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Data Zone

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Celebrating with Style

September 3 - September 9, 2011 46th Year Volume 14 www.ladatanews.com

Data News Weekly Celebrates 45th Anniversary



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Trailblazer
Carol BeBelle
Trailblazer of the Year

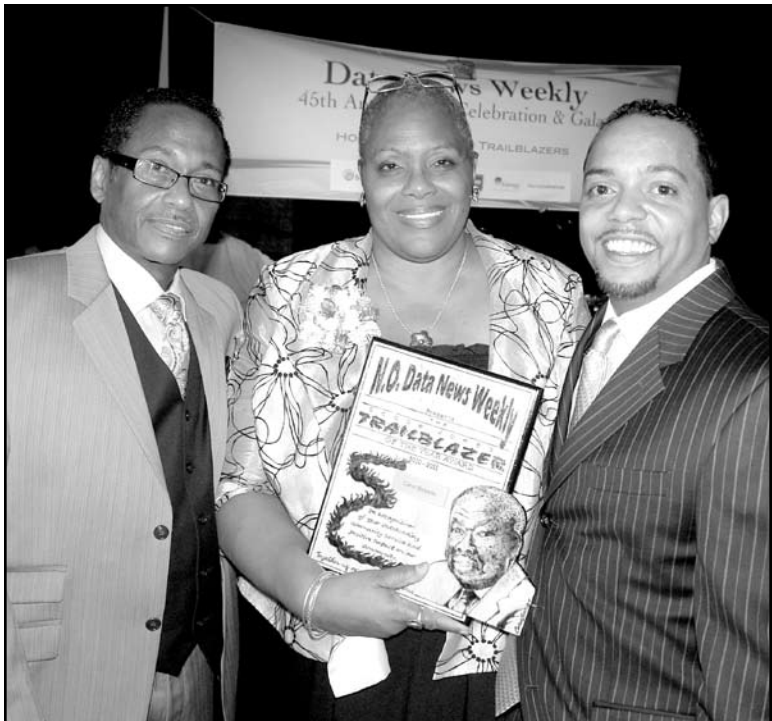
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State & Local
Locals Reflect on
Katrina's 6th



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Data News Weekly Celebrates 45 Years In Style



Data News Publisher Terry Jones, Carol BeBelle, Co-Host Glenn Jones



Co-Host Susan Eddington, Trailblazers, David Johnson, Lynn Hobbs-Green, Nathanael Scales, Karen and Lincoln Arceneaux, and Co-Host Glenn Jones



Attorney Nakisha Ervin-Knott Civil District Court Division E candidate



Terry Jones, Entergy's Demetric Mercadel, Glenn Jones



Terry Jones, Regina Bartholomew for Event Sponsor Metro Disposal and Glenn Jones

By Edwin Buggage
Photos by Glenn Summers

The event was a posh affair as people from the world of business, politics and the civic and cultural communities got together to honor those who have given selflessly of themselves to the betterment of the city. Data News Weekly hosted their Annual Trailblazer Awards at The Regency located in New Orleans East.

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DATA NEWS WEEKLY

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Dated material two weeks in advance. Not responsible for publishing or return of unsolicited manuscripts or photos.

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Co-Host Susan Eddington, Trailblazers, Carol BeBelle, Dr. Elliot Willard, Jade Young, Co-Host Glenn Jones



Co-Host Susan Eddington, Trailblazers, Dr. Dwight McKenna, Penelope Randolph-Biagas, George Rainey, Vera Warren-Williams, Co-Host Glenn Jones



Judicial Candidate Clare Jupiter



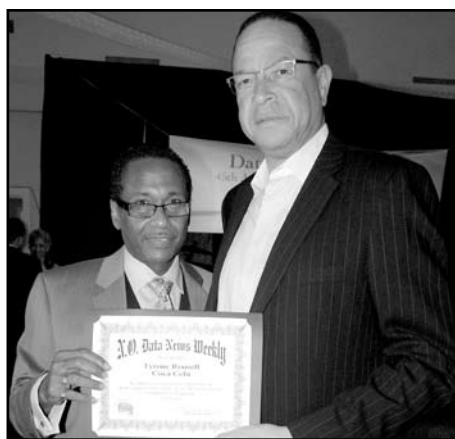
India James, Oliver Thomas, Juan Jackson



