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New Orleans

# Data

News Weekly

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December 18 - December 24, 2010 45th Year Volume 29 www.ladatanews.com



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# Congressional Black Caucus Voices Opposition to Tax Cut Deal

*To Pay for the Deal, Republicans Will Likely Impose "Draconian" Cuts on Programs Important to Minority Communities*



"There are tough choices that will have to be made next year [and] we know what will happen—it's going to be low-income communities, poor communities of color that are going to pay," Caucus Chairwoman Rep. Barbara Lee (D-Calif.) told reporters.

By Zenitha Prince  
AFRO-American Newspapers  
Special to the NNPA

The Congressional Black Caucus on Dec. 10 said its members overwhelmingly oppose the tax cuts compromise reached between the White House and congressional Republicans, saying it is "bad for African-Americans" and other vulnerable communities.

"You can't give tax cuts away like you're Oprah Winfrey or Santa Claus," Virginia Democrat Rep. Bobby Scott, a member of the House Budget Committee, said during a Capitol Hill press conference. "Someone eventually has to pay for it."

And traditionally, it's been communities of color that have had to pay, the Black lawmakers said.

President Obama and the Republican leadership reached

a deal which would extend Bush-era tax cuts in exchange for also extending unemployment benefits and other programs favored by Obama.

According to the Congressional Budget Office, the tax deal is projected to increase the national deficit by almost \$900 billion—a figure larger than the recent financial stimulus measures—adding to an already towering debt. And, to reduce that balance, Republicans will likely impose "draconian" cuts on programs important to minority communities such as Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, and health care, Congressional Black Caucus members said.

"There are tough choices that will have to be made next

*Cover Story, Continued on next page.*

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## DATA NEWS WEEKLY

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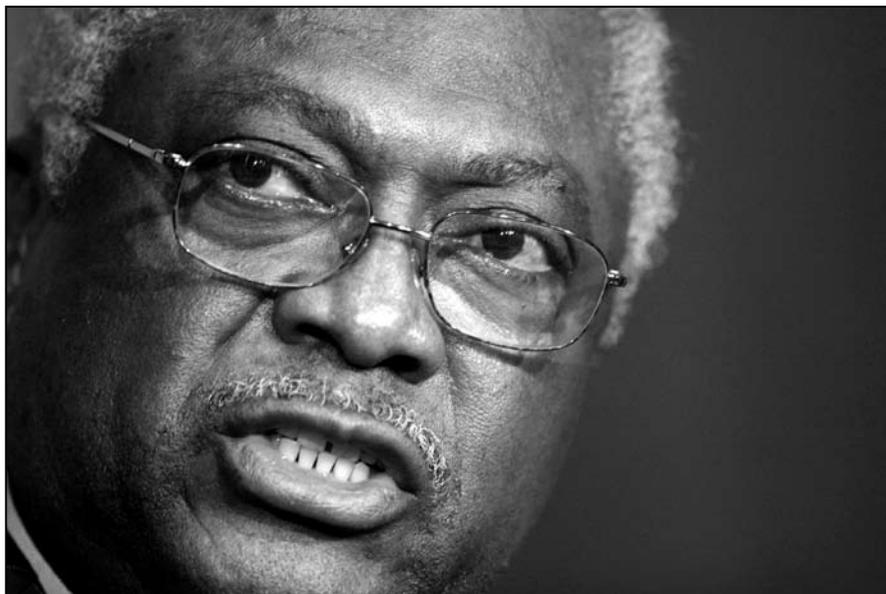
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Cover Story, Continued from previous page.



House Majority Whip and former CBC Chairman Congressman James Clyburn (D-SC) has been an outspoken critic of the former “Bush Tax-Cuts” which favored the wealthy since their inception in 2000. He stands firmly against the deal for the Obama Middle Class Tax-Cut compromise which includes extending the Bush Tax-Cuts and add to the deficit greatly.

year [and] we know what will happen—it’s going to be low-income communities, poor communities of color that are going to pay,” Caucus Chairwoman Rep. Barbara Lee (D-Calif.) told reporters.

The caucus offered its own plan, which is built on some elements of the existing deal:

A 13-month extension of unemployment insurance benefits plus additional assistance for the chronically unemployed

A payroll tax holiday with a guarantee that Social Security would not be affected

Two-year extension of Bush-era tax cuts to middle- and low-income families

Extension of the Recovery Act’s Earned Income Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit and \$2,500 college credit.

But the Caucus rebuked Republicans for their insistence on cuts to the estate tax, which Scott called “particularly offensive,” and the tax cut for the wealthiest two percent of Americans, both of which will cost \$114 billion in lost revenue.

