



Data News Weekly

Truly The People's Paper

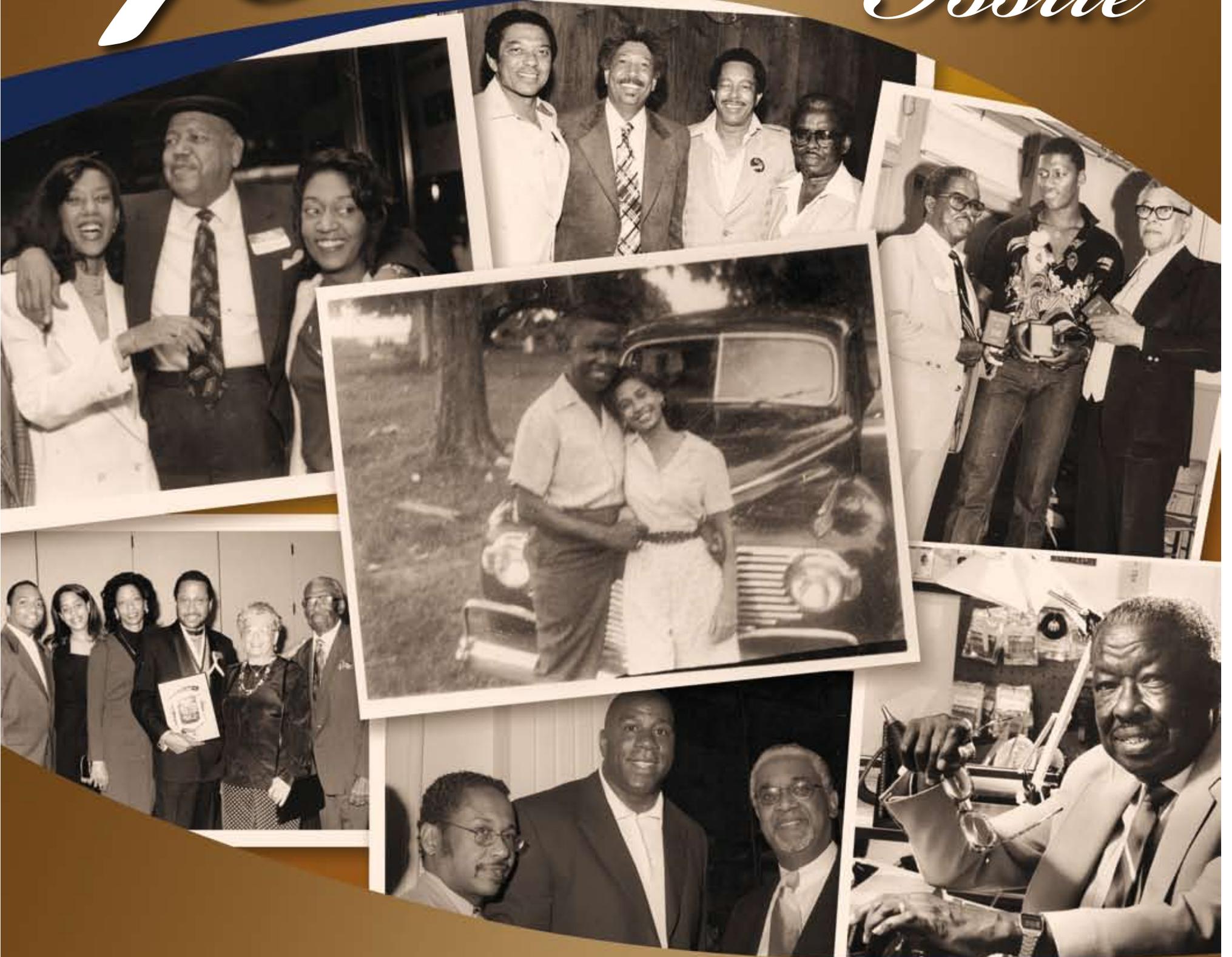
August 29, 2006

40th Year

Volume 36

www.ladatanews.com

40th Anniversary Issue



COVER STORY

Data News Weekly

By: Edwin Buggage
Photos from the Data Archives

40th Anniversary Issue



One would be pressed to say these aren't trying times for many New Orleanians, for many have perished and their lives have changed forever during the past year, but every cloud has a silver lining; where the luminous colors of the rainbow appears after the storm. In our city while many have suffered many more through strength and fortitude have triumphed and have persevered proving there is light at the end of the tunnel. Data News Weekly 40th Anniversary Gala this year is a special celebration as it commemorates the survival of a people, and

INSIDE DATA

**Cover
Story**
page 2

Newsmaker
page 4

State & Local News
page 5

National News
page 13

Data Zone
page 9

Opinion
page 7

Publisher's Welcome
page 15

Health News
page 16

DATA NEWS WEEKLY

Mailing Address: PO Box 5033, Atlanta, GA 30302
(404) 223-5958 Fax (404) 223-5491 datanews@bellsouth.net
Editorial & Business Office: 170 Northside Drive, Suite 506, Atlanta, GA 30313

Terry B. Jones
CEO/Publisher

Edwin Buggage
Editor-in-Chief
Cheryl Mainor
Managing Editor

Distribution
Allison Randolph, III

Contributors
Harry C. Alford
Benjamin Bates
Diane Bukowski
Edwin Buggage
George Curry
Lloyd Dennis
Hazel Trice Edney
Terry Jones
Cora J. Lester
Marc Morias
Shedrick "Big
Shed" White
LBPA Newswire
NNPA Newswire

**Art Direction
& Production**
Paul Mainor for
MainorMedia

**Contributing
Photographers**
Irving Johnson
Ramone Jones

Please call (404) 223-5958 for subscription information.
Dated material two weeks in advance. Not responsible for publishing
or return of unsolicited manuscripts or photos.

COVER STORY



the continuing mission of a paper that has for four decades given a voice to the voiceless, and been an inspiration for those who dare to dream. It has over the years placed the spotlight on many great people and their accomplishments, and presently is at the forefront of chronicling what is happening in a city that is on the verge of an amazing renaissance.

This year's event promises to be yet another spectacular extravaganza of food, music, and fun. The date is set for August 25, 2006 at the African-American Museum at 1408 Gov. Nicholls in the historic Tremé neighborhood; which is the oldest surviving African-American community in the United States. The event will place the spotlight on trailblazers from the past year as they will be honored for their benevolence and the recipients of the JMJ scholarships will also be honored in addition to the unveiling of the recipient of the coveted Trailblazer of the Year goes one extraordinary individual who has selflessly given of themselves for the benefit of others.

The entertainment as always will showcase some of the best the crescent city has to offer with performances by Phillip Manuel, Kermit Ruffins, Samirah Evans, and many others. Manuel, who is a regular performer at the gala, speaks emphatically about the event and its significance as a homecoming and a family reunion for some. As he speaks he likens this event to a thread reconnecting residents to the fabric that is the lives they knew in New Orleans before the tragedy. "I think any time we can bring some normalcy, bring our events back, our customs back it's a good thing." "It's certainly important that we continue to do everything we can to provide every opportunity for our children to get an education, and I'm glad we have Data News back as a voice for the Black community."

Tommye Myrick, the event coordinator and Executive Director of the African-American Museum speaks with excitement about this year's gala and its uniqueness, "This event honors people you

may not see on TV or radio or in other newspapers, but these are true trailblazers." She continues, "These are people who have paved the way for others to follow." "The other thing about this celebration is that it offers scholarships in a very unique way; where they give scholarships to average students and these people in more cases than not become great leaders in our community." "And it also pays homage to the sponsors that have supported Data News Weekly and have supported young people and are trying to make a difference in their lives by giving them scholarships."

It is a well known fact that getting an education is one of the keys to success, one not lost on April 2006 Trailblazer Frederick 'Hollywood' Delahoussaye. "The importance of education knows no bounds, it's like the song says the 'Children are the Future' and that is so true." And in response to being recognized as a Data News Weekly Trailblazer he beams with pride, "The Trailblazer Award is a wonderful honor for it recognizes those who do good works in the community." He continues by saying, "And for me being chosen lets me know that some of my work is being recognized, and that I should continue in doing what I'm doing to push the community forward."

February 2006 Trailblazer Wilbert 'Chill' Wilson makes the connection between education and being an essential tool for survival, "I think education is very important, and it brings you from childhood to adulthood, and gives you the tools necessary to provide for yourself and your family." "Education is extremely vital to your survival, it is as important as breathing." As his profound words resonate like those of the late Martin Luther King Jr. Wilbert, who coincidentally was born on April 4th the same day as MLK's assassination. Although not likening himself to the slain civil rights leader his good works in the community has not gone unnoticed. Wilbert's has received recent recognition as a Data News Trailblazer in addition to being focus of a story on CNN, he says, "I'm humbled and

honored, because I'm a barber, but it's interesting because the barbershop is a sort of speakeasy for our community, and to have my voice heard around the world and my contribution recognized by Data News Weekly is a great feeling."

As this city is rebuilding family has taken on a heightened importance, and as Data News Weekly continues serving the community DNW Marketing and Advertising Vice President Glenn Jones speaks about the importance of this gala and his family's commitment to the New Orleans community. "This gala is a chance for us to give back to the community." "All our

entertainment are local acts, when my grandfather started the paper his goal was to highlight local artists." As Data News Weekly enters its fourth decade Jones reflects on growing up along side the paper and how it shaped his own work ethic, "Growing up I seen the dedication of my father and grandfather to be accountable to put out a paper every week for 39 years prior to Katrina." "It doesn't just signify the resiliency of our family, but the resiliency of our dedication, it shows the resiliency of a newspaper that's committed to serving the community, and I think it symbolizes a lot of great things."

And this year's gala is special

in so many ways, it symbolizes the commitment of a paper to continue to give back and be the voice of a community. It is staying true to its motto as truly being the people's paper. Glenn Jones pride is evident as he speaks of Data News and its relationship and importance to African-Americans in New Orleans as it forges ahead, "We take a lot of pride in servicing our community, and people know when they look inside the pages of Data News Weekly they can find and view information that is pertinent to African-Americans, and this party is a statement to say we are back and we're here to serve our community."

LOOKING FOR A NEW ORLEANS PUBLIC SCHOOL?



REGISTRATION BEGINS JULY 10TH • DON'T DELAY... REGISTER TODAY!

Visit a Registration Center in New Orleans... Register in person at any one of the following:

- » Benjamin Banneker Elementary • 421 Burdette St. (Uptown)
- » Henderson Elementary • 1912 L.B. Landry Ave. (Algiers)
- » Joseph Clark Sr. High School • 1301 N. Derbigny St. (Treme)

Register Online... Complete an online registration form at www.nolapublicschools.net

Upon completion of this form, a spot will be provisionally reserved for your child. To complete this enrollment parents must visit a registration center in New Orleans before August 12, 2006 to complete the process.

Call toll free... to register by phone or to obtain more information **1-877-453-2721**

Register by phone to reserve a provisional spot for your child. To complete this enrollment parents must visit a registration center in New Orleans before August 12, 2006 to complete the process.

NOLA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Hours of Operation:

July 10: 8am – 7pm

Monday-Friday: 9am – 5pm*

Saturdays: 11am – 3pm

* Open until 7pm on Tuesdays, closed on Sundays and on Labor Day (Sept. 4th)

NEWSMAKER

Warren Riley Interview:

By: Edwin Buggage
Photos By: Ramone Jones

Chief Warren Riley is the fierce leader of the New Orleans Police Department. He has inherited a department that is attempting to rebuild itself after coming under scrutiny during Hurricane Katrina. With the recent surge in crime that included two high

profile murders many citizens are afraid that we may return to the city of old where we once led the nation in the number of murders. Chief Riley is a twenty-five year veteran of the police force and is an eloquent, polished, articulate field general attempting to lead his troops and the department in a new direction in the fight against crime in the serving and

protecting the citizens of New Orleans. Data News Weekly had the unique opportunity to talk with Riley in an exclusive in depth interview:

EB: What are your feelings about the recent surge in violent crime?