Data News Weekly Publisher and Regina Bartholomew, Candidate for Judge of Civil District Court, Division B



State Senator Cynthia Willard-Lewis



Data News Weekly Publisher and Tyrone Roussel, Event Sponsor Coca Cola

It was an evening of music, food and fun; it was a stellar event hosted by Glenn Jones and Susan Eddington. Gracing the stage on this evening was Violinist Michael Ward, Singer Ed Perkins, a dazzling performance by BRW and the sultry sounds of Sharon Martin.

"It is a pleasure to be honored by the community and I am glad Data News Weekly takes time to recognize people in the community with their annual event" said David Johnson one of the honorees.

While all those honored are great assets to the community; Ashe Cultural Center Co-Founder Carol BeBelle was chosen as the "Trailblazer of the Year" by the staff of Data News Weekly, "It is because of her overall commitment to people from all walks of life that tonight we give her tonight's highest honor" said Data News Weekly's

Publisher Terry Jones.

Also this year's event was to observe the Sixth Year Anniversary of Hurricane Katrina's and the dedication of the MLK Memorial. In the spirit of this Data News Weekly found it necessary to hold the celebration in New Orleans East as a symbol of its commitment to bringing the city back. "It is great to have this event out here because we are back and this part of the city is growing and people are coming back and are committed to its revitalization" said Louisiana State Senator Cynthia Willard-Lewis whose father Dr. Elliot Willard was one of the night honorees.

The night ended in grand New Orleans style as partygoers begin to head to the exit as the second line played concluding the night as people celebrated a city, its citizens and a newspaper that continues to be "The Peoples Paper".



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Six Years After Katrina, The Battle for New Orleans Continues

By Jordan Flaherty

Special contributor to Data
News Weekly from theroooot.com

Political power has shifted to Whites, but Blacks have not given up their struggle for a voice – and justice.

As this weekend's storm has reminded us, hurricanes can be a threat to U.S. cities on the East Coast as well as the Gulf. But the vast changes that have taken place in New Orleans since Katrina have had little to do with weather, and everything to do with political struggles. Six years after the federal levees failed and 80 percent of the city was flooded, New Orleans has lost 80,000 jobs and 110,000 residents. It is a whiter and wealthier city, with tourist areas well maintained while communities like the Lower Ninth Ward remain devastated. Beyond the statistics, it is still a much contested city.

Politics continues to shape how the changes to New Orleans are viewed. For some, the city is a crime scene of corporate profiteering and the mass displacement of African-Americans and working poor; but for others it's an example of bold public sector reforms, taken in the aftermath of a natural disaster, that have led the way for other cities.

In the wake of Katrina, New Orleans saw the rise of a new class of citizens. They self-identify as YURPs – Young Urban Rebuilding Professionals – and they work in architecture, urban planning, education, and related fields. While the city was still mostly empty, they spoke of a freedom to experiment, unfettered by the barriers of bureaucratic red tape and public comment. Working with local and national political and business leaders, they made rapid changes in the city's education system, public housing, health care, and the non-profit sector.

Along the way, the face of elected government changed in the city and state. Among the offices that switched from Black to White were mayor, police chief, district attorney, and representatives on the school board and city council, which both switched to White majorities for the first time in a generation. Louisiana also transformed from a state with several



state-wide elected Democrats, to having only one – Senator Mary Landrieu.

While Black community leaders have said that the displacement after the storm has robbed African-Americans of their civic representation, another narrative has also taken shape. Many in the media and business elite have said that a new political class – which happens to be mostly White – is reshaping the politics of the city into a post-racial era. “Our efforts are changing old ways of thinking,” said Mayor Mitch Landrieu, shortly after he was elected in 2010. After accusing his critics of being stuck in the past, Landrieu – who was the first mayor in modern memory elected with the support of a majority of both Black and White voters – added that “We’re going to rediscipline ourselves in this city.”