“Employing an out-of-work parent would provide much more benefit to the economy than padding the bank account of a CEO,” Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr., D-IL, said in a statement. “If we recklessly cut taxes for the wealthiest 2 percent then Obamanomics will look an awful lot like Reaganomics.”

Jackson and others say the tax cuts won by Republicans reflect President Reagan’s “starve the beast” strategy of lowered taxes and increased spending in areas such as defense that would then force Congress to make deep cuts in social programs. And, the recently passed health care reform act may well be the chief target of this strategy.

“This just gives our Republican colleagues another chance to play, ‘Gotcha,’” said Virgin Islands Democrat Donna Christiansen. “If we extend the upper end tax cuts and add that big estate tax giveaway, when we move to fund implementation of the Affordable Care Act there’ll be no money—‘Gotcha!’ And, when the 2012 election rolls around, and the tax cuts are about to expire, if we don’t extend them again we, the Democrats, will be blamed for raising taxes—‘Gotcha!’”

The Black lawmakers said though they object to the deal, they understand the president felt jammed against a wall.

“[But] as much as he continues to extend the olive branch, to compromise on their behalf, they really don’t seem to appreciate it,” said Rep. Donald Payne, D-NJ. “And, so we’re saying at this point, [the] line in the sand, enough is enough.”

Payne said that the president followed his previous pattern of not including the Congressional Black Caucus and other Democrats in the negotiation process. Payne made similar claims during the health care reform debate.

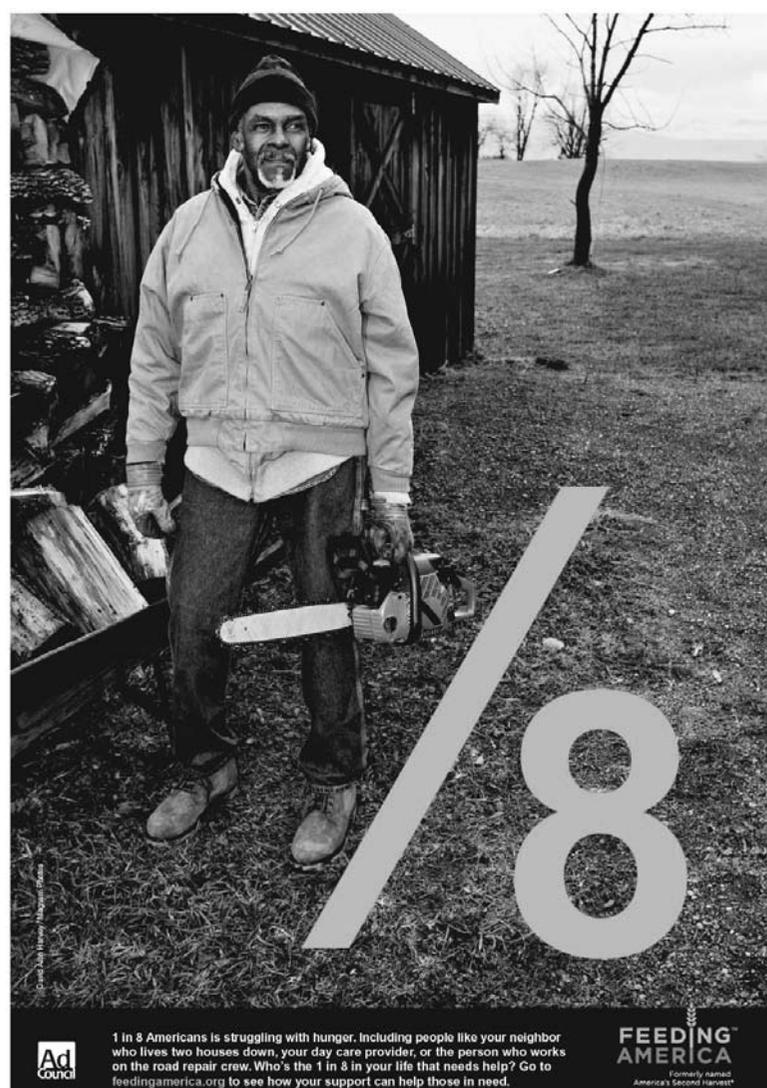
“He could have called us in and said, ‘Look, this is what they’ve offered; these are my options,’” he said. “What do you think? At least bring us in so we can understand the situation... For him to meet with primarily Republicans... is not a way to negotiate. We felt we could have been helpful to him. He gave away the shop before he even brought us in to help him.”



Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr. (D) IL

## OBAMANOMICS = REAGANOMICS

Four members of the Congressional Black Caucus held a press conference today on President Obama’s tax cut deal with the GOP. At that press conference a member who was not present, Rep. Jesse Jackson, Jr., had his press secretary drop off a release sharing his feelings. The title: REP. JACKSON: OBAMANOMICS FEELS LIKE REAGANOMICS. The last sentence of the release reads: “If we recklessly cut taxes for the wealthiest 2% then Obamanomics will look an awful like Reaganomics.” Members of the CBC, just like the rest of the Democrats in the House remain particularly unhappy about the estate tax provisions in the tax cut deal.



Ad Council

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# Jury Convicts Three, Acquits Two in Post-Katrina Police Shooting

A former New Orleans police officer was convicted Thursday of fatally shooting a man in Hurricane Katrina's aftermath and another officer was convicted of burning the man's body in a case that exposed one of the ugliest chapters in the police department's troubled history.

A federal jury also convicted a third officer of writing a false report on the deadly shooting of 31-year-old Henry Glover, but two others were acquitted of charges stemming from the alleged cover-up.

The jury of five men and seven women convicted former officer David Warren of manslaughter in the shooting death of 31-year-old Henry Glover outside a strip mall on Sept. 2, 2005. Prosecutors said Warren shot an unarmed man in the back.

Officer Gregory McRae was convicted of burning Glover's body in a car. Lt. Dwayne Scheuermann was acquitted of that charge. Both were cleared of charges they beat the men who had brought the dying Glover to a makeshift police compound in search of help.

Lt. Travis McCabe was convicted of writing a false report on the shooting and lying to the FBI and a grand jury. Lt. Robert Italiano was cleared of charges he submitted the false report and lied to the FBI.

"This was a case that needed to be aired," U.S. District Judge Lance Africk said after the verdicts were read aloud.

Some of the officers hugged each other before they left the courtroom, while their relatives tried to console each other. Glover's relatives sobbed as they embraced each other.

"This has been a long, anguishing time," she said. "All of them should have been found guilty. They were all in on it."

Warren, who has been in custody since his indictment earlier this year, faces a maximum sentence of life in prison. Prosecutors asked Africk to jail McRae and McCabe while they await sentencing. The judge set a hearing Friday on that request.

Warren's attorney, Julian Murray, said he planned to appeal.

"I don't think people understand the split-second decisions



New Orleans Police Officer Gregory McRae, who is charged with burning the body of 31-year-old Henry Glover



New Orleans Police Lt. Dwayne Scheuermann, who was charged in the case of burning the body of 31-year-old Henry Glover, in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina



Former New Orleans Police Lt. Robert Italiano, left, and New Orleans Police Lt. Travis McCabe, right, were charged with writing and submitting a false report on the police shooting death of 31-year-old Henry Glover

police officers sometime have to make," he said.

A total of 20 current or former New Orleans police officers have been charged this year in a series of Justice Department civil rights investigations. The probe of Glover's death was the first of those cases to be tried.

This isn't the first time federal authorities have tried to clean up the city's police department. The Justice Department launched a broad review of the force in the 1990s, when it was reeling from a string of lurid corruption cases. An officer, Antoinette Frank, was convicted of killing her patrol partner in a 1995 robbery. Another officer, Len Davis, was convicted of arranging the 1994 murder of Kim Groves, a woman who had filed a brutality complaint against him.

All five of the officers charged in the Glover case testified during the trial, describing the grueling, dangerous conditions they endured after the Aug. 29, 2005 storm, when thousands of desperate people were trapped in the flooded city.

Looting was rampant and bodies rotted on the streets for days because there was nowhere to take them, officers recalled. With lives on the line, the officers said they had no time to write reports or investigate anything but the most serious of crimes.

U.S. Attorney Jim Letten said the jury rejected the notion that stress from Katrina was a defense for the officers' actions.

"Tonight's verdict is a critical phase in the recovery and healing of this city, of the people of this region," Letten said.

The jury had to weigh the defendants' testimony against the words of several officers who admitted they initially lied to the FBI or a grand jury — or both — before cooperating with the government.

Warren, 47, said he was guarding a police substation at the mall and armed with his own assault rifle when Glover and a friend, Bernard Calloway, pulled up in what appeared to be a stolen truck. Warren claimed Glover and Calloway ran toward a gate that would have given them access to the building and ignored his commands to stop. He said he

thought he saw a gun in Glover's hand before he fired one shot at him from a second-floor balcony.

But Warren's partner that day, Officer Linda Howard, testified Glover and Calloway weren't armed and didn't pose a threat. Calloway said he saw Glover leaning against the truck and lighting a cigarette, with his back facing the strip mall, just before he was shot.

It wasn't the only time Warren discharged his weapon that day. Earlier in the morning, Warren had fired a warning shot at a man on a bicycle. Warren said he felt threatened by the man because he kept circling and looking up at him.