WR: From a law enforcement perspective we may look at it



Chief Riley discusses crime prevention

differently than the citizens, when we look at our data we are actually down 54% in our overall crime rate. This year right now we have 84 murders which are too many, but last year at this time we had 187 murders, but we are waiting for some population figures to come out so we can do it on a per capita basis. Yes we have had some high profile murders recently, and the national media has reported that but I think it's been an injustice how they have portrayed the city on a national level, but overall crime is down and the city is safer than it was a year ago.

EB: It's interesting you mention the media; do you think that the focus on the crime problem is more media hype, or is it an indication that there is a serious problem that citizens need to concern themselves about if and when they return to the city?

WR: As I said before crime is down in our city. New Orleans today is safer than it has been in probably fifty years. The sad part about it is that most of the victims of violence leading to death are young black men under thirty who are involved in drugs, but if you do not fit this profile then the likely hood of you getting murdered in this city is minimal. Our good quality citizens who are not involved in these activities are not being victimized everyday regardless of their race or class.

EB: What extra measures is the police department taking to curb this disturbing trend in crime other than having the National Guard patrol low populated areas?

WR: We have created the criminal intelligence bureau which involves narcotics and our intelligence unit and a unit called Code 6, this is a unit that focuses on subjects once they've been arrested. We have a scale that's based on their criminal records that may be from 1 to 10 and if they're let's say an eight we will meet with the judge so that their bail would be set higher where they will not roll through this revolving door. Our criminal intelligence unit focuses on a list of 112 people who we consider our most violent offenders this list is now down to about seventy nine, some of them have been killed, some of them have been arrested, others have been taken off the streets while others have been arrested in other cities. And as we get information on those who have re-entered the city we target them. We have also made changes in our investigative unit, where we have more experienced investigators, which mean better evidence, and better reports, where we can give the District Attorney everything he needs to get a conviction. People who are arrested and not convicted is a problem, for example in 2004 we had 265 murders 57 people who had been murdered had been arrested 87 percent of the people who were killed in the city had criminal records, what we're trying to do is help the criminal justice system, give them the tools they need and the evidence they need to convict.

EB: Crime is much more than a police problem; I think we understand that it also involves

Office DEPOT®

Taking Care of Business

Standard Bookcovers
Standard Solid 781191
Standard Fashion 597259

Crayola Broad-Tip Marker 10-PK
950055 Reg. \$99

Borden Elmer's® Glue
Glue-All, 4 oz 119677
Washable, 4 oz 502807
119877 Reg. 99¢ Each
Same item only.

Office Depot® Brand 3-Hole Punched Filler Paper 150-PKs
Wide-Ruled Notebook
589483
College Ruled, 8" x 10-1/2"
589510
College Ruled, 8-1/2" x 11"
956112

Low Price Guarantee

Find a lower price anywhere else and we'll match it **INSTANTLY!**

See below for details.

Office Depot® Exclusive

SAVE \$270

569⁹⁸

After (3) Mail-In Savings
In Store Price \$839.98

HP Pavilion Desktop Computer with Intel® Pentium® 4 Processor 524 with HT Technology with 17" LCD Monitor & Color Printer included

- 512MB DDR2 memory • 250GB hard drive
- Read and write DVDs & CDs plus LightScribe™ Direct Disc Labeling
- Windows® XP Media Center 2005 software • 9-in-1 memory card reader

Tower & Monitor a1514n-b 403877/Printer 3915 344840

The Intel, Intel Inside Logo, Celeron, Centrino, and Pentium are registered trademarks of Intel Corporation.

17" LCD FLAT PANEL

Save \$270

After (3) Mail-In Savings

Low Price Guarantee: If you find a lower price on an identical product advertised for less within 14 days after your Office Depot® purchase at any other office products retailer or even in any of our other channels of distribution (prices in any one of our channels may vary, higher or lower, from time to time), we will match the price instantly in store. Or, call us at 1-800-GO-DEPOT (1-800-463-3768) for more details. (We reserve the right to limit quantities; of course ad errors, close-outs, clearances, and Internet offers do not qualify.)

3 WAYS TO SHOP:

CALL 1.800.GO DEPOT (1.800.463.3768) fax: 1.800.685.5010

CLICK officedepot.com AOL keyword: officedepot

COME BY 1.800.GO DEPOT (1.800.463.3768) to locate a store near you

PROUD SPONSOR **NASCAR® is a registered trademark of The National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing, Inc.**

Prices and offers expire 8/26/06. Available in store only. Quantities limited. While supplies last.
The name Office Depot® and the Office Depot® logo are registered trademarks of The Office Club, Inc. © 2006 Office Depot, Inc. All rights reserved.

STATE & LOCAL NEWS

Slaughter commits Southern to Black publishers: 'You are our gatekeepers'

By: Cora J. Lester

Black newspaper and magazine publishers from across the state gathered in Baton Rouge earlier this week for the bi-annual meeting of the Louisiana Black Publishers Association. Southern University System president Ralph Slaughter, Ph.D., delivered a riveting keynote address recommending the historically black college system to better relations with the publishers.

"You are the gatekeepers of our communities," said Slaughter. "We need better access into the communities and we know you can do it...You willingly tell the story other media refuse to tell." Slaughter said he will build on Southern's collaborative with the association, keep the publishers informed and work with them to disseminate positive news. "We will be more responsive to you."

Slaughter joined representatives from the Governors Office, Liberty Bank, Democratic Party, Spencer Media, Louisiana Legislature, the Louisiana Disaster Recovery Foundation, Jozef PA, the Southern University Ag Center, Citadel Broadcasting, BellSouth, and others in commending the publishers on a job well done.

As part of the meeting's focus to "Link the State," LBPA members met with local corporate, small business, and Slaughter commits Southern to Black publishers: 'You are our gatekeepers'

By: Cora J. Lester Black newspaper and magazine publishers from across the state gathered in Baton Rouge earlier this week for the bi-annual meeting of the Louisiana Black Publishers Association. Southern University System president

Festivities for Judge Bonin Brings Out The Community



Over 550 friends and well wishers attended a fund raiser/ victory party for Judge Bonin held at The Republic. A host of elected officials attended including Judge Sean Early, Constable Lambert Boissiere, Sheriff Paul Valteau, City Council Members Cynthia Williard Lewis, Arnie Fielkow, James Carter, Sheriff Marlin Gusman, Judge Robert Jones, Judge Ronald Sholes, Judge Nadine Ramsey, Judge Roland

Belsome, Dale Atkins, and many others. Pictured above are (l to r) Judge Bonin, Gail Barnes-McConduit, & Data News Weekly Publisher, Terry Jones.

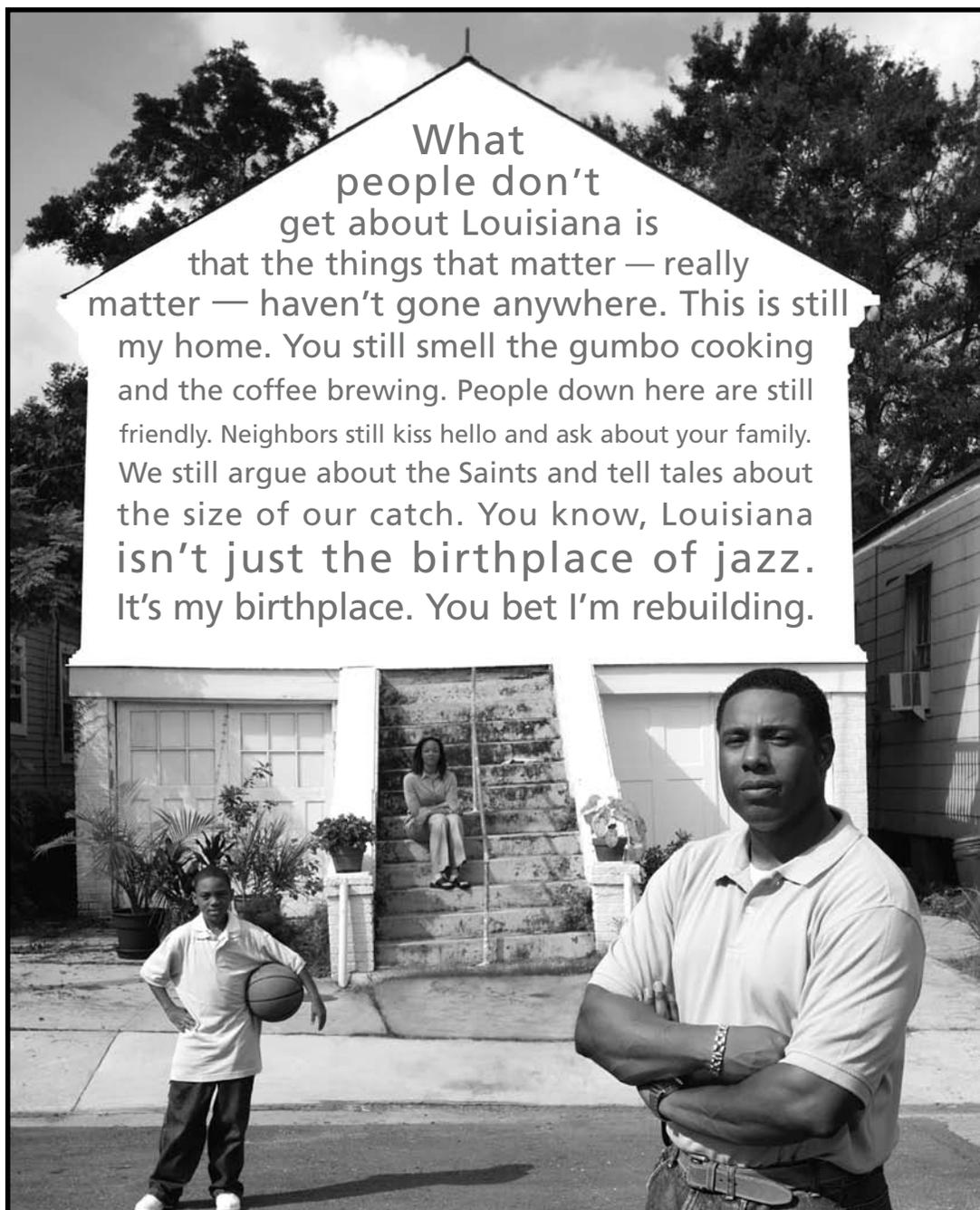
New Orleans-area Barnes & Noble Names Local Best-seller 'Chummy's Spirit'

A September Bookclub Reading Selection

New Orleans, LA - Barnes & Noble in Harvey, LA named Chummy's Spirit, the debut novel by Hal Clark, host of WYLD-FM's Sunday

Journal, a book club reading selection for the month of September, as part of the store's focus on promoting outstanding fiction by African-American writers. The culminating event, consisting of a reading, discussion and signing, happens Friday, September 15th at Barnes & Noble, 1601 Westbank

Expressway in Harvey, beginning at 7 p.m. "Hal Clark takes readers on an incredible journey. A journey filled with tremendous highs and abysmal lows," says Travis Williams,



What people don't get about Louisiana is that the things that matter — really matter — haven't gone anywhere. This is still my home. You still smell the gumbo cooking and the coffee brewing. People down here are still friendly. Neighbors still kiss hello and ask about your family. We still argue about the Saints and tell tales about the size of our catch. You know, Louisiana isn't just the birthplace of jazz. It's my birthplace. You bet I'm rebuilding.

