture and Community

Photos by
Karen Fielder-Johnston
Data News Weekly
Contributor

This year's Tremé Fall Festival marked a milestone 10th Anniversary, honoring the neighborhood's deep Cultural Roots with a vibrant celebration of food, art, and music. The annual event once again brought together locals and visitors to experience the Heart of Treme through its music, cuisine, and community spirit.

Festivalgoers enjoyed an incredible lineup featuring Eliza Sonnenschein, Leroy Jones & The Tremé All-Stars with Mitchell Player and Shannon Powell, The Original Pinettes Brass Band, The Herlin Riley Quartet, and Fan Favorites Kermit Ruffins, Shamarr Allen, Ratchet Jazz, and DJ Jubilee, who closed the celebration on a high-energy note.

"The Tremé Fall Festival is a celebration of our neighborhood, our culture bearers, our history, and our landmarks like the Backstreet Museum, and the African American Museum," said Naydja Bynum, President of the Friends of Tremé Culture. "Funds raised go towards supporting St. Augustine Catholic Church and its continued preservation"

This year's Honoree, Big Chief Victor Harris of the Fi-Yi-Yi Mandingo Warriors, received a Proclamation from U.S. Representative Troy Carter during the Patron Party. The festival's signature second-line parade, organized by Saran and Adolph Bynum, honored Harris and the culture bearers who keep the city's traditions thriving.

"The second line embodies the rhythm, soul, and pride of Tremé," said Saran Bynum. "Each year, we honor those who preserve our culture, because their art is the Heartbeat of New Orleans."



Babydolls



Parade Participants



Adolph Bynum Sr. Board member of Friends of Treme Fall Festival, Mayor-Elect Helena Moreno, and Saran Bynum, Board Member, (FOTC) and Parade Coordinator.



Big Chief Victor Harris of Fi Yi Yi



Festival Participants



Mr. and Mrs. Alden McDonald - Liberty Bank Sponsors



Homer Plessy School Band

Raising Awareness During Breast Cancer Month

Story and Photos by
Kristopher Beavers
Data News Weekly
Contributor

It was a regular night for Munissa Stephens at home in 2022. She was lying on the couch, relaxing after a long day at work, when she felt a lump as she reached for the TV remote. She didn't think much of it and went about her night. The next day at work, she mentioned it to a coworker, who showed concern and urged her to see a doctor.

After several months of building courage, Stephens finally made an appointment. That same evening, the hospital called with results that would change her life forever. Stephens had been diagnosed with Stage 2 Breast Cancer.

"When the doctor's office called me and told me what it was, I was devastated," said Stephens, a Breast Cancer Survivor and patient resource worker. Three years later, Stephens is healthy and surrounded by family and friends who supported her through treatment.

"I'm a firm believer in Christ, and one thing to always remember is that God will never give you more than you can handle," she said.

The Scope of the Disease

Breast Cancer still remains the most common form of cancer diagnosed across the United States.



Local organizations like Krewe de Pink collaborated with Pussyfooters to host breast cancer awareness events like Death by Chocolate NOT Breast Cancer this month spotlighting local chocolate and dessert makers in the city.

It can be a silent killer for both women and men due to its lack of early symptoms and detection. As of 2025, Breast Cancer rates continue to rise. About 1 in 8 women will be diagnosed with invasive Breast Cancer, and 1 in 43 cases will be fatal, according to the American Cancer Society.

The fatality rate among Black women is as high as 38-percent, higher than that of White women, though their overall incidence rate is about 5-percent lower. Experts attribute these differences to later-stage diagnoses, barriers to screening, and disparities in access to medical equipment.

"Younger Black women are

more likely to be diagnosed with the most aggressive type of Breast Cancer, known as Triple-Negative Breast Cancer," said Danielle M. Thompson, a Health Information Specialist in New Orleans. "Triple-Negative Breast Cancer was more common in young Black women (16.3-percent) than in young non-Black women (12.1-percent)."

Understanding the Disparities

The reasons behind higher mortality rates for Black women are complex and deeply tied to societal and health care inequities.

"Black women are often treated with less urgency in hospitals, lack



Munissa Stephens is a breast cancer survivor and advocate for early detection.

access to appropriate medication, and have their pain dismissed," wrote Priya Malhotra, a Researcher in Public Health with the Breast Cancer Research Foundation.

"The gap in Breast Cancer outcomes among Black women is complex and multifactorial. Social, economic, geographic, and lifestyle factors may partially account for disparities. Black women are statistically more likely to have diabetes, heart disease, and obesity," Malhotra stated.

Preventive Measures

Early prevention and awareness remain the best tools against Breast Cancer. Eating nutritious meals, ex-

ercising regularly, and limiting alcohol or drug use can significantly lower risk and improve recovery outcomes.

"While I was going through treatment, I chose to be more careful about the food I bought for the house," Stephens said. "I truly thank my family, especially my husband, for supporting me through it."

Where to Find Support

For local residents, health professionals recommend a screening or test at local hospitals in the New Orleans area, such as Ochsner Health or LCMC Health. For community support, NOELA Community Health Center and Luke's House Clinic also provide local assistance. Several nonprofit organizations also work to raise awareness and fund free screenings. Krewe de Pink supports Breast Cancer initiatives through community events, while the Louisiana Breast and Cervical Health Program offers free screenings for women across the state.