After Warren shot Glover, a passing motorist, William Tanner, stopped and drove the wounded man, Calloway and Glover's brother, Edward King, to a school that members of the police department's SWAT team using in the storm's aftermath.

Tanner and Calloway testified they were ordered out of the car at gunpoint, handcuffed and beaten by officers who ignored their pleas to help Glover.

McRae, 49, admitted he drove Tanner's Chevrolet Malibu from

the school to a nearby Mississippi River levee and set it on fire with Glover's body still in the back seat.

McRae said it was his idea to burn the car and did it because he was weary of seeing rotting corpses after the storm. Another officer testified he saw McRae laughing after he set the fire.

"We admitted he burned the car, because that's what he did," his attorney, Frank DeSalvo, said after the verdict. "What he denied was that he intended to violate anybody's civil rights.

Scheuermann, 48, said he was stunned when he saw McRae toss a flare into the front seat of the car and then shoot out the rear window to stoke the fire.

"Thank goodness that we had 12 jurors with the courage to vote their conscience in a climate like this," said Scheuermann's lawyer, Jeffrey Kearney.

Steven Lemoine, Italiano's attorney, said his client was a "terrific" police officer who served the city with distinction for nearly four decades.

"I think the jury saw him for who he is," he said.

McCabe's lawyers declined to comment.

## Serpas: More action against officers in Glover case

WVL New Orleans- After a federal jury convicted three NOPD officers of civil rights violations in the shooting death of Henry Glover, Superintendent Ronal Serpas today announced that he is taking more action against other officers connected with the case.

Although officer Dwayne Scheuermann, was found not guilty on charges that he beat two men and burned a car with Henry Glover inside, Serpas placed Scheuermann on administrative reassignment.

Serpas also placed Sgt. Ronald Ruiz and officer Jeffrey Sandoz on administrative reassignment.

According to Serpas, two current officers convicted by the jury, Travis McCabe and Greg McRae, are now on "emergency suspension" and have been stripped of all police authority.

Meanwhile, a federal judge has allowed two of the men convicted in connection with the death of a man shot after Hurricane Katrina to remain free on bond.



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# Shoot Ya Best Shot!

## Data Around Town

### Divas Trudy and Connie celebrated their Birthday's Together

On Saturday, December 11th at "The Prime Example" Connie Russell and Trudy St. Julien celebrated their birthdays in grand fashion displayed in the Diva Colors of Black, Silver and Pink. There was lots of good home cooked food and great music and fun shared with family, friends and regular patrons of "The Prime Example", the party place to be.



### Tis the Season to be Merry!

Holiday parties are always the events to attend; when combined with a Birthday celebration, it makes the season all the merrier! Tawanda Lamark was joined by her DIVAS celebrating her Birthday at The Showcase, while Holiday Partiers had a great time at Prime Example, and DATA was there!





*"My family's been fishing for eight generations. It's just a way of life. That's why we've got to get this cleaned up."*

*Pete Floyd  
Commercial Fisherman,  
Pascagoula, Mississippi*

## Making This Right

Beaches

Claims

Cleanup

**Economic Investment**

**Environmental  
Restoration**

Health and Safety

Wildlife

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### **Staying for the Long Haul**

When they capped the well in July and finally killed it, we were all relieved. But would BP stick around? Well, they did. The beaches are clean and we're back on the water fishing so things are getting a whole lot better. They are still here and have said they will keep working for as long as it takes.

### **Getting Back to Normal**

BP asked me to share my story with you to keep you informed. If you still need help, please call 1-866-448-5816 or go to bp.com. If you're wondering what you can do, well – the next time you're shopping, buy a little Gulf seafood. There is none finer.

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# A Black Christmas in 2010



**Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr.**  
NNPA Columnist

As we approach the Christmas season this year, it is important for African Americans and others to stress the necessity for freedom, justice, equality, and peace in our communities across America and throughout the world. A "Black Christmas" should mean that this will also be the season for African American empowerment and stronger financial sustainability.

The fact that the unemployment rate among African Americans is still at an unprecedented high level should mean that the billions of thousands of dollars that

we are spending during these Christmas holidays should be spent more wisely. We are billion-dollar consumers of products and services. A "Black Christmas" for us should mean that we should save our money in proportion to what we spend and buy. We should support and buy from African American owned businesses. We should save our money in African American owned financial institutions. We should be more prudent on how we use what money we do have.

I know that there will be some of us who will be embarrassed when they hear the theme of a "Black Christmas." It is somewhat unfortunate that too many of us still get nervous when someone advocates an African American agenda for Black Americans. The truth is that if we do not put a stated priority on more self-help and self-reliance for the advancement of the African American community then no one else outside of our community will deem our plight as a matter of priority concern. Self-investment is a key to self-improvement.