Homeowners affected by Hurricane Rita or Katrina may be eligible to receive up to \$150,000 in compensation for their losses to get them back into their homes. *The Road Home* Housing Assistance Centers are open and applications are currently being processed. If you have already registered, you will receive an application packet in the mail. To start your application for Governor Blanco's *Road Home* program, visit www.road2LA.org or call 1-888-ROAD-2-LA (1-888-762-3252).



Program Sponsored by:



Program Funded by: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

News Orleans Data News Weekly

TRAIL BLAZERS

Jamie Jones *A Lesson In Art and Soul*

By: Benjamin Bates

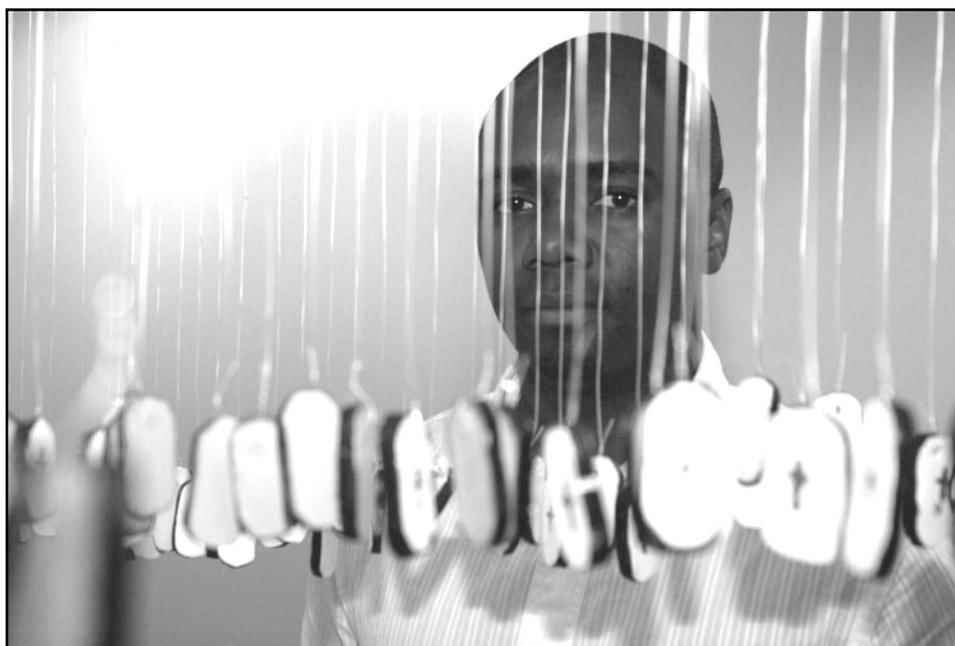
Photo By: Irving Johnson

Art is an expression of the soul, it is the essence of taking the non material and making into the material, it is the manifestation of the inner depths of the soul; it is the ultimate gift; a connecting of oneself to the world around them through aesthetic expression. This statement epitomizes the life's mission and work of August 2006 Trailblazer Jamie Jones.

His life began as a young boy growing up the fifth of seven children; in this large household he would first experience his love of art. "My older brother Timothy would draw pictures of comic book characters, and entertainers like Boatsy Collins, and martial arts expert Bruce Lee, and I would go in when he wasn't home and trace them." Years would pass and Jones would privately hone his craft, it wasn't until years late while a student at Delgado Community College where he discovered his love of art could become his life's work and passion. "These years sparked my interest, I began designing sets in several stage productions, and I found I truly enjoyed the creative process seeing something you picture in your mind actually come to life."

His interest in working with kids began while working as an educational art assistant, at the New Orleans Children Museum where he worked for seven years. "From that point on I felt I wanted to work with children so I changed my major to Art Education and transferred to Xavier University." While a student at Xavier he began working with Young Audiences, in addition to the African-American Museum. Over the years he has worked at the Rosenwald Center, and presently is a resident visual artist at Fisher Elementary School in Algiers. As he has taught children to explore the inner depths of themselves through art conversely, he has learned much from them, "I've learned to appreciate the simple things in life, they draw pictures of things we as adults think aren't significant." He continues, "There are no boundaries to their imaginations which are boundless."

The historical legacy of race has doused the flames of many who have had



a burning desire to succeed but see race as and impediment, Jones understands this but yet has not let that stand in the way in his quest towards to strive for excellence in every aspect of his life, "I feel sometimes we as African-American let the color of our skin limit our true potential and our ability to dream." Continuing his thought, "It reminds me of W.E.B. DuBois in the Souls Of Black Folks when he talks about the idea of double consciousness; to understand one is unique in that he or she is American, but yet more unique in that we have a different perspective in that we are African-American."

Striving for excellence has been a constant in Jones' life, as Staff Sergeant and a member of the 1192nd Transportation Terminal Brigade of the Army Reserve he has served in the military for 14 years. In his recent past he would experience a true test of his will, courage, and fortitude as this all came to a head when he found himself as one of the many reservist deployed in Operation Iraqi Freedom. "I felt a great sense of pride in serving my country and making the ultimate sacrifice in supporting my country in its mission to spread democracy around the world." He

served on active duty for eighteen months stateside providing supplies for soldiers fighting in Iraq, reflecting on this trying time in his life he says, "At times it was very demanding, it tapped into a part of me that I didn't know was there; to push myself to go that extra mile to accomplish our mission."

Upon returning to the states, and needing some time alone; he left for Germany where he spent several weeks reflecting on the eighteen months he spent deployed during Operation Iraqi Freedom, "I needed a moment of clarity, some time to think about what I'd been through, and counting my blessings that I made it back alive." Soon after returning from Germany the waters of Katrina ravaged the city and the breaching of the levees left many in the city homeless including Jones who found himself in Houston like many considering his future, and his options, like many he thought of starting anew in another city, but then made a tough decision to come back to the Crescent City. "I decided to come back to New Orleans, because I started something I wanted to finish, and that was to graduate from Xavier University, and when I heard the words of Dr. Norman C. Francis when he said Xavier will re-open I

decided I would come back and complete my degree."

Jones came back focused on accomplishing his goal which was to complete his studies. For his senior Art Show his piece would hold special significance; as it the culmination of his experience as a soldier. His project was entitled 'Formation' in it Jones with assistance of a close group of friends, many of them fellow soldiers helped him put together an exhibit that would feature 2436 dog tags displayed paying tribute to the lives of soldiers that have died during Operation Iraqi Freedom while serving their country." The passion in his voice as evidence of his commitment as he stated, "Whether you agree with the war or not and I do have my own feelings on the subject, but I feel it is irrelevant when it comes to this exhibit." "What angers me most of all, is that these young men and women are dying and their ultimate personal sacrifices are being forgotten by the media and other people who want to politicize what is happening."

On August 12, 2006 Jamie achieved his goal as he walked across the stage during Xavier University's graduation ceremony, receiving his B.A. in Art Education. "It was very emotional yet sad, I found myself fighting back tears, I triumphed, and my true source of inspiration my mother who suffers from Alzheimer's wasn't able to be there to share it with me." As Jones moves on to the next challenge in life he continues to work and inspire young people through his work as an art teacher. His immediate personal goal is to begin Graduate School, and get a Master's Degree in Community Arts. "After that I want to set up art programs in the inner-city where art can serve as an alternative to crime and violence." Jamie Jones is a teacher, mentor, soldier, and an artist who has truly used his gift of art; giving of his soul and heart positively affecting and impacting the lives of those he's encountered in his artistic journey. Throughout his adult life he has been a force for change, and that's why he has been honored as August 2006 Data News Weekly Trailblazer.

presented by

COX
COMMUNICATIONS

OPINION

What Do You Want From Me?



The Love Dr.
Data Columnist

So I know that is you approach me, you want something from me, even though it might be nothing more than a minute's companionship, but you need something from me. Now what if I were to get an attitude every time someone needs something from me? Hell, I'd be angry (and miserable) all the time. I prefer to withhold judgment until I know what you need, because I've also discovered that what most people need is information, they just need to tap into my knowledge

Continued on page 19.

Connected to the Community



At Miller Brewing Company, our goal is to support and enhance the lives of people in the communities in which we live and work. We are dedicated to working with retailers, wholesalers, suppliers and community groups to assure that we are living up to this responsibility.

For more information about Miller Brewing Company and our community involvement, log onto www.MillerBrewing.com.



Live Responsibly 

©2004 Miller Brewing Co., Milwaukee, WI



Before I get started I just want to remind those who have enjoyed the "Between The Lines" television show, that on Sunday August 27th at 7pm Paul Beaulieu and I along with a couple of younger commentators, Eddie Francis of FM98 and Mark Taylor will be doing a live "performance" we are calling "The Katrina Commentaries". We hope those who support the show with their viewing will support us in a real live presentation and help us get a solid handle on the moods, feelings, hopes and plans of our fellow citizens. Now, on with the column.

If you are reading this it means that in one way or another you have survived both Hurricane Katrina and forty years of DATA News. One was a severe problem and the other is a serious solution.

A good friend of mine called a week ago to express gratitude for my column about the indecision and confusion in my and other people's lives who live in New Orleans. His words were, "It's not just me!"

If there is anything about myself that I can put my finger on, it's my understanding that other people are pretty much just like me, and try to carefully deal with people based on that assumption. I used the word carefully because there are evil and insane people in the world, and it takes time to tell.

One of the things I assume is that generally the person who starts a conversation needs something from the person they addressed. Truthful, fact filled, compassionate communication is probably the easiest and best way people should get what they need from one another.

It is unfortunate that so many people go through life feeling like the Lone Ranger, because we are only different in our knowledge and experiences, and the more we share those the more we become like one another, and that's also how bonding and falling and living in love work.

COMMENTARY

Doing Business and Finding Work in the Gulf

Beyond the Rhetoric

By. Harry C. Alford
NNPA Columnist

It has been almost a year since the Lord unleashed the most devastating hurricane to hit the coast of the United States. It seems like yesterday that the neglect, incompetence and abyss that followed were portrayed on world television. The United States was going through World War III devastation and appeared to be heading straight for a new holocaust. Two and a half million citizens were spread throughout the United States like destitute refugees. May this tragedy never repeat itself.

As the storm approached the United States, FEMA sat at the table and began cutting up the huge no-bid contracts. The recipients were mostly part of the Military Industrial Complex (MIC), the same guys milking Iraq for no-bid contracts while your children are put in harms way are now enjoying the fruits of rebuilding. Billions of dollars have been handed over to those members of the MIC or new players who have hired the right lobbying firms. An example is Ashbrite, a Florida firm rather new at the disaster recovery game. They hired the lobbying firm of Haley Barbour, the governor of Mississippi, and miraculously are now receiving contracts approaching a billion dollars.

Initially, the MIC members had the lock on what was available. If a Black business owners wanted work, they had to approach them. Basically, what MIC members did was raked their desired profit off the top of a pending project and then shop the actual work on the street for a desired reduced price. The second tier would come in and then emulate the same practice to a third tier.

Some of these levels went on for four or five rounds. The last tier would be the "sucker". This would be the firm that was removing debris for \$16 a square yard while the MIC member got \$40 for the same square yard. The levels in between took their reduced share and finally the "sucker" did the actual work for very little profit. He would be lucky if he got paid at all. Many of the lower tiers were quickly formed limited liability companies that would pile the debt up while the profit went to the actual organizers. The "sucker" would be scrambling around trying to get paid and the LLC organizers had left the state and never to be found.