Every day, more women face the challenges of Breast Cancer, whether through personal battles or by supporting loved ones. Stephens said her journey helped her find purpose.

"When you go through these things, you have a testimony that can positively affect someone's life," she said.

State & Local News

LSU Fires Coach Brian Kelly After Four Seasons

Data News Staff Edited
Report

Brian Kelly has been dismissed as Head Football Coach at LSU Tigers, the university announced Sunday night following a 49-25 home loss to Texas A&M Aggies. Athletic Director Scott Woodward cited the program's failure to achieve National or SEC-Championship success as the main reason for the decision.

Kelly's tenure ended with a 34-14 record over four seasons, including a 2-3 mark in the 2025 Campaign before Sunday's defeat.



LSU Head Coach Brian Kelly was fired after the Tigers' loss to Texas A&M, marking the end of his four-year tenure in Baton Rouge. The university announced Frank Wilson as interim head coach, tasked with guiding the team through the remainder of the 2025 season and restoring momentum to the storied LSU football program.

Woodward stated that although LSU hoped Kelly would lead the Tigers to multiple championships, "the success at the level that LSU demands simply did not materialize."

The Tigers' slide this season, losing three of four games and dropping out of AP Top 25 after a promising 4-0 start, proved decisive. The administration has named Associate Head Coach Frank Wilson as Interim Head Coach while a national search begins for Kelly's successor.

Kelly's departure leaves LSU with the second-largest Coaching

Buy-Out in College-Football History (estimated at \$54 million), as the university renegotiates the terms of his exit.

As one of college football's most storied programs—led to national titles by predecessors nicknamed "Saban," "Miles," and "Orgeron"—LSU's standards remain towering. Woodward emphasized that the search now is for a leader who will "embrace the excellence that we demand."

With the Tigers' 2025 Season now in flux, attention turns fast to what comes next in Baton Rouge.

In Trump's New Confederacy, Slavery Wasn't Sin

Stacy M. Brown
Black Press USA Senior
National Correspondent

In Donald Trump's America, they are no longer whispering their nostalgia for slavery—they are preaching it from the pulpit. Far-right Christian Nationalist Joshua Haymes, a self-proclaimed prophet of white supremacy, recently declared in a viral video that slavery “is not inherently evil,” demanding that every Christian “affirm and defend” the right to own another human being. His words echo the theology of the lash—a perverse gospel that once baptized Black suffering in the name of God.

Haymes, who co-hosts a podcast with Pastor Brooks Pottenger of the Pilgrim Hill Reformed Fellowship near Nashville, is not an internet outlier. The church aligns with Douglas Wilson, widely regarded as a father of modern Christian Nationalism, and counts high-profile conservatives like Pete Hegseth among its followers. Their ideology—framed as “biblically justified” domination—is spreading through churches, podcasts, and political circles, forming the moral scaffolding of a new white Christian theology.

“The institution of slavery is not inherently evil,” Haymes insisted. “It is not inherently evil to own another human being.” He urged believers to defend the Founding Fathers, claiming they were not “living in grave sin” for enslaving people. This, he said, was “chronological snobbery.” Such rhetoric does not exist in isolation—it reverberates in the corridors of power.

Under Trump's direction, the federal government has begun censoring Historical Truth. The National Park Service and the Smithsonian have reportedly been ordered to remove exhibits that “disparage” the Founding Fathers by mentioning slavery—including the famous photograph of a formerly enslaved man's scourged back. At Fort Pulaski in Georgia, officials were told to strip away the image that revealed the cruelty of the Confederacy. “This country cannot be WOKE,” Trump said. Translation: America cannot be honest.



At historic sites like the President's House in Philadelphia—where George Washington enslaved nine men and women and rotated them out of state to skirt Pennsylvania's Emancipation Law—Trump's order demands that panels describing these acts as “profoundly disturbing” be revised or removed. “There's good and bad, just like life itself,” said Attorney Michelle Flamer, who helped create the original exhibit. “This is truth; it's American History.”

Yet Trump's version of America wants only the “good”—a fantasy built on denial. Historian Michael Coard, who helped memorialize the enslaved at the President's House, called the policy “a campaign of amnesia.” By scrubbing the record, Trump's government seeks to blind future generations to the crimes that built this nation.

Across the far-right ecosystem, white Christian Nationalists like Haymes are providing moral cover for tyranny. Their sermons and social media posts sanctify racism, misogyny, and authoritarianism as divine will. In online chats, young Republican Activists have been caught using racial slurs and joking about gas chambers—language that echoes the darkest chapters of history.

When a president orders museums to hide the truth, when followers call slavery “biblical,” and when extremists glorify hate, this is not coincidence—it is coordination. It is a cultural counter revolution against truth, equality, and the very

idea of freedom for Black people.

But history refuses to die. The scars remain, as do the names—Oney Judge, Hercules, and countless others who defied bondage even when the nation's founders were their masters. Their courage endures as testimony and warning.

Trump and his apostles of whiteness may try to sanitize the past, but they underestimate the power of truth—and the people who carry it forward. Because in the end, the heartbeat of history belongs not to tyrants, but to those who dare to remember.

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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!

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