Nearly 50 million strong, African Americans in 2010 should be able to focus and target our spending, saving, investing, and giving-back to the less fortunate in

our communities. A "Black Christmas" should be the season to focus on reducing and ending poverty, disease, and injustice that combine to create so much misery for our young and for our elderly. No greater joy can come than from uplifting ourselves to improve the quality of life for all African Americans and for all people who yearn and cry out for a more productive way of life.

One of the greatest and most effective gifts is the gift of providing access to the highest quality education for our children. Black parents should be made aware of all the various options that they have to demand a better education for the youth in our communities. A "Black Christmas" would mean African American parents utilizing a wide array of educational options for their children including tuition tax credits, effective innovations in traditional public schools, virtual schools, charter schools, Black independent schools, home schooling, public-private partnership schools, private school scholarships, mean-tested vouchers, and access to high quality supplementary educational services.

A "Black Christmas" gift also should be giving a Black Newspaper annual sub-

scription to an African American family. We should buy and give books written by African American authors. We all should renew our membership in an organization or institution that serves the liberation, salvation, and empowerment goals and objectives of the African American community.

Finally, A "Black Christmas" should be the time when we all pause to give thanks for family, friends, and colleagues. This is the season of Kwanza. It is a time to share the values and principles that will enable us to move forward in the future. We thank God for our struggle and for the progress that has been made. But, we also must pray that our spirit and sense of self-determination will be renewed and made stronger. Our children first and foremost should be given our love. Our youth in turn should always show the parents and elders in our community their respect and resolve to keep pushing to the higher level of progress. Yes, Christmas 2010 should and will be a "Black Christmas."

**Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr is Senior Advisor for the Black Alliance for Educational Options and President of Education Online Services Corporation**

## Investigate Mississippi Hanging



**Judge Greg Mathis**  
NNPA Columnist

### Mathis' Mind

The Leflore County NAACP in Greenwood, Mississippi is closely watching local police officials as they investigate the hanging death of a 26 year old man. The NAACP has a right to be on alert: Leflore county is just miles away from where 14-year old Emmett Till was lynched in 1955. The death of Till is considered by many the spark that started the Civil Rights Movement.

Frederick Jermaine Carter was mentally ill but, according to his family, was on medication. When he wandered off, his relatives

didn't think much about it – he's done that before. But many in the local community were shocked to find the young man, three days later, hanging from a tree in a wealthy White neighborhood, an area most residents say few Blacks ever visit. The local coroner has ruled the death a suicide but too many questions remain, including this one: How did the young man manage to hang himself from the tree, without assistance?

No one wants to bring up memories of past injustices; we would all like to believe Mississippi has moved on from its racist past. However, with the recent growth of racially divisive pseudo-political groups, many of which have strong roots in the south, one has to wonder if there is more to Carter's death than local authorities are willing to admit. One only has to read the disturbing comments beneath internet news articles on Carter's death to see that, unfortunately, there are still very angry and troubled souls living amongst us. If these individuals can be so bold and hateful on the web, why is it so farfetched to believe that one could have been brazen enough to take Carter's life?

Let's be clear: The NAACP is not say-

ing that Carter was lynched. They simply want the Leflore County authorities to fully investigate the case. I think it should go one step further: there should be a formal

inquiry into Carter's death, led by the FBI. One thing we have learned from history is that small southern towns will protect their own.



# Celebrity Battles with Pancreatic Cancer Helps Increase Awareness of a Cancer That Many Know Very Little About

By the National Cancer Institute

Pancreatic cancer is not a new disease. It just so happens that it has received a lot of attention with the health battles of celebrities including actor Patrick Swayze and football great Gene Upshaw. Their struggle with pancreatic cancer has shed some light on the severity of this disease. Unfortunately, a lack of awareness of pancreatic cancer continues to exist.

In 2010, an estimated 43,140 new cases and 36,800 deaths from pancreatic cancer were predicted for the year. Pancreatic cancer is the fourth leading cause of cancer death among men and women in the United States. This cancer is so deadly because it is usually not diagnosed until the disease has spread.

The diagnosis rate for pancreatic cancer is highest among African Americans. African Americans are also more likely than other groups to die from pancreatic cancer. In particular, African Americans are more likely to be diagnosed with advanced—and thus untreatable—stages of pancreatic cancer. For African Americans, the rate of new pancreatic cases diagnosed is 16 for every 100,000 people and the death rate from the disease for African Americans is 14 per 100,000, according to the NCI's Surveillance Epidemiology and End Results



Queen of Soul Aretha Franklin has reportedly been diagnosed with Pancreatic cancer. The legendary diva underwent surgery last week and had to cancel some shows previously due to an undisclosed illness. A Fox affiliate station in Detroit, the home of the legendary singer, has cited a close relative as the source of the information. The relative said that the 68-year-old legend is doing OK. However, her family is said to be very concerned, and is asking for prayers and thoughts for her.