The above happened too many times. But there are some success stories. Business owners with background in debris removal and the contracting process approached the big boys like Shaw, Bechtel, etc. on a second-tier level and performed straight up business. A nice Black couple in Mississippi has been

doing very well. Perhaps the best is my guy Vern in Louisiana. Vern grew up in the debris hauling and trucking business. He worked the Hurricanes Camille, Andrew, Hugo and others. To date, Vern's company has done more than \$68 million in debris removal and has hired just about his entire church and neighborhood. The Mississippi couple, Vern and others know what they are doing and can meet the demands. This is no place for perpetrators or amateurs.

The good work is around the corner. Thank God! The Gulf Coast Workforce Initiative has taken form. We will be training more than 20,000 residents in construction trades and put them in the new Gulf Rebuilding workforce. I am happy to say that the first training classes have graduated 90 percent minority in Mississippi and 60 percent in Louisiana. These classes are now known as GREAT – Gulf Rebuild: Education, Advancement and Training. If you have 8th grade reading and math skills and are drug free, please call 1-888-524-7328 or visit www.imgreat.org and sign up for a class in your community.

With money finally flowing, we are about to see the biggest rebuilding job in the history of America. New Orleans will see at least \$60 billion in new development and Mayor Nagin has declared a 35 percent goal for minority businesses. The Housing Authority of New Orleans, HANO, has long been the model for contract diversity and they will have close to \$4 billion in new affordable housing that we must get totally involved in from beginning to end. I firmly believe that 50 percent of this activity will involve Black owned businesses. We are prepared, willing and able. New Orleans is about to become the next Atlanta. Are you ready?

The US Army Corps of Engineers has changed its mindset and, locally, is now committed to working with our businesses. The New Orleans District Office is the place to contact. The Small Business contact is Randy Marchiafava. You can contact him at randy.marchiafava@usace.army.mil or 504-862-2627. Their website is www.mvn.usace.army.mil/.

Hustlers, schemers, etc. beware – we are going to keep it real.

Harry C. Alford is president/CEO of the National Black Chamber of Commerce. www.nationalbcc.org. Email: info@nationalbcc.org

DATA ZONE

We'll Be Back!

By: Shedrick 'Big Shed' White

It is the land
 Of brass bands
 Second lines on Sundays
 Red beans and rice on Mondays
 And any given day, the bus stop
 Is a backdrop
 Of a peculiar picture
 And strange mixture
 Of gold teeth and dreadlocks
 White T's and Reeboks
 Gold weave and Daniel Green Flip Flops
 They call it the city that care forgot
 But I call it home
 So I roam
 Any part of the city
 Uptown, Downtown, in the East and Gentilly
 Taking pleasure in small joys
 Of Gumbo and Po Boys
 Where young boys
 Tie soldier rags around their head

I still can remember the first time I said
 "Throw me something mister"
 I miss the
 Traffic
 From the Bayou Classic
 But at night
 Street life
 Can be tragic
 Bourbon Street, booze, and black magic
 Wards, warriors, and whooties
 But they all know me
 And they all show me... LOVE
 Because
 We are the Big Easy, shaped like a crescent
 And no flood water can stop his blessing
 My city will rise like a phoenix
 Shine like a star
 We'll be back in the street partying for
 Mardi Gras

SOLD OUT

WORLD PREMIERE SCREENING
HOSTED BY SPIKE LEE • NEW ORLEANS ARENA
WEDNESDAY, AUG. 16 AT 7:30PM



An American Tragedy

A SPIKE LEE FILM

When The Levees Broke

A REQUIEM IN FOUR ACTS

AN HBO DOCUMENTARY FILMS EVENT

HBO DOCUMENTARY FILMS... AND 40 ACRES AND A MULE FILMWORKS PRESENT A SPIKE LEE FILM "WHEN THE LEVEES BROKE: A REQUIEM IN FOUR ACTS" PRODUCERS SAM POLLARD AND SPIKE LEE
 DIRECTOR SPIKE LEE PRODUCER BUTCH ROBINSON SUPERVISING EDITOR SAM POLLARD WRITER CLIFF CHARLES COMPOSER TERENCE BLANCHARD EDITORS GEETA GANDHAR AND NANCY NOWACK
 FOR HBO: SUPERVISING PRODUCER JACQUELINE GLOVER EXECUTIVE PRODUCER SHEILA NEVINS



©2006 Home Box Office, Inc. All rights reserved. HBO® and HBO Documentary Films™ are service marks of Home Box Office, Inc.

IN 1976,
 A 30-YEAR-OLD BARTENDER,
 WHO PLAYED ONLY ONE YEAR
 OF HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL,
 TRIED TO BECOME THE NFL'S
 MOST UNLIKELY ROOKIE.

WALT DISNEY PICTURES PRESENTS
MARK WAHLBERG
INVINCIBLE
 INSPIRED BY THE TRUE STORY OF VINCE PAPALE

WALT DISNEY PICTURES PRESENTS MARK WAHLBERG "INVINCIBLE" A MAYHEM PICTURES PRODUCTION GREG KINNEAR
 ELIZABETH BANKS MICHAEL RUSPOLI MUSIC BY MARK ISHAM EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS VICTOR H. CONSTANTINO NICOLE REED EZRA SIVERLOW
 PRODUCED BY GORDON GRAY AND MARK CLARDI KEN MOK WRITTEN BY BRAD GANN DIRECTED BY ERICSON CORE

PG PARENTAL GUIDANCE SUGGESTED
 SOME MATERIAL MAY NOT BE SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN
 SPORTS ACTION AND SOME MILD LANGUAGE

invincible.movies.com

IN THEATRES AUGUST 25

DATA ZONE

Spike Lee Premieres When The Levees Broke: A Requiem In Four Acts

Story and Photos by: Ramone Jones

August 16, 2006 was a historic occasion in the city of New Orleans, renown filmmaker Spike Lee premiered

his much anticipated documentary When The Levees Broke: A Requiem In Four Acts at the New Orleans Arena. A capacity crowd was on hand to experience a film that

amazingly captured the essence of this American tragedy. Data News Weekly was on hand to capture this historic event.

Now Say "See Ya!"
to big phone bills and
HELLO TO SAVINGS!

Cox Digital Telephone®

Exclusive Savings

Save up to \$131* annually with Cox

Switching is Easy

Keep your same phone number and phones

More People Choose Cox

Over 1.5 million customers have already switched



Cox Unlimited Package

for only **\$39.00** a month
- Every month, No gimmicks!

Unlimited Local Calling, Unlimited Long Distance, Call Waiting, Caller ID, Priority Ring, Call Return and Long Distance Alert

Call **504.304.4COX** today!
or order online at www.aboutcox.com



www.aboutcox.com

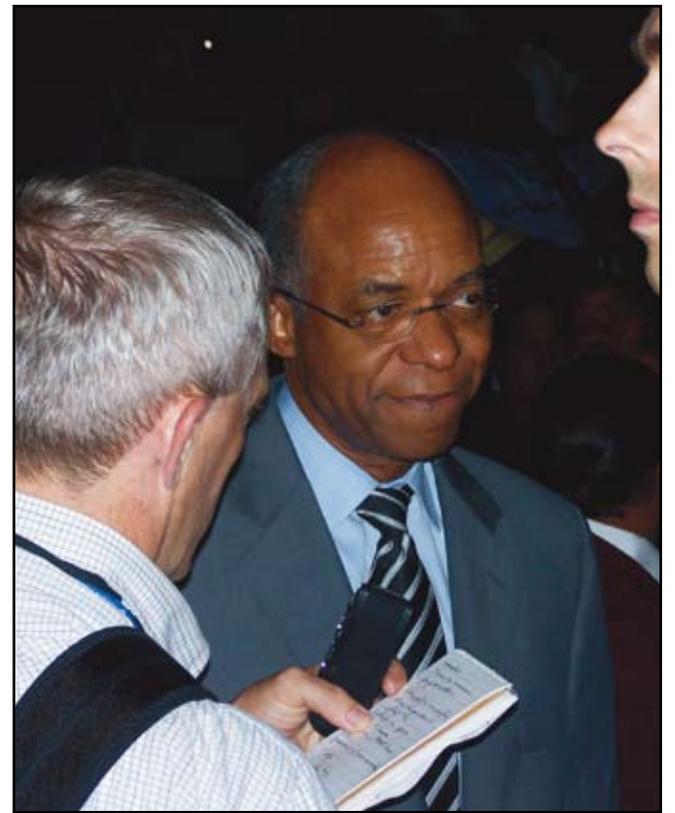


Your Friend in the Digital Age.®

Available only to residential customers in Cox New Orleans service areas. Not all features available in all areas. *Annual savings based on twelve months of the Cox Unlimited Package rates for customers who subscribe to Cox Cable or Cox High Speed Internet compared to BellSouth published rates 2/15/06 for BellSouth Preferred Package® and Unlimited Long Distance Package. All Connection plan minutes of Cox long distance are limited to direct-dialed long distance calls within the United States, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico. Connection plans require subscription to Cox for local, toll and long distance service. Unlimited Long Distance unused monthly minutes have no cash value, expire at the end of the billing cycle. Modem with battery backup will be provided and installed by Cox. Modem and battery backup shall remain the property of Cox and must be returned upon discontinuation of service. If Modem is disconnected, removed, or moved to another address, modem battery is not charged or otherwise fails, telephone service, including access to emergency 911 services, will not be available. Modem limited to 2 telephone lines per household. Installation, inside wiring, jacks, activation fees, taxes and surcharges additional. Available to residential customers in Cox wired serviceable locations. Other restrictions apply. Telephone service provided by Cox Louisiana Telcom, Inc., an affiliate of Cox Communications Louisiana, LLC, © 2006 Cox Communications, Inc. All rights reserved.



Ray Nagin talks to the media



Sen. William Jefferson talks to the press



City of New Orleans Communications Director Ceeon Quiett, Kenya Smith Head of N.O. Intergovernmental Affairs and Data News Weekly Advertising and Marketing V.P. Glenn Jones

DATA ZONE



Two of the many N.O. residents who appear in the film Hot 8 Brass Band members L-Harry Cook and Dinerral Shaveres with L-Alicia St. Cyr and Tiffany Shaveres



Data News Glenn Jones and When The Levees Broke one of the persons profiled in the film, the outspoken Phyllis Montana LeBlanc



Dr. Corey Hebert is one of the many New Orleanians who came out to witness and be part of this historic night.



Mayor Ray Nagin and Sen. Bill Jefferson share a light moment before the film.

Star Photos OF THE WEEK

DIET PEPSI AND ENTOURAGE HIT THE RED CARPET!

Diet Pepsi Gets Ready for the Ultimate Star Moment!

EXCLUSIVE PHOTOS YOU WON'T BELIEVE!!

Diet Pepsi Grabs Some Down Time Before the Big Night!

ONE POP STAR AT THE TOP OF THE GAME

Diet Pepsi stole some downtime on the exclusive island of St. Barts days before the ultimate megastar moment. Hollywood insiders say the velvet rope honor for the biggest pop star on the planet was long overdue. Rumor has it, the post-honor bash has PR people working overtime for every A-list celeb in Tinseltown!

With millions of fans, there's no rest for a superstar.

DIET PEPSI, DIET PEPSI LIME, DIET PEPSI WILD CHERRY and the Pepsi Globe design are registered trademarks of PepsiCo, Inc. LIGHT. CRISP. REFRESHING. 10



Stay in touch when you're back at school

Call friends & family for free



Text & IM at warp speed with these cool new phones!