The changes in the public sector have been widespread. Shortly after the storm, the entire staff of the public school system was fired. Their union, which had been the largest union in the city, ceased to be recognized. With many parents, students and teachers driven out of the city by

Katrina and unable to have a say in the decision, the state took over the city's schools and began shifting them over to charters. "The reorganization of the public schools has created a separate but unequal tiered system of schools that steers a minority of students, including virtually all of the city's White students, into a set of selective, higher-performing schools and most of the city's students of color into a set of lower-performing schools," writes lawyer and activist Bill Quigley, in a report prepared with fellow Loyola Law Professor Davida Finger.

In many ways, the changes in the New Orleans School System, initiated almost six years ago, foreshadowed a battle that has played out more conspicuously this year in Wisconsin, Indiana, New Jersey and other states where teachers and their unions were assailed by both Republican governors and liberal reformers such as the filmmakers behind *Waiting for Superman*. Similarly, the battle of New Orleans public housing – which was torn down and replaced by new units built in public-private partnerships that house a small percentage of the

former residents – prefigured national battles over government's role in solving problems related to poverty.

The anger at the changes in New Orleans' Black community is palpable. It comes out at city council meetings, on local Black talk radio station WBOK, and in protests. "Since New Orleans was declared a blank slate, we are the social experimental lab of the world," says Endesha Juakali, a housing rights activist. However, despite the changes, grassroots resistance continues. "For those of us that lived and are still living the disaster, moving on is not an option," adds Juakali.

Resistance to the dominant agenda has also led to reform of the city's criminal justice system. But this reform is very different from the others, with leadership coming from African-American residents at the grassroots, including those most affected by both crime and policing.

In the aftermath of Katrina, media images famously depicted poor New Orleanians as criminal and dangerous. In fact, at one point it was announced that rescue efforts were put on hold because

of the violence. In response, the second-in-charge of the New Orleans Police Department reportedly told officers to shoot looters, and the governor announced that she had given the National Guard orders to shoot to kill.

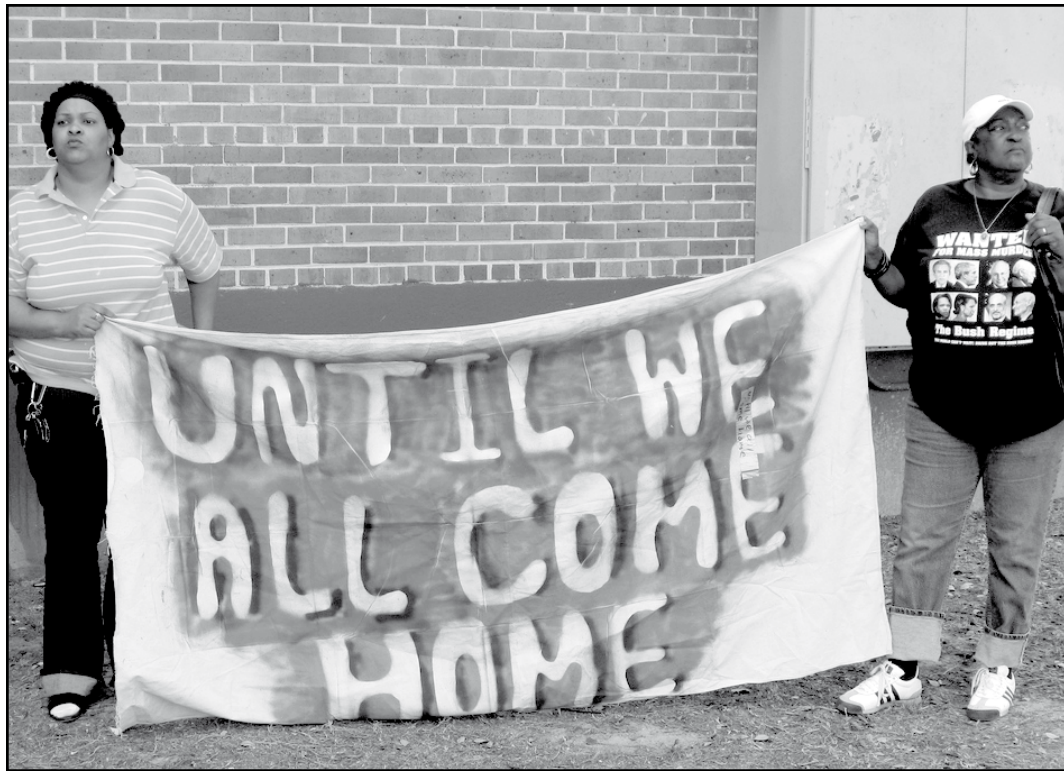
Over the following days, police shot and killed several civilians. A police sniper wounded a young African-American named Henry Glover, and other officers took and burned his body behind a levee. A 45-year-old grandfather named Danny Brumfield, Sr. was shot in the back in front of his family outside the New Orleans convention center. Two Black families – the Madisons and Bartholomews – walking across New Orleans’ Danziger Bridge fell under a hail of gunfire from a group of officers. “We had more incidents of police misconduct than civilian misconduct,” says former District Attorney Eddie Jordan, who pursued charges against officers but had the charges thrown out by a judge. “All these stories of looting, it pales next to what the police did.”