(SEER) statistics.

The exact causes of pancreatic cancer are unknown. However, several factors have been found to increase an individual's risk for pancreatic cancer. People who smoke cigarettes – the main risk factor – are two to three times more likely to develop the disease than nonsmokers. A diet high in

fat and calories may be linked to increased risk. Pancreatic cancer also occurs more often among people with diabetes than those without. Most cases of pancreatic cancer occur in individuals over the age of 60 and men are at higher risk than women. Individuals with a family history of pancreatic cancer or a personal

history of chronic pancreatitis are also more at risk than the general population.

Early stages of pancreatic cancer often occur without symptoms. When symptoms do occur, they are usually similar to those of other, less serious, illnesses. These symptoms include pain in the upper abdomen or back, yellow skin and eyes (from jaundice), weakness, loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, and weight loss. Patients who feel they may be experiencing these symptoms are encouraged to talk to their doctor. Pancreatic cancer is more easily treated when it is diagnosed early. However, even with early detection, treatment is toxic and survival is poor.

Because pancreatic cancer is a serious disease, it is important that people do their best to reduce their personal risk. One way to reduce your risk for pancreatic cancer is to quit smoking. The National Cancer Institute offers many resources to help people quit smoking. If you or someone you know wants help with quitting, please call the National Cancer Institute's Smoking Quit-line toll-free at 1-877-44U-QUIT (1-877-448-7848). The information specialists on the Quit-line can provide suggestions and support. Additionally, the Smokefree Web sites (<http://www.smokefree.gov> and <http://women.smokefree.gov/>) allow you to choose the help that best fits your needs.

gov/) allow you to choose the help that best fits your needs.

Pancreatic cancer is difficult to treat. Doctors are exploring new ways to treat it. Research already has led to better quality of life for people with cancer of the pancreas. Physicians may suggest that patients participate in a clinical trial. Clinical trials are important options for pancreatic cancer patients to consider as their participation may help find more successful treatments. To find out more information about clinical trials, visit [www.cancer.gov/clinicaltrials](http://www.cancer.gov/clinicaltrials).

For more information about pancreatic cancer, visit [www.cancer.gov](http://www.cancer.gov) or call 1-800-4-CANCER to speak with a specialist.

NCI leads the National Cancer Program and the NIH effort to dramatically reduce the burden of cancer and improve the lives of cancer patients and their families, through research into prevention and cancer biology, the development of new interventions, and the training and mentoring of new researchers. For more information about cancer, please visit the NCI Web site at [www.cancer.gov](http://www.cancer.gov) or call NCI's Cancer Information Service at 1-800-4-CANCER (1-800-422-6237).

## CDC Report: Black Women at Higher Death Risk from Pregnancy Complications

By Dorothy Rowley

Death rate for pregnant women with no insurance...nearly four times higher than...insured women

Special to the NNPA from the AFRO-American Newspapers

African-American women are at the greatest risk of dying from pregnancy-related complications, largely because they tend to forego prenatal care, according to new data released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Overall, Black women are three to four times more likely than White women to succumb to difficult pregnancies. CDC also

found that deaths within one year of pregnancy typically occur from complications such as blood clots, hemorrhage, and heart problems.

"Pregnancy is a joyful time, but not without its risks," Dr. Renee Volny, an obstetrician-gynecologist and health policy fellow at the Satcher Health Leadership Institute in Atlanta, told TheGrio.com. "Pregnancy puts physical stress on some of the body's vital organs."

Without the proper assessment by a doctor—including a series of check-ups to ensure the health of both the mother and her unborn

child—Volny said that expectant women might not realize the pregnancy could put both mother and child's life at risk.

The CDC data found that during the past 20 years there have been more pregnancy-related deaths among all populations of women, and that without early prenatal care it would be difficult to detect potentially fatal conditions.

Due to perceived racism or a lack of insurance, Black women often avoid prenatal care. As a result, they are more likely than other pregnant women to hemorrhage or die from ectopic pregnancies, a condition in which a fetus

develops inside the fallopian tubes rather than in the uterus.

According to findings published this summer in a study that focused on Black pregnant women in New York, pregnancy-induced hypertension, as well as a high percentage of Caesarean section deliveries contributed to deaths in that city. The cases studied most often involved women from neighborhoods in the southeast Queens and northeast Bronx boroughs.