- Fastap Keypad
- Camera with flash
- Preloaded with free game demos, ringtones and wallpaper

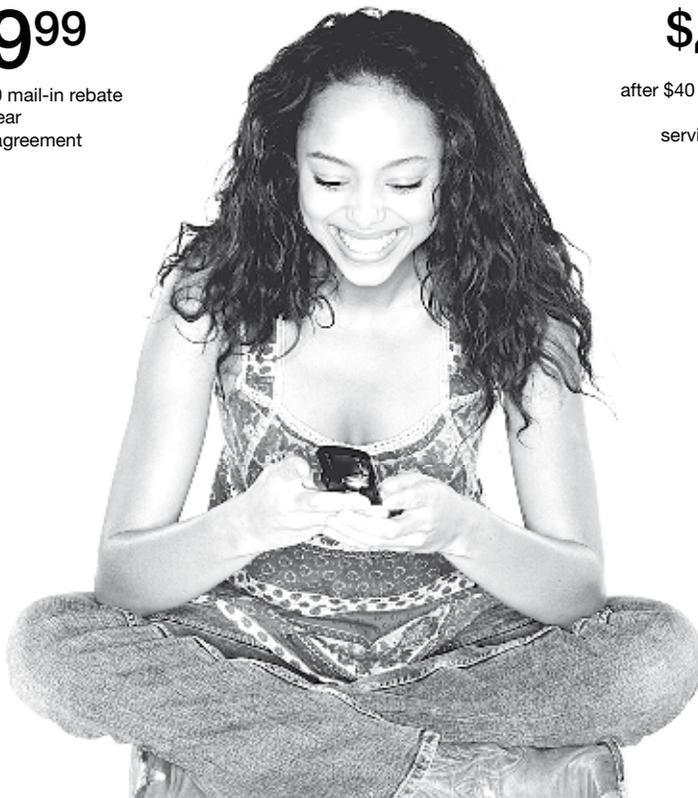
\$59⁹⁹

after \$40 mail-in rebate with 2-year service agreement



LG AX490

fastap
keypad
exclusively from
Alltel Wireless



Kyocera Strobe

- IM-ready
- Full keyboard
- Camera with flash

STROBE
\$49⁹⁹

after \$40 mail-in rebate with 2-year service agreement

come and get your loveSM

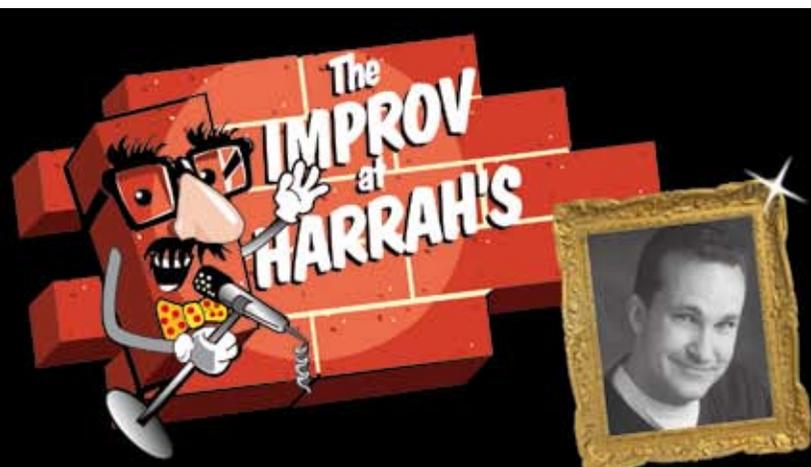


For exclusive online deals shopalltel.com 1-800-alltel-1

Alltel Retail Stores			These Retail Stores Now Open Sunday.			Authorized Agents			Equipment & promotional offers at these locations may vary.					
Covington 808 Hwy. 190, Ste. B (985) 893-7313	Kenner 1000 W. Esplanade Ave. (504) 468-8334	New Orleans 211 Carondelet (504) 524-4194	Slidell 1302 Corporate Sq., Ste. 2016 (985) 847-0891	Destrehan NexGeneration 12519 Airline Hwy. (985) 764-2021	LaPlace Superior Comm. 1819 W. Airline Hwy. (985) 652-6659	Nationwide Comm. 2003 Florida St. (985) 626-1282	Marrero V. Telecom 5001 Lapalco Blvd. (504) 349-4912	Metairie Bobby April Wireless 1700 Veterans Blvd., Ste. 300 (504) 835-9600	Official Wireless Provider of the New Orleans Saints			Proud Sponsor of:		
Houma 1043 W. Tunnel Blvd. (985) 851-2355	Larose 115 W. 10th St. (985) 798-2323	Thibodaux 906 Canal Blvd. (985) 448-2600	Shop at a Participating WAL*MART			Gretna Cell Phone Depot 2112 Belle Chase Hwy., Ste. 2 (504) 433-1921	Mandeville Nationwide Comm. 1876 N. Causeway Blvd. (985) 626-1272							
Southland Mall 5953 W. Park Ave. (985) 804-2355	Metairie 2701 N. Causeway Blvd. (504) 835-1105													

For Business & Government Accounts call 1-877-BIZ-CNTR or visit alltelbusiness.com

Federal, state & local taxes apply. In addition, Alltel charges a monthly connectivity, regulatory & administrative surcharge up to \$1.70; federal & state Universal Service Fund fees (both vary by customer usage); & a 911 fee of up to \$1.94 (where 911 service is available). These additional fees may not be taxes or government-required charges & are subject to change. My Circle: Available to new and existing customers on current select rate plans \$59.99/mo & higher. My Circle applies to ten numbers per account, which must be shared among all lines on account. Not available on prepaid plans. Customer may not designate own wireless or voice mail number, Directory Assistance or 900 numbers as any of the ten available numbers. Calls must begin & end in your plan's calling area. Designated numbers must be within the U.S. Program may be discontinued at the discretion of Alltel. Phone Promotions: Phones available at sale prices to new customers & eligible existing customers. Qualifying Alltel rate plan required. Contact Alltel to determine if you are eligible. Phone Details: Phones & applicable rebates available for a limited time, while supplies last, with activation of a qualifying rate plan. Limit 1 rebate per qualifying purchase. Phone cannot be returned once mail-in rebate certificate has been submitted. Customer pays applicable taxes. See rebate certificate for details. Access Instant Messaging: Text Messaging service required. The charges for Text Messaging service will vary depending on your plan. Every instant message sent and received will count against your Text Messaging plan. Visit alltel.com/access for complete Access details. Additional Information: Limited-time offer at participating locations. While supplies last. Qualifying Alltel rate plan, credit approval & approved handset required. \$25 non-refundable activation fee applies per line. \$200 early termination fee may apply per line. Offers are subject to the Alltel Terms & Conditions for Communications Services available at any Alltel store or alltel.com. All product & service marks referenced are the names, trade names, trademarks & logos of their respective owners. Screen images are simulated. ©2006 Alltel Communications, Inc. All rights reserved.



WORLD-FAMOUS COMEDY!

Jimmy Pardo • Now – August 13
Also featuring Doug Benson and Avi Liberman

New nationally known comedians weekly.

Tickets starting at \$19.95 • Theatre • 8pm
For tickets call the box office at 504-533-6600.



Subject to availability. Harrah's reserves the right to change, cancel or amend this event at any time. Must be 21 or older to enter casino and to gamble. Know When To Stop Before You Start.® Gambling Problem? Call 1-800-522-4700. ©2006, Harrah's License Company, LLC.

NATIONAL NEWS

Working Together To Bring Back Our Inner Cities

A new breed of urban mayors appears to be bringing a new attitude and approach to revitalizing ailing inner cities and making the African-American community a bigger player in that process.

They're building upon the foundations laid to help minorities to gain educational, economic and political power – via affirmative action, the Civil Rights Act and the Voting Rights act – and pushing the envelope with innovative ideas and assertiveness.

The National Urban League's 2006 conference last month featured a panel discussion regarding revitalization of the nation's inner cities. The session featured Los Angeles Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa, Baton Rouge Mayor Melvin "Kip" Holden and Buffalo Mayor Byron Brown, three mayors from very different cities in very different regions of the country. Regardless, they've all got one mission in mind – to resurrect our ailing inner cities.

"We vote. We pay taxes. We are part of the economy – of the economic, political and social fabric of the cities. As such, we expect to be a part of the building and rebuilding process from beginning to end – from the planning boards to completion," said moderator John W. Mack, former president and CEO of the Los Angeles Urban League and current president of the Los Angeles Police Commission.

Essential to the urban renewal process must be a commitment to collaboration or as Villaraigosa phrased it – polling our strengths and not dividing our power.

"I'm here to say that we need to get together. I'm here to say we need to stay together. We need to lead together. We need to engage the fight on behalf of all disadvantaged families struggling in America today," said Villaraigosa, who rode a wave of multicultural support – a broad coalition of blacks, Latinos, Asians and whites – to become the city's first Latino mayor in 133 years.

"Some people would say I snuck into UCLA through the back door. But one thing's for sure: I got out through the front door. And I'm here today because the Civil Rights Act and the Voting Rights Act opened up our country. I'm here today because there was a labor movement to protect and sustain my community. I'm here because I had access to a good public education," he said.

Getting a strong public education these days is a serious challenge for inner-city minorities in Los Angeles, where nearly 60 percent of African-Americans drop out of school. That is why reforming the Los Angeles Unified School District is his administration's top priority.

"There may not a governor blocking the schoolhouse door. We may not see the ranks of the National Guard lining the streets in riot gear. But the barriers to opportunity today are every bit as insidious as they were in Birmingham or Montgomery or Central High School in Little Rock, Ark., in 1957," he said. "We can't widen the circle or increase minority participation in the economic life of our cities or deliver the promise of opportunity, if we don't stand up and address the failure of our public schools in cities across the country."

This new breed of urban mayor is also trying to increase minority participation in economic development by lending more transparency to the city contracting process.

For years, the city of Baton Rouge, La., relied on the good-ole-boy network to get things done. That was until 2005, when Mayor Melvin "Kip" Holden took office. Holden immediately assessed the city's contracting practices and found minority representation to be seriously lacking.

Holden made fixes to the way contracts are granted, requiring many more to be approved by city council than in the past. The state's Association of General Contractors, which had been long opposed to efforts to send more business to minority firms, finally conceded. They realized that by not opening up the process to more minority firms in the area that would mean losing business to companies outside the region.

The city has also put in place a banker's roundtable to pressure banks to pool their resources to fund minority businesses and is working with local universities and high schools to target and recruit promising minority engineering students. Opening up the realm of opportunities to all just made sense to Holden.



STRONG COMMUNITIES ARE BUILT WITH COMMITMENT.

At Coors Brewing Company,



we've made a

solid commitment to support the efforts of people dedicated to



strengthening their communities. WE ARE PROUD

TO INVEST IN THE *vision and dedication of these individuals*

striving to make a difference — FROM OUR COMMUNITY TO YOURS.



Coors

STRENGTH, SUPPORT, COMMITMENT

WWW.COORS.COM



© 2004 Coors Brewing Company, Golden, Colorado 80401 • Brewer of Fine Quality Beers Since 1873 • BEER



NATIONAL NEWS

Michigan Governor Asks Judge to Keep Affirmative Action

By Diane Bukowski

Special to the NNPA from the Michigan Citizen

DETROIT (NNPA) – Gov. Jennifer Granholm has thrown her support behind a federal lawsuit to keep affirmative action as state law. She joins the effort to keep the Michigan Civil Rights Initiative's anti-affirmative action proposal off the state

ballot in November.

The lawsuit was filed by Operation King's Dream, Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick, two union locals and signers of petitions for the proposal. The Detroit City Council, the Michigan Legislative Black Caucus, Keep the Vote No Takeover, and the Arab-American Anti Discrimination Committee among others have passed resolutions supporting the suit.