District Attorney Jordan, who angered many in the political establishment when he brought charges against officers and was forced to resign soon after, was not the only one who failed to bring accountability for the post-Katrina violence. In fact, every check and balance in the city's criminal justice system failed. For years, family members of the victims pressured the media, the U.S. Attorney's office, and Eddie Jordan's replacement in the DA's office, Leon Cannizzaro. "The media didn't want to give me the time of day," says William Tanner, who saw officers take away Glover's body. "They called me a raving idiot."

Finally after more than three years of protests, press conferences, and lobbying, the Justice Department launched aggressive investigations of the Glover, Brumfield, and Danziger cases in early 2009. In recent months, three officers were convicted in the Glover killing (although one conviction was overturned), two were convicted in beating a man to death just before the storm, and

Newsmaker, Continued
on next page.

Newsmaker, Continued from previous page.



ten officers either plead guilty or were convicted in the Danziger killing and cover-up. In the Danziger case, the jury found that officers had not only killed two civilians and wounded four, but also engaged in a wide-ranging conspiracy that involved planted evidence, invented witnesses, and secret meetings.

The Justice Department has at least seven more open investigations on New Orleans police killings, and has indicated their plans for more formal oversight of the NOPD, as well as the city jail. In this area, New Orleans is also leading the way – in a remarkable change from Justice Department policy during the Bush Administration, the DOJ is also looking at oversight of police departments in Newark, Denver, and Seattle.

In the national struggle against law enforcement violence, there is much to be learned from the victims of New Orleans police violence who led a remarkable struggle against a wall of official silence, and now have begun to win justice. “This is an opening,” explains New Orleans police accountability activist Malcolm Suber. “We have to push for a much more

democratic system of policing in the city.”

In the closing arguments of the Danziger trial, DOJ Prosecutor Bobbi Bernstein fought back against the defense claim that the officers were heroes, saying the family members of those killed deserved the title more. Noting that the official cover-up had “perverted” the system, she said, “The real heroes are the victims who stayed with an imperfect justice system that initially betrayed them.” The jury apparently agreed with her, convicting the officers on all 25 counts.

This article was originally published on The Root: <http://www.theroot.com/views/battle-new-orleans-continues>.