The report, which was co-sponsored by the New York Academy of Medicine and the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, found that the death rate

for pregnant women with no insurance was nearly four times higher than for insured women, and that nearly half of all women who died from pregnancy-related causes had been diagnosed as obese.

Volny expressed hope that the number of pregnancy-related deaths will decrease with insurance more widely available due to the passage of health care reform measures.

"With its passing, almost every mother will have health insurance, which will remove at least one barrier of accessing preconception counseling and prenatal care," Volny said.

# Mayor Unveils New Leadership for City Health

*Health Care Sector Leader Dr. Karen DeSalvo to Serve in Elevated Role; City Will Make Aggressive Push to Improve Health Care Outcomes*

By: The New Orleans Agenda  
Mayor Mitch Landrieu introduced new Health leadership for the City of New Orleans. Dr. Karen B. DeSalvo will serve as Health Commissioner and Senior Advisor to the Mayor for Health Policy, a position in which she will oversee health policy, public health initiatives and coordination of a citywide health and health care master plan. Charlotte Parent, currently Acting Deputy Director, will serve as Deputy Director of the City's Health Department in charge of day-to-day operations.

"Our health statistics have consistently been bleak, and with all we have going on in health care from new hospitals to sustaining a national-model primary care network to the transformation of our Health Department, it's important that the City have someone like Dr. DeSalvo that can facilitate the kind of partnerships that have brought about our status as the epicenter for health care innova-

tion," said Mayor Landrieu. "Dr. DeSalvo's broad background in hospital and clinic administration, public health policy, population research and medical education is unmatched. Her work post-Katrina has led to better, neighborhood-based care for low income, uninsured, and other vulnerable populations. We are truly pleased to welcome a leader of her caliber aboard and will work together to improve health outcomes for our residents."

"I am honored to become part of Mayor Landrieu's administration and look forward to leading our city into a healthier future," said Dr. DeSalvo.

Karen B. DeSalvo, MD, MPH, MSc, is currently a professor of medicine at the Tulane School of Medicine and holds the C. Thorpe Ray Endowed Chair in Internal Medicine. She also serves as vice dean for community affairs and health policy and has responsibility for implementing the Medical



Dr. Karen B. DeSalvo will serve as Health Commissioner and Senior Advisor to the Mayor for Health Policy

School's mission to build healthier communities. Dr. DeSalvo has been a leader in health sector recovery and health care reform efforts since Hurricane Katrina.

the day-to-day operations of the Health Department's multiple divisions.

Under Dr. DeSalvo's direction, the City and Health Department

will start with the City in January 2011.

Charlotte Parent, RN, MHCM, has been serving as Acting Deputy Director of Health and Program Director of the department's HealthyStart program. As Deputy Director, Parent will continue to oversee

will focus on key initiatives such as assuring access to quality and affordable care, improvements in population health, and attention to health in all policies. In his October 14th budget address, Mayor Landrieu announced that the City will spin off its three medical clinics to nonprofit community providers in 2011. The Department will identify the resources and health care delivery capacity presently available in all three communities where City-operated clinics are located to develop detailed plans and timelines to meet the health needs of each community. The aim is to ensure the delivery of affordable, quality services. Reorganization of the clinics is expected to be complete by the third quarter of 2011. The City will continue to administer Ryan White HIV/AIDS funds, Healthy Start programming, and the Health Care for the Homeless program.

## Letters to the Editor

### Keeping Families "Home For The Holidays"

Dear Friends,

As the holiday season begins and we celebrate with friends and family, it's important to keep in mind the many Americans who are struggling

Millions of families have been hit with foreclosure since the current financial crisis began. Minority and underserved urban communities have been hit the hardest. Nearly 8 percent of African-American And Latino borrowers have lost their homes to foreclosures, almost twice the rate of white borrowers. From early 2007 to the end of 2009, banks began foreclosure proceedings on nearly 7 million homeowners of all races.

The National Urban League is committed to helping families remain in their homes during this very special time. Urban League affiliates around the nation provide targeted, intensive foreclosure prevention counseling at no cost by certified loss mitigation counselors. "Restore Our Homes," which provides pre-purchase counseling in addition to foreclosure assistance, has served 50,000 families in the last year.

It is an all-too-familiar story of heartbreak and fading hopes: After DeAndrea L. had her work hours reduced, she and her husband Sean could no longer afford their monthly house payments. By the time she found a better job, the couple found themselves behind in their mortgage. Learning about the National Urban League's Foreclosure Prevention and Education Program, they turned to our affiliate at the Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle for help.

After attending counseling and our mortgage intervention workshop, they were able to modify their mortgage. Now, with reduced monthly payments and lower interest rates, they are back on track to keep their home and build for their future.