In a brief filed Aug. 14, Granholm asked Tarnow to conclude "that the MCRI campaign was designed to deceive targeted Michigan voters — especially African American and Latino voters — into supporting an initiative they passionately oppose . . . To allow this initiative to remain on the ballot pollutes our voting system and undermines the freedom of political choice that necessarily accompanies the right to

vote."

The MCRI has proposed to amend Michigan's constitution to ban all affirmative action in government and public school hiring, contracting and admissions. The group is funded by ultraconservative California businessman Ward Connerly and other wealthy right wing supporters.

Granholm noted that Michigan courts had ruled that the MCRI initiative did not violate state law. She asked Tarnow to rule that it does violate the federal Voting Rights Act, under a section which says, "if, based on the totality of the circumstances, it is shown that that political processes leading to the nomination or election . . . are not equally open to participation by members of a class of citizens [protected under the act]."

She cited the testimony of hundreds of petition signers and circulators at four hearings conducted by the Michigan Civil Rights Commission and authorized by her office, that they were deceived into thinking that the MCRI proposal supported affirmative action.

She noted particularly the testimony of Detroit pastor Nathaniel Smith. Smith testified in Lansing that he circulated MCRI petitions because he was told they were pro-affirmative action, until he discovered that he had been lied to.

"I'm very politically active," said Smith during that hearing. "I started letting everybody know the true meaning of what the petition was about. But I was totally hurt that there were hundreds, hundreds of people that had signed the petition, totally 100 percent under false pretenses."

MCRI executive director Jennifer Gratz claimed that Granholm's action was calculated to help her with her base in the November election. Gratz has said she supports Granholm's Republican opponent, Dick DeVos.

One United Michigan, a broad-based coalition of business, labor, social and religious organizations, is campaigning across the state for a vote against the MCRI initiative if it remains on the ballot.

A similar initiative in California, also sponsored by Connerly, was successful. It has reportedly resulted in severe drops in the numbers of African-American and Latino admissions to that state's universities, although recent census figures show that whites are now a minority in that state.



Congratulations.

We proudly sponsor the Data News Weekly. Congratulations to them on their 40th anniversary.

CHASE 

40th Anniversary



Terry B. Jones
Publisher

Dear Readers:

On behalf of the staff at Data News Weekly, I am offering my thanks to the people of New Orleans who have been our loyal readers for making it possible for Data News Weekly to celebrate our 40th Anniversary.

For four decades, Data News Weekly has served as a beacon of truth and information vital to the citizens of New Orleans. As with any family owned business, times were not always easy in it's history, these recent days being the

most difficult, however, throughout trials and challenges faced, Data has remained steady, and has kept it's place in the forefront of the community. This has in no small way, impacted this city, especially today, in a profound and meaningful way. I offer my commendation to you the people, for your perseverance after the Katrina disaster. To my staff, it goes to say, that being the first publication in New Orleans to get back on it's feet, and get the news out to the people, was a tremendous accomplishment, and I salute you for your dedication.

I also would like to thank the many readers who called us, wrote us, and directed us in covering and made sure that we played an important role in the recent City of New Orleans Municipal Elections. Data's commitment to ensuring that every citizen of the City of New Orleans, whether they were in New Orleans, or in one of the many temporary cities throughout the country, had all of the information they needed to cast their votes, was vital in keeping our people engaged and in control of what happened with their city government, and will eventually lead to all those who want to return home, being able and welcome to do so.

As publisher, I am committed to cultivating and maintaining our heritage which is wholly New Orleanian. At the same time, I want to, on this occasion recommit myself and Data News Weekly to the constant challenge of telling the news that matters to our community. Those stories that have historically gone untold, those that have been mistold and those which need to be retold. These are the stories you will continue to read in Data, and as always, we will work to make certain that we continue to be "The People's Paper" for the next 40 years.

I invite all of our friends and citizens to join me us as we celebrate on Friday, August 25, At the African American Museum, 7pm. We hope to see you there, and we hope that you will continue to support Data News Weekly.

Sincerely,

Terry B. Jones
Publisher



CLEAR CHANNEL
RADIO

HEALTH

Twenty-five Years into the Epidemic, AIDS still 'Outpaces' a Cure

By George E. Curry
NNPA Editor-in-Chief

TORONTO (NNPA) – The math is maddeningly simple. Between 2003 and 2005, a period of rapidly expanding AIDS funding, the number of people in low- and middle-income countries receiving antiretroviral drugs increased by an average of 450,000 per year. During that same period, the number of new infections averaged 4.6 million a year. The bottom line: For every person who was treated for AIDS, another 10 became infected.

Helene D. Gayle, president of the International AIDS Society and co-chair of the recently-concluded International AIDS Conference here, put it this way: "Today, 25 years into this epidemic, we have a real opportunity to deliver like never before. We have more resources than ever, more knowledge than ever, more political commitments than ever. Still, the epidemic continues to outpace us."

Another set of figures illustrates Gayle's point. The number of people living with HIV/AIDS – 38.6 million – is double the total for 1995. In 2005, an estimated 4.1 million people became newly-infected with HIV, including 540,000 children. During

that same year, 2.8 million people died of AIDS-related illnesses.

Dr. Peter Piot, UNAIDS executive director, stated without equivocation: "Tragically, the end of AIDS is nowhere in sight."

HIV stands for Human Immunodeficiency Virus, the disease that causes AIDS. It destroys certain blood cells necessary for the normal functioning of the immune system, the mechanism that defends the body against illness. AIDS stands for Acquired Immunodeficiency. It occurs when a person's immune system is so weakened by HIV that cancers and diseases develop.

Vaccines to prevent HIV infection or strengthen the immune system's ability to defend itself are being tested around the world. Under the most optimistic projections, a successful vaccine is still years away.

Absent an effective vaccine, those hoping to curb – or at least make a dent in the HIV/AIDS pandemic – are relying on more aggressive prevention programs and better delivery systems, especially in rural areas around the world.

As Phill Wilson, executive director of the Black AIDS Institute in Los Angeles, said at this year's international convention: "AIDS is a

Black disease." Globally and within the United States.

According to UNAIDS, a joint United Nations program that combines the resources of 10 UN organizations with those of the World Bank, AIDS has already claimed the lives of more than 25 million people. The epidemic has taken its greatest toll on sub-Saharan Africa.

Though it has only 10 to 11 percent of the world's population, the region has almost two-thirds of people living with HIV/AIDS – 24.5 million. Sub-Saharan Africa is home to 87 percent of the 2.3 million children living with HIV/AIDS. In South Africa, 5.5 million people are living with AIDS, or almost 1 in 5.

The Caribbean is the second-most affected region in the world. AIDS is the leading cause of death among 15-44 year-olds. In both sub-Saharan Africa and the Caribbean, addressing the problem is complicated by other factors, including poverty, discrimination, unemployment, stigma and gender inequality.

People of African descent face a similar fate in the United States:

- Although African-Americans are only 13 percent of the U.S. population, they represent

49 percent of all AIDS cases diagnosed in 2004;

- The AIDS rate among Blacks was 10.2 times that of Whites in 2004;
- Of new cases of AIDS reported among women, Black females accounted for 67 percent of the cases, White women 17 percent and Hispanics 14 percent and
- Although African-American teens represent only 15 percent of U.S. teenagers, they were 66 percent of all new AIDS cases reported among teens.

While there is no vaccine on the horizon, the medical community is not standing still in the face of those stark figures.

"We want to call on everyone here and around the world to help speed up what we hope will be the next big breakthrough in the fight against AIDS – the discovery of a microbicide or an oral prevention drug that can block the transmission of HIV," Bill Gates told delegates here. "This could mark a turning point in the epidemic, and we have to make that an urgent priority."

Melinda Gates, in a joint appearance with her husband, explained: "Microbicides are gels or creams that women can use to block infection. They're the first preventive tools that would be intended specifically for women's use. Sixteen candidate microbicides are now being clinically evaluated. Of those 16, five are in major advanced studies."

Another source of optimism, she said, is an oral prevention drug. "The hope behind this research, as you know, is that the antiretroviral drugs that are now used for treatment might also be effective for prevention. Antiretroviral drugs have already been proven to lower the risk of infection for babies born to infected mothers. Some have been successful in preventing HIV infection in animals. Drug trials are planned or underway in Peru, Botswana, Thailand, and the United States. These studies are promising, but we need more trials of more candidates in more places – for both microbicides and oral prevention drugs – if we're going to stop the spread of HIV."

Surprisingly, some of the cutting-edge research is determining that one source of protection against HIV is male circumcision.

Two years ago, a trial in South Africa funded by France, found that circumcised men had a 60 percent less chance of contracting HIV than uncircumcised men. Similar studies are now underway in Uganda and Kenya.

Former President Bill Clinton told the delegates, "I know the scientific jury is still out, and I know a couple of more studies are being done, but should this be shown to be effective, we will have another means to

prevent the spread of the disease and to save lives. And we will have another job to do, a big job – first in selling it, and secondly in providing safe, effective comprehensive and rapid ways of doing it." He acknowledged that there will be "a lot of trouble to get it done."

Trouble or no trouble, some worry about sending mixed signals about the procedure.

"Even if further trials show a lower risk of HIV infection in circumcised men, male circumcision will not provide complete protection against HIV infection," Catherine Hawkins, chief scientific adviser for UNAIDS, said in a statement. "Circumcised men can still contract HIV and pass it to their partners. If male circumcision is proven to be effective, it must be considered as just one element of a comprehensive HIV prevention package that includes correct and consistent use of condoms, reductions in the number of sexual partners, delaying onset of sexual relations, and voluntary and confidential counseling and HIV testing to know one's HIV status."

Hawkins explained, "Just as combination treatment is more effective than single drug therapy for people with HIV, combination prevention is more effective than reliance on a single HIV prevention method."

As scientists and health activists scramble to come up with new ways to slow the spread of HIV, they have come under criticism for not implementing a tool they already have at their disposal – condoms.

A report Population Action International in Washington, D.C. stated: "The condom is the only technology available for protection from sexually transmitted HIV."

Condoms are considered one of the least expensive yet most effective methods of reducing the risk of transmitting HIV and other sex-related diseases. Yet, the United Nations Population Fund (UNPF) estimates that 8 to 10 million condoms are being used each year in low – and middle-income countries. That represents only half of the total number needed. In sub-Saharan Africa, the hardest-hit region in the world, males have access to an average of 10 male condoms per year. Female condoms represent only .03 per cent of the market.

To reverse this trend, UNPF officials say, spending on condoms will need to rise from \$320 million a year to \$500 million to \$630 million annually.

"While we applaud discussion and research into new technologies, we are still not using what we have available today," said Steve Kraus, HIV branch chief for UNFPA. "The condom already exists and it hasn't been delivered. It works and represents the best tool we have in the fight against HIV/AIDS."

We're working around the clock to make sure your communications do too.

Since Hurricane Katrina dealt a devastating blow to the New Orleans area, BellSouth's 2,000 New Orleans area employees have been working hard to fully restore our network and to improve our infrastructure to better withstand hurricanes and other natural disasters in the future.

BellSouth is upgrading its network with fiber optics and elevating key network facilities. These improvements will

enable us to bring the newest technology and most advanced services to our neighbors and businesses in the New Orleans area.