Jordan Flaherty is a New Orleans-based journalist. His award-winning reporting from the Gulf Coast has been featured in a range of outlets including the New York Times, Al Jazeera, and Argentina's Clarin Newspaper. He is the author of FLOODLINES: Community and Resistance from Katrina to the Jena Six. He can be reached at neworleans@leftturn.org, and more information about Floodlines can be found at floodlines.org. For speaking engagements, see communityandresistance.wordpress.com.



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&

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We are grateful for your continued support, and look forward to the next 45 years!

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Data News Weekly 45th Anniversary Gala Highlights

Data News Weekly's 45th Anniversary Gala Celebration was the definition of a "party with a purpose" as friends, supporters, honored guests and dignitaries gathered to pay tribute to the 2010 Trailblazers of the Month. With the support of our sponsors; AT&T, Reynolds American, Metro Disposal, Coca Cola and Entergy, guests enjoyed an evening of music, food and fun while honoring those in the community who give their all to others. It was a great event, and of course.... Data was there!



Vocalist - Jasmine Batiste and Sharon Martin



Michael Ward, Violinist

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R&B Vocalist - BRW



Datazone, Continued on next page.

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Vocalist, Sharon Martin and Drummer, Shannon Hamilton



Student musicians – Drummer, Thomas Glass, Saxophonist, Renetta Mayes, Guitarist, Austin Clements



Data News Weekly Staff



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Six Years Later...In Their Own Words

By Edwin Buggage

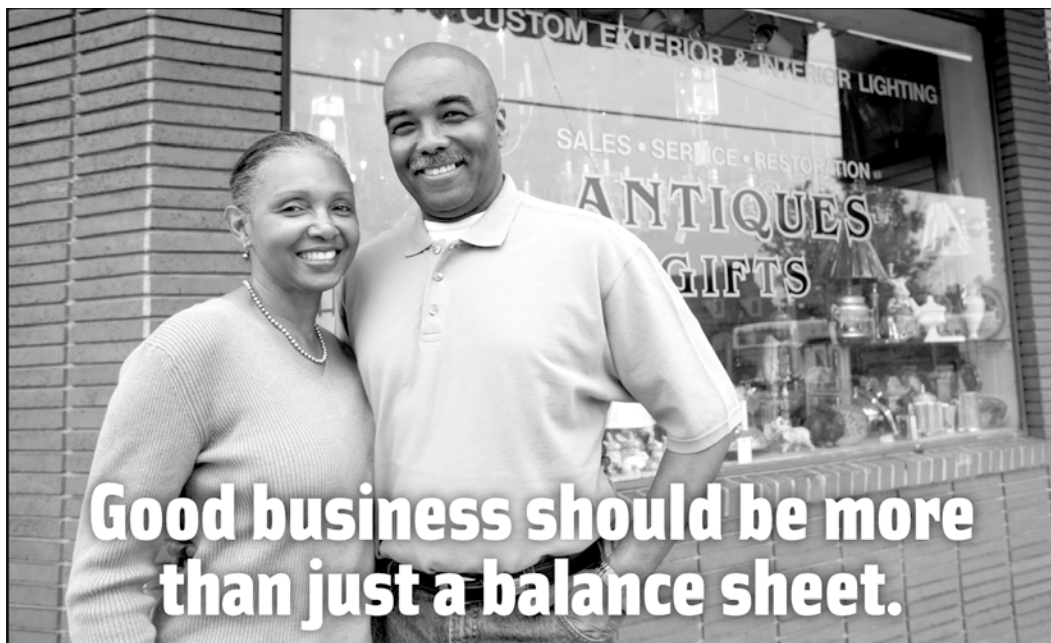
As the city observes the Sixth Anniversary of Hurricane Katrina we bring you the voices of four New Orleanians and how their lives have changed since the storm and the levee breach altered the course of their lives. Three year ago we embarked on a similar mission and today we update the lives of two of those featured in the original article, Visual Artist and Emcee Charles "Charlie V" Vaughn and Entrepreneur and Author Wilbert "Chill" Wilson. Also featured are author, activist and businesswoman Jerelda D. Sanders and Former City Councilmember, child advocate, playwright and actor Oliver Thomas. Their insight into the city and where it's been and going is valuable and serves as a snapshot of what is going on in the minds of many of the citizens of the city who are trying to rebuild their city and lives.