Please help us to continue providing opportunities to keep families in their homes for the holidays and all year round. May your holiday season be filled with joy!

Sincerely,

Your friends at the National Urban League

### To the Editor:

Once again, the New Orleans Branch of the NAACP expresses its sympathies and support for the family of Mr. Henry Glover.

Although verdicts have been rendered by the jury, it is imperative that the criminal justice system acknowledges that justice has not been rendered. Justice has not been rendered because all those involved in the criminal acts associated with the murder of Mr. Glover have not been judged and tried. It is undisputed that someone has committed the criminal act of obstruction of justice by removing the skull from Mr. Glover's corpse. No one has been brought to trial for that crime or even charged for that crime. Although a trial has been held, it is important that the Justice Department keep its investigation open until those responsible for the desecration of Mr. Glover's corpse, and the resultant destruction of evidence, are arrested, charged and tried for that crime and for the cover up of that crime. Until those trials occur, justice will not be complete.

Respectfully,  
Donatus King  
President, NAACP  
New Orleans Branch

## Statement From Clerk Of Court Dale Atkins Regarding Update On Data Recovery

In my last statement on December 8, 2010, I updated you on the progress that my office has made in regards to the on-going data recovery project. I remain confident in the January 2, 2011 deadlines to achieve the restoration of online data in both the conveyance and mortgage divisions.

Please note these updates as of today:

### Personnel

In total, 108 men and women are working on the data recovery project as of today, an increase of

18 individuals since our last update.

### Certificates

As it relates to Sheriff's sales, we are current on all Sheriff Certificates through sale date of January 6, 2010.

### Restoration Of Data Project: Conveyance

I remain confident that the final delivery of the 60,000 conveyance instruments which are currently being re-entered by the Wind-

ward Group will be Sunday, Jan. 2, 2011. Once the data is delivered, the only task will be to verify the information. On Friday, December 10, 2010, the Windward Group was scheduled to deliver another 10,000 records. They surpassed this goal: They delivered 15,672 records. We are in the process of verifying this data. We shifted personnel to data verification to speed up this project and will continue to as more data is delivered.

### Restoration Of Data: Mortgage Division

On December 8, 2010, I entered into a contract with the Windward Group to re-enter the mortgage data. According to the contract, this task will be completed by January 2, 2011. On Friday, December 10, 2010, the first delivery of a 1000-piece sample was successfully delivered from the Windward Group. On Saturday, December 11, 2010, we reviewed and tested the sample. On Tuesday, December 14, 2010, the data will be loaded into our database. This process will take place after 5:00 p.m. Then the data will be

verified. Another 10,000 records are expected for delivery on Friday, December 17, 2010. As more records are entered, more personnel will be shifted to data verification to speed up this project.

I continue to express my thanks to those who have worked with us as a team to get this task done. Restoring our database continues to be my focus and I am grateful for the patience of the citizens of New Orleans.

Dale N. Atkins  
Clerk of Civil District Court



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With no-cost mammograms\* available at professional, medical facilities, there's no reason to wait. The sooner you have a mammogram, the greater your chances are of finding cancer in its early stages and making a full recovery. It's your life. Go live it.

Call 1-800-4-CANCER to schedule your mammogram today.

\*Eligibility criteria may apply.

## Delgado Graduates Largest Class in College's History with 798 Students,

Delgado Community College awarded 805 degrees, diplomas and certificates to 798 students from the City Park Campus, the West Bank Campus and the Charity School of Nursing, and Louisiana Technical College (LTC) Region 1 West Jefferson and Jefferson Technical Campuses and Slidell Instructional Service Center graduated 20 students on Friday, Dec. 10, 2010, in Fall 2010 Commencement Exercises at the Lakefront Arena in New Orleans. This is the largest graduating class in the college's 89 year history.

Mr. Dan Packer, president and CEO of Urban Dimensions, LLC, provided the address to graduates. Delgado Chancellor Ron Wright conferred the associate degrees, certificates and diplomas to students.

Mandolin Sue Alabsa, associate of applied science, received top honors, graduating with a perfect 4.00 cumulative grade point average.

In a traditional Pinning Ceremony held at 7 p.m. on Dec. 8 at St. Joseph's in New Orleans, Anne Osoinach was recognized for earning the highest nursing program grade point average. Casey Schouest and Rachell McMillan both received the School of Nursing Award of Distinction. Wendy Vogel was honored with the Sister Stanislaus Malone Award, and Angela Rockefeller was presented the Alumni Association-sponsored Sister Blanche McDonnell Award. The Charity School of Nursing Honor Pin, the highest award that the nursing faculty gives, was presented to Wedon Brown. These award winners were recognized at Commencement Exercises as well.

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