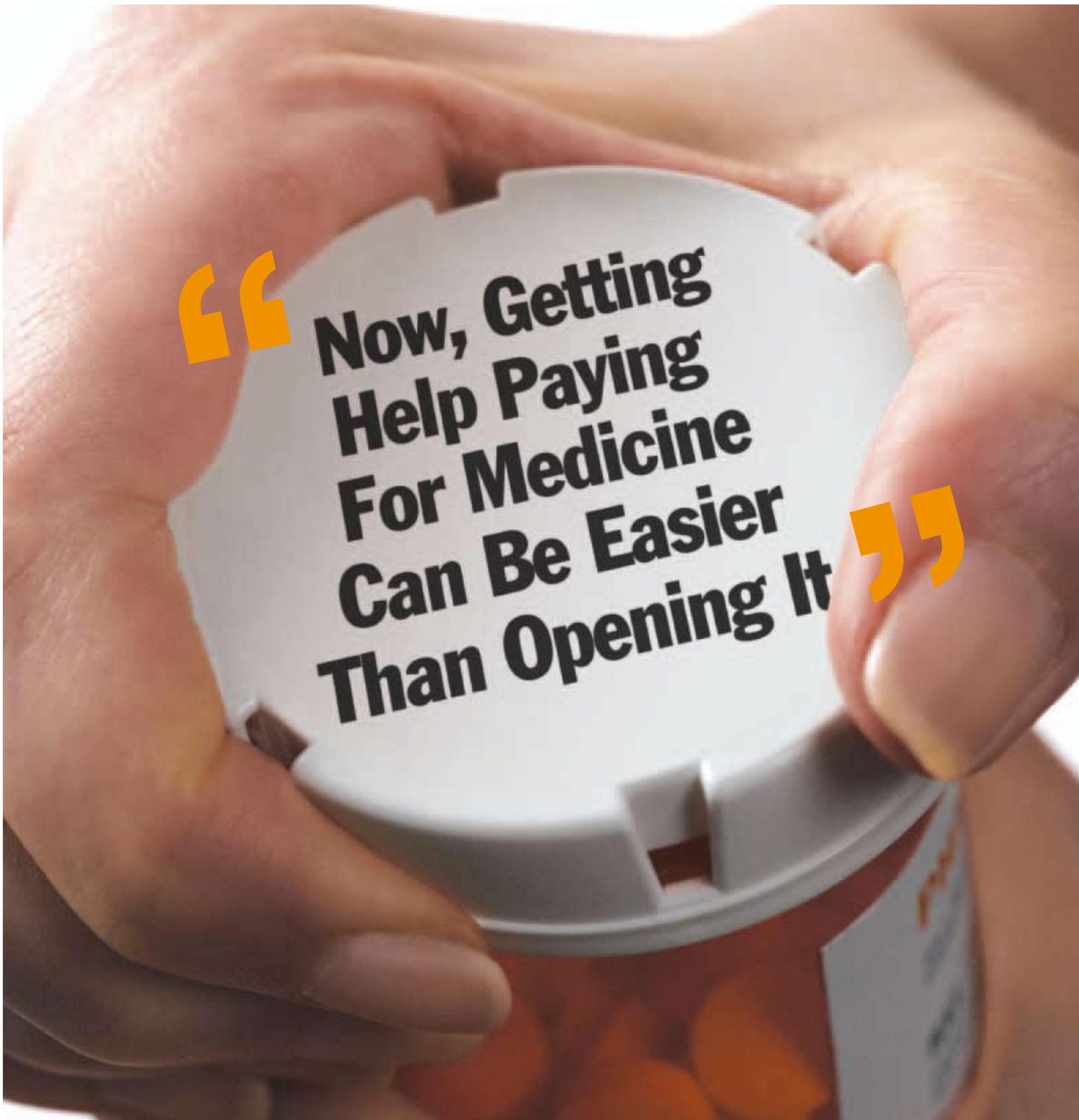
We encourage our customers to review their hurricane preparation procedures and to check the helpful hints posted on our website:

www.bellsouth.com/starlines (for consumers) and
www.bellsouth.com/businesslines (for businesses).

Our sincerest thanks to our customers for their loyalty to BellSouth as we work together to rebuild our community.

 **BELLSOUTH**
Listening. Answering.®
bellsouth.com

©2006 BellSouth Corporation.



If you need help paying for medicine, call
1-888-4PPA-NOW (1-888-477-2669)

Millions of people without prescription coverage have already received their brand-name medicines free or nearly free. But many more can use some help. That's why America's pharmaceutical companies are working together with health care providers and community groups to make getting medicine easier.

To see if you may qualify,
call **1-888-4PPA-NOW** or visit **www.pparx.org**



**Partnership for
Prescription Assistance**



NEWSMAKER

continued from page 4.

the District Attorneys Office as well as at the Judicial Level with judges. But crime is also a social problem, what is it in your opinion that citizens can do to help fight and prevent crime?

WR: You've mentioned two interesting things one about the criminal justice system and how it relates to getting citizens involved. What we have right now is a broken criminal justice system. What we need to do is restore the citizens confidence because people were afraid to be witnesses pre-Katrina, our system may

EB: What types of preventive measures would you like to see and are being made through the NOPD to deter young people from criminal activity?

WR: I would love to see the Police Athletic League come back, also maybe we can have Boot Camp for some of our young offenders with an academic component that can instill discipline in our young people, and where the parents can do some community service for some of the illicit things they children get involved in. In these programs I feel it is important that there is

passed the integrity check and congratulate them for doing the right thing. Now for those who do not pass the checks we immediately begin a criminal investigation and let the chips fall where they may. As you may know recently I terminated a captain for unethical and unprofessional behavior and that's unprecedented you have never heard of a captain being terminated in this department. When you look at the incident that happened on Bourbon Street with the beating of Mr. Davis I suspended those officers immediately, and had them

EB: What was going on in your mind at the time?

WR: At that point adrenaline took over and it was just about staying focused and getting the job done. We had major concerns we didn't have communications for eighty hours. But the most profound thought I had while going through the convention center I couldn't believe what our citizens were having to go through, for the first five days I was wondering to myself when this nightmare would end, it was surreal. To see some houses completely



Chief Warren Riley listens intently before answering question

have not been completely broken, but it was highly deficient, we had a revolving door, people were being let out of jail based on plea bargains and not going to jail. There were some judges who gave ridiculously low bonds to violent offenders. How are you as a citizen going to stand up, when you know he may be back walking down the street in your community three days later, why would somebody want to put their lives on the line when there is no guarantee the system is going to work like its supposed to?

EB: If you had a wish list, what is it that you feel the department needs to better help fight crime?

WR: The New Orleans Police Department primarily needs a functioning criminal justice system, we need resources, and I must give the federal government credit in that we are finally getting the resources that we need. However, the 7th, 5th and 3rd Districts were destroyed where now many of us are working out of trailers. We need our buildings up and running so we can be more efficient. There are some other things that I'm pushing in that we're dealing demanding more professionalism from our officers, maybe bring in some training and professional development. But one of the positive things that have come out of this devastation is that we have an opportunity to rebuild a completely new police department and a criminal justice system. And we can do the job adequately and give the people a level of service they deserve.

an educational component where kids can learn the basics, we should challenge them physically as well as mentally. We should provide them with mentors to give them a vision for the future, because a lot of the people some of our inner-city youth look up to are the guys on the corner with their big cars, but they need to see that there are other ways that they can obtain that through means that are legal, and not just criminal activity.

EB: I know that the nature of police work is extremely hard, but I would like to ask you because there are critics of the police department or more specifically some officers who behave inappropriately. What is the department doing under your command to root out corruption and unethical behavior?

WR: Back in January I created something called the Office of Compliance, a Captain, Lieutenant and twelve Sergeants to go out and check on police, observe police, knock on neighbors' doors, talk to citizens who have made complaints against officers and find out if they were professional and courteous. Then we have a Public Integrity Bureau, we set up integrity checks let me give you one example, an officer may be responding to a call about a stolen vehicle, we'll leave 400 dollars and some other items in the car. They have to then process the car notify the owner, and then place the other items on the property books like their supposed to. And ninety-percent of our people are passing the criminal side. We have a ton of scenarios we put officers through, we may do four or five integrity checks for various officers in a forty-five day period, and we notify them they have



Data News Editor-in-Chief interviewing Police Chief Riley

booked with battery and they were fired within sixty-five days. In the past some administrations would let something like this linger for a year, it important that we act swiftly and decisively. That this is not about covering up for anyone this job is about being professional and serving our citizens.

EB: During Hurricane Katrina the department received a lot of criticism which eventually caused many shake-ups at the department. And as one of the persons in one of the top positions at the time what was going on in your mind at the time given the desperation and mayhem that was occurring at the time and if you were in command what would you have done differently?

WR: One of the things I would have done differently which has been implemented in our new hurricane plan previously we had two shifts, and as a result we couldn't get some of our officers back in the city once the storm hit. We actually rescued many of our officers from their homes our future plans are we'll have all our officers working. We'll give our officers forty-eight hours to get their families out of the city before the storm. During Katrina we were prepared for the storm, which is usually for one or two days but this time the levees broke, no one was prepared for eighty percent of the city to be covered in water, days without lights and water and the federal response where it took four to five days for them to get here.

covered in water, in some areas twelve to fourteen feet, with people begging for help. And as I was riding in a helicopter and people were asking for help and we had to prioritize who we would help, for the first five days it was just disbelief, then around the sixth day I realized this just wasn't a bad dream this was real.

EB: With the return of crime to the city does that dishearten you in any way?

WR: Dishearten me no, disappointing yes, but I realized as the city became repopulated some criminals would return to the city. But other than the multiple murders that occurred, I think we wouldn't have had the national spotlight on us, and crime in the city is down.

EB: On a lighter note what gives you the most satisfaction in your job as a police officer?

WR: To be put in this position after the storm is a great opportunity to impact the city in a positive way. And to see my officers many of whose families are not in the city right now and after all they've been through that they come to work and give their all serving this community.

EB: If you could tell the people from New Orleans that's scattered across the country one thing what would you tell them?

WR: Continue to pray, New Orleans will be back, for those in other places go on with your lives for now New Orleans will be here when you are ready to come back. New Orleans will be a better if not bigger city. It will be a more productive more wholesome city. And stay prayed up and keep the faith.

NEWS

LoveDr., continued from page 6.

and experiences about something they haven't encountered yet or have forgotten. It's nice when people just need information because once they get it they don't need you anymore.

Other times people approach me for permission. Children, a spouse, friend, neighbor, coworker may need to use something or do something that affects my life or property. Either you do or you don't, but we have to remember that "every dog has his day" so it's always helps to remember that you may need their permission one day. Permission isn't a lot of work either and has a tendency to end with a firm decision. I say tendency because some people don't ever take "no" as a final decision.

Up until now, we've discussed people approaching us for things that we can usually give without making ourselves or our families do without. Sharing knowledge, encouragement, advice, and permission generally leaves our lives and resources intact. So it usually doesn't bother me or stress me when someone approaches me with a need, because much that people need from us takes nothing from us.

But then there are those who approach me and want my involvement. Now we're dealing with something entirely different, my time or as I think of it, my life, because all life is, is the experience of time. Time is life, so when you ask me for some of my time you are asking me to spend some of my life doing something you want to do or accomplish. Usually the only time I agree to be involved is when I believe in what you are doing enough to give up something else in my life.

Actually I may agree with your goals, but not believe in your path, or methods, or not believe that my involvement will actually make anything significant happen. There are many people with whom I share goals, but not as many that I trust to make effective use of my time. I hate community meetings that are really speaking events, where nothing is planned except more meetings. A lot of people like to speak! I stopped doing protest, but call me for the voter registration drive.

I guess that final thing you may need from me is resources (money or property). Now you're getting between me and what I do for my family and myself, but I am a firm believer in "tithing", the idea that we owe 10% of all that we get to do God's work. Children must be taught, the elderly must be cared for and the ill and insane must be serviced, and as my Master said, "what you do for the least of these, you do for me. But I'm still careful in what I choose to support, and tend to give money only when I believe that I will get maximum good for the buck... and able bodied grown folk shouldn't ask me for anything, except perhaps to share some of my knowledge and experiences.