Charles "Charlie V" Vaughn



Wilbert "Chill" Wilson



Charles Rice
President and CEO,
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Charles "Charlie V" Vaughn Homecoming

The last time we talked I was still in Atlanta missing New Orleans and everything about it. While I enjoyed more economic opportunities, I still longed to be home. In Atlanta I had a decent job and was even able to purchase a home but I found myself working all the time and not being able to have a life outside of work. What I missed about home is the work/life balance. Recently, I moved back to New Orleans with my family, one that now includes my wife, two small children, my sister-in-law and her daughter. I feel good that my wife has been supportive of me making this journey home and us doing it as a family. This is something that has been a great motivator and inspiration for me.

Over the years I have come back to host shows in addition to displaying my work at art shows, so I was not under the illusion that I would be returning to the city I left six years ago. Coming back I knew I would be facing new challenges as the city is trying to rebuild, but after living in Atlanta I have returned with a new sense of urgency because it is not just about me but my family as well. And I know it is important for me to be in a position to provide for them.

I am glad to be home but I see some of the changes that have taken place and some of them are troubling and threaten to alter our sacred traditions. I recently went to a secondline parade where normally people would be out selling their wares they have to have permits and the police are sometimes too aggressive in trying to keep order. As to other things that are happening in the city it seems that some of those in positions of power are trying to make New Orleans into Las Vegas or some other city and I don't think that is a good thing moving forward.

We are a unique city with our own traditions and we should build on these things. It is also my hope that the city can become more progressive in some areas particularly the economy and in racial relations. But for better or worse this is my home and I am glad to be back, and looking at my city in some respects it is like a submarine at the bottom, but it is bubbling its way back up and I am here to contribute to it in a positive way.

Wilbert "Chill" Wilson Inspiration

When I think of where I've been to where I am now I simply say as I do everyday when I lock the doors of my

In Their Own Words, Continued on next page.

Stones of Hope for the Next Generation



Julianne Malveaux
NNPA Columnist

Hurricane Irene hit the East Coast with a vengeance, causing inconvenience, interruption, and postponements. Perhaps the most notable postponement was that of the Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration, which was to take place on August 28, 48 years after Dr. King gave his historic "I Have A Dream" speech. Thus, activities that were to span the week were, instead, concluded with an interfaith prayer service that drew more than a thousand people.

If one adheres to the scripture (Romans 8:28) that "all things work together for good", it is

possible to ruminate about any greater meaning in the postponement of the King celebration. It is interesting that one definition of postpone is, "to put off something until a later time, to defer". Similarly, the definition of interruption is "to stop or hinder by breaking in". Hurricane Irene just busted in to stop, to hinder, to defer. And while the beloved Rev. Joseph Lowery said, "With all the things Black folk have been through, no little hurricane can come to stop us," the fact is that Irene did exactly that, if only in the short run.

To postpone is to defer. Isn't that exactly what has happened to Dr. King's dream? In so many ways it has been deferred, especially for the poorest of Americans, those who would have watched the celebration on television because they had no means to travel to Washington. Maybe they'd watch on television. With a rise in the number of people who are homeless, there might be no television to watch. While Dr. King chose to identify with the poor, the homeless, the unemployed, many of

the African-Americans involved in public policy have chosen to ignore them.

Former Congressman and Ambassador Andrew Young spoke at the Interfaith Service and invoked Dr. King's line that "out of a mountain of despair, a stone of hope." Indeed, the memorial is being described as "a stone of hope". "You and I must become stones of hope in this world of despair," said Ambassador Young. In the face of an economic downturn and the marginalization of the poor, stones of hope would organize, mobilize, and lobby for laws that promote economic fairness. Instead, we have meekly accepted the extension of Bush tax cuts, meekly accepted rising poverty and high unemployment. I am perplexed that those who are affected by this economy, and those who claim to advocate for them, have not been more effective in protest.

Our failures may have the most impact on the next generation, as increased child poverty has a negative impact on a young person's later life chances. If we claim to

be stones of hope for the next generation, then it is incumbent on us to make greater investments in children and their parents. Child poverty is a function of adult poverty and unemployment. Eleven percent of all children live in a household with an unemployed parent; a significant number live in homes where no parent has full-time, full-year employment.

The Annie E. Casey Foundation released this data and more in their annual Kids Count report on August 17th. Their most stunning finding – 31 million children live in poverty. Using 10 indicators of child well-being, they found improvement in areas like infant mortality, the child death rate, the teen death rate, and the teen birth rate. But economic indicators showed erosion in the well-being of young people.

The Casey Foundation advocates a two-generation strategy to both help parents achieve economic stability and to enhance the

"social, economic, cognitive, and physical" development of children, and has developed a set of strategies that include both maintaining existing programs (which are likely to be cut because of the deals cut with the debt ceiling), and new programs, including asset protection, and programs to promote reading proficiency. Yet the likelihood of any of these programs being implemented hinges on our collective will to be stones of hope for young people.

A celebration has been postponed, deferred, much like the hopes and dreams of the 31 million children who live in poverty. While the celebration will almost certainly be rescheduled, action to improve the lives of these young people has yet to be scheduled. The King Memorial is a riveting "Stone of Hope", but who among us will be Stones of Hope for the next generation?

Julianne Malveaux is President of Bennett College for Women in Greensboro, North Carolina.

In Their Own Words, Continued from previous page.

shop "Thank You Jesus." I think back to my shop being under nine feet of water, I think back to wondering did I have the will to come back and rebuild my life. After thinking about it I said to myself that I would not only duplicate what I did before but I would set new goals for myself.

I came away with I would not only rebuild my life, but I would inspire others with my example. I went out with just a tent, generator, clippers, a plan and a prayer. From that time out there cutting hair on South Claiborne and Napoleon I was able to meet so many people who were going through the same things and see their resilience. And as I was inspiring the people of my city and they in turn inspired me.

Today I am not only a successful businessman but I have created several community initiatives: "Walk A Mile For A Child" is an event and program that is aimed at people from the community


coming together to give young people the tools to be successful. I feel it is important that we nurture and treat our kids with care. In these six years I have also authored a book "When The Walls Came Down" It is more than just my story of the ups, downs, tragedies and triumphs of my life, it is all our story because we all have walls that come down, but it is up to us to rebuild. And also more recently I have been involved as a producer in a film project entitled "Close Ties" that centers on the mentoring of the youth of the city.


Today I am in a great place in my life; I am inspired and optimistic about my city and all the positive things that are happening in it. For I feel it is easy to finger point and look at the things that are wrong, but what is needed are people willing to do the work to make things better. And that is what I've attempted to do since returning to the city.

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In Their Own Words, Continued from page 10.

Jerrela Drummer Sanders Determination

Every day I leave my home in New Orleans East I am immediately reminded that I live in a district that care forgot about; I am immediately reminded of the devastation that Hurricane Katrina brought to the city as I am forced to look at the blighted property that is next door to my home. A blighted property with grass that is as tall as my two year old daughter. I begin to pray as I move my car out of the driveway asking God to grant me the serenity to accept the things that I cannot change... then I reflect on the slow process that we as eastern New Orleans residents must face compared to other parts of the city. Then I see my neighbors out in their gardens who are also forced to see the blighted property and I hope that I can get by without being asked if I know when the people are going to cut the grass. I am not bothered by the inquisitive neighbors, because I know that we are



Jerrela Drummer Sanders

all in the struggle. I am bothered because as a Neighborhood Association President and employee of the city, I feel helpless. I feel saddened because this is a reality that we are forced to live with.