So no it doesn't bother me when someone approaches me, even though I know they need something from me. Hell, I'm always picking smarter people's brains and I am rather honored to be considered a source of wisdom by someone else, but if you want my involvement or money, I have to believe in you, and what you want to do.

And if Data hadn't survived for forty years, you would be reading this column, for like many good things, it began in Data.

Cities, continued from page 13.

"One Baton Rouge is better. That's where we're moving we don't intend to have any more dividing lines. We're going to bring the community together and everybody's going to share In the American Dream," Holden said last month.

Under the leadership of Mayor Byron Brown, the city of Buffalo has substantially increased its permit activity and has \$3 billion in projects in the pipeline. Brown has reached out to local business through local CEO roundtables and to state lawmakers to find ways to break down traditional barriers to minority firms.

It makes sense that African Americans should play a major role in taking back our inner cities. We must, as St. Louis businessman Michael V. Roberts said, get out of the suburbs and mine economic opportunities under our own nose. We must make our neighborhoods symbols of pride and commerce not despair and poverty.

We must give our inner city youth hope that there's more out there for them than rapping and selling drugs. When they see successful black businesses in their neighborhoods, they feel compelled to aspire to greater things.

And we cannot depend on government and business alone to help take back our cities - we must trust each other and refrain from self-sabotage. Or as Holden described it - "the crawfish syndrome - where if they see you moving up to the top, they'll pull you back down in the bucket."

Marc H. Morial is president and CEO of the National Urban League.

Slaughter, continued from page 5.

Ralph Slaughter, Ph.D., delivered a riveting keynote address recommitting the historically black college system to better relations with the publishers.

"You are the gatekeepers of our communities," said Slaughter. "We need better access into the communities and we know you can do it...You willingly tell the story other media refuse to tell." Slaughter said he will build on Southern's collaborative with the association, keep the publishers informed and work with them to disseminate positive news. "We will be more responsive to you."

Slaughter joined representatives from the Governors Office, Liberty Bank, Democratic Party, Spencer Media, Louisiana Legislature, the Louisiana Disaster Recovery Foundation, Jozef PA, the Southern University Ag Center, Citadel Broadcasting, BellSouth, and others in commending the publishers on a job well done.

As part of the meeting's focus to "Link the State," LBPA members met with local corporate, small business, and government officials to discuss the role of Louisiana's Black media in impacting economic and political decisions.

State Representative Michael Jackson encouraged the group

to maintain constant connections with leaders to better inform their readers. "Meetings like these are effective," he said.

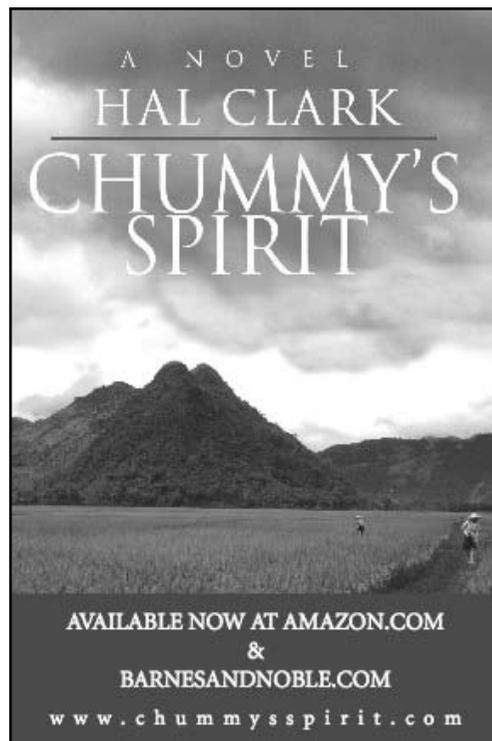
LBPA president Eddie Ponds said the association is confident that "key friends see us as being more viable and see our publications as critical tools in the various things they are working on." The group elected the following members to the executive committee: President - Leon Coleman, publisher, Alexandria News Weekly Vice President - Rev. Ivory Payne, publisher, Baton Rouge Weekly Press Secretary - William Torrell, publisher, Bluff City Post Treasurer - Melinda Sylvester, publisher, Faith and Soul Magazine They will assume office September 19, 2006 and hold the position until 2008.

LBPA is the member organization for Black-owned newspapers and magazines. Its mission is to aid in sustaining Black publications by increasing readability, readership, and revenue. LBPA is headquartered at 118 South 19th Street in Baton Rouge, LA. The office telephone number is (225) 383-4488. The website is www.lablackpublishers.com. government officials to discuss the role of Louisiana's Black media in impacting economic and political decisions.

State Representative Michael Jackson encouraged the group to maintain constant connections with leaders to better inform their readers. "Meetings like these are effective," he said.

LBPA president Eddie Ponds said the association is confident that "key friends see us as being more viable and see our publications as critical tools in the various things they are working on." The group elected the following members to the executive committee: President - Leon Coleman, publisher, Alexandria News Weekly Vice President - Rev. Ivory Payne, publisher, Baton Rouge Weekly Press Secretary - William Torrell, publisher, Bluff City Post Treasurer - Melinda Sylvester, publisher, Faith and Soul Magazine They will assume office September 19, 2006 and hold the position until 2008.

LBPA is the member organization for Black-owned newspapers and magazines. Its mission is to aid in sustaining Black publications by increasing readability, readership, and revenue. LBPA is headquartered at 118 South 19th Street in Baton Rouge, LA. The office telephone number is (225) 383-4488. The website is www.lablackpublishers.com.



Chummy., continued from page 5.

James, have been found in Tay Ninh, Vietnam 32 years after he had been reported missing in action. Chummy has never left Louisiana, but seriously considers visiting the site where James' remains were located. This long-awaited revelation also encourages her to finally inquire about the sketchy details surrounding the death of her husband, Jolly, who was murdered in

a New Orleans brothel ten years after James' disappearance.

Her church community sponsors a series of Saturday afternoon dinners in an effort to raise money for her potential trip. She inspires a host of women who have tragically lost men and sons

of all ages. Despite Chummy's amazing faith and extraordinary psychological resources, her hopes of visiting Vietnam are constantly challenged by a violent, drug-infested urban environment and a non-supportive nephew, Bryan, who believes she's simply an unrealistic old lady. The novel is a tribute to their work and collective sacrifice and to the nearly 2,000 Americans and 300,000 Vietnamese still unaccounted for from the war in Southeast Asia and their families.

Chummy's Spirit (\$16.95) is available online at Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble stores nationwide and online at www.bn.com, and in New Orleans at the Ogden Museum of Southern Art, 925 Camp Street

APPLIANCES

FREE \$25-\$150 GIFT CARD



by mail-in rebate with purchase of any in-stock or Special Order major appliance \$297 or more made with your Lowe's Consumer Credit Card. Restrictions may apply. Can be combined with other manufacturer rebate offers. Offer valid August 24, 2006 through September 4, 2006. See store for details.

price range	gift card	price range	gift card
\$297-\$496	\$25	\$997-\$1496	\$100
\$497-\$746	\$50	\$1497 or more	\$150
\$747-\$996	\$75		

FREE NEXT DAY LOCAL DELIVERY AND HAUL-AWAY

Receive free delivery on all major appliances \$397 and above!

On major appliances via mail-in rebate. Offer applies on major appliance purchases \$397 and above via mail-in rebate. Offer valid now through September 4, 2006. Additional fees may apply for deliveries outside 20-mile local area. Rebate values and additional charges may apply. See store for details.



Let's Build Something Together™

\$3 MAIL-IN REBATE AVAILABLE

\$3 Mail-in Rebate on all Filtrete Ultra Allergen Filters. Selection varies by market. Offer valid 8/24/06 through 8/27/06. See store for details.



10% OFF

IN-STOCK THERMASTAR BY PELLA WINDOWS

10% off in-stock ThermaStar by Pella vinyl windows. Offer valid 8/24/06 through 8/28/06. Price reduction taken at register. See store for details.



FREE \$10 GIFT CARD

Via mail-in rebate with purchase of #126338. Offer valid 8/24/06 through 8/27/06. See store for details.



\$29



ENERGY STAR 5 + 2 Day Thermostat
•Brand varies by market #126338



\$4²²

6-pack



13-Watt Mini-Twist CFL Light Bulbs
#46428



Installation available

YOUR CHOICE
SPECIAL VALUE!

\$78

32" or 36" Fremont Storm Door
#103087; 103088



Pre Labor Day Event 4 DAYS ONLY August 24 – August 27

ASK FOR ZERO PAYMENTS & INTEREST FOR 12 MONTHS

IF PAID IN FULL WITHIN 12 MONTHS*

On all purchases of \$299 or more made on your Lowe's Consumer Credit Card from 8/24/2006 through 9/4/2006. See store for details.

50% OFF SELECT PATIO FURNITURE

Prices as marked. Selection may vary by store. While supplies last. See store for details.

20% OFF ALL FULL-SIZE GAS GRILLS \$99 AND ABOVE

Discount taken at register. Selection may vary by store. While supplies last. See store for details.

10 - 40% OFF SELECT HAND TOOLS AND POWER TOOLS

Prices as marked. Selection may vary by store. While supplies last. See store for details.

For the Lowe's nearest you, call 1-800-993-4416 or visit us online at Lowe's.com

Prices may vary after August 27, 2006 if there are market variations. *Was" prices in this advertisement were in effect on August 17, 2006, and may vary based on Lowe's Every Day Low Price policy. See store for details regarding product warranties. We reserve the right to limit quantities. Tax Credit Disclaimer: See your tax advisor for eligibility requirements. *Applies to single-receipt, in-store purchases of \$299 or more made August 24, 2006 through September 4, 2006 on a Lowe's consumer credit card account. No monthly payments will be required and no finance charges will be assessed on this promo purchase if you pay the following in full within 12 months: (1) the promo purchase amount, and (2) any related optional credit insurance/debt cancellation charges. If you do not, finance charges will be assessed on the promo purchase amount from the date of the purchase and monthly payments will be required. Standard account terms apply to non-promo purchases. APR is 21% (15.48% for purchases of \$2,000 or more). Min. finance charge is \$1.00. Offer is subject to credit approval. Excl. Business Accounts and ProjectCard. All installation services are guaranteed by Lowe's warranty. See Installed Sales contract for details. Professional installation available through licensed independent contractors. Lowe's contractor license numbers: AK#28341; AL#5273; AZ#ROC195516; CA#803295; CT#558162; FL#CGC1508417; HI Contractor's License No.: C 23784 - see store; IL Plumber #058-100140; IL Roofing #104014837; LA Master Plumber #1440 WSPS; MD# 91680,50931; MI#2102144445, Lowe's Home Centers, Inc., 6122 "B" Drive North, Battle Creek, MI 49014; NJ Plumbing - see store; NM#84381; NV#2-45450; Brooklyn, NY#1162261; Staten Island, NY#1160554; Suffolk County, NY#30182-H1; Rockland County, NY#H-09192-B6-00-00; Nassau County, NY#H1777890000; Putnam County, NY#PC2742-A; OR#144017; TN#3070; TX TRCC #14447 and Texas State Plumbing License Number Available Upon Request; VA#2701-036596A; WA#982BN; ND#30316; Washington DC #100594; DCRA# 52185-53006539, 52185-53006554, 52185-53006552, 52185-53006557, 52185-53006533, 52185-53006534, 52185-53006541, 52185-53006543, 52185-53006537, 52185-53006544©2006 by Lowe's. All rights reserved. Lowe's and the gable design are registered trademarks of LF, LLC. 60894 001/060894/107