As I continue my journey I cross over into District D for a moment and I feel like I am in another place as I see businesses and people traveling to work and construction. It is short lived as

I cross back over to District E as I cross the track at Louisa Street looking at empty houses and I think about the potential Economic Development that is waiting to be placed on the empty lots. I pray for the courage to change the things that I can change... I ask for strength that I will be able to help someone who may call me in the office and ask for assistance that I can honesty offer. By now



Oliver Thomas

as our ancestors were able to see a way when there was no way I believe that a change will come. Unfortunately, I am disappointed at the present moment with New Orleans six years later. How can anyone celebrate when District E is still suffering?

Oliver Thomas Resurrection

Although the city's recovery is not as swift as some would like but I am still optimistic because I know the people of the city are a people who are known for rising above their circumstances. And that today people are doing the best they can to rebuild their lives one day at a time. When I am out in the community I see faces of hope and people dedicated to making this city a better city. But on the downside I think that initially what happened with the recovery was that it was more market based than people based. So there were some parts of the city that were left out of the equation and I feel that was a mistake, because if more people and neighborhoods were included more of the city would be rebuilt by now.

I think because of what happened to me on a personal level have made me stronger. It's made me more understanding and insightful and increased my love for the community. Through my pain and loss God has made me more determined to give more and be more compassionate and contribute in a greater way to the betterment of New Orleans.

I am troubled when I see the division in the city and I feel it is time to come together as a united city with one goal in mind to make New Orleans a better city for all of its citizens. And also as I work at Covenant House I see so many of our young people without hope, vision and purpose and I feel it is important that we give our young people those things that will make them successful in the world.

In these six years I feel we have again lost sight of what we should be and that is investing in moving forward and that is the people that actually live in the city. Too many times what happens is that this city's economy is event based where people come in make money and then leave. It is time for us to spend more time and resources trying to help small businesses and those owned by African-Americans and women. It is not until all can participate and access opportunities will the city fully recover.

The Don "Moose" Jamison

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One on One with Martin Luther King, III

Special to the NNPA from the Washington Informer

On the eve of what was supposed to be the landmark dedication of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial, The Washington Informer spoke with the preeminent civil rights leader's son Martin Luther King III. He shared his thoughts about his father, the monument and the momentous occasion. The dedication ceremony was postponed due to Hurricane Irene.

How does it feel to have a memorial on the National Mall honoring your father?

"I am gratified and overjoyed by the coming unveiling of the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial in the nation's capital. More importantly, it is a great gift to America. Of course, it's an historic accomplishment for an African-American leader to be honored on the National Mall,



Martin Luther King III

adjacent to the Lincoln, Jefferson and Franklin Roosevelt Memorials. But it is even more gratifying that, for the first time, a non-violent leader, a man of peace, will now be represented alongside the greatest presidents of American history. It will provide a symbolic affirmation that

non-violent leadership can make history and transform America. This memorial will have powerful symbolic resonance, and it will certainly increase requests for information from The King Center in Atlanta, which remains the primary resource for information and education about the life, work and teachings of Martin Luther King, Jr."

Does the design of the memorial and the inscriptions that speak of love, peace, justice and freedom give an accurate representation of your father and his legacy?

"Yes. I like the design, particularly the imagery associated with my father's challenge to 'hew a stone of hope out of the mountain of despair.' I think the other quotations in the memorial are excellent and very relevant to our times. 'Love, peace and justice' are cornerstones of

my father's teachings and they never go out of style."

What can young people gain from visiting the King Monument at the National Mall?

"They can gain inspiration and hope and a sense of the unique power of non-violence as a transformative historical force, and perhaps they can also gain an understanding of the redemptive power of non-violence as the hope of humanity for a more just and peaceful world. They can learn something as well from the quotations. My hope is that they will also make a point of visiting or contacting The King Center in Atlanta (www.thekingcenter.org), which is, the official institution charged with educating people of all races, religions and nations about my father's teachings."

Obama Reacts To Black Critics

WASHINGTON - Under fire from Black lawmakers for allegedly ignoring rising unemployment in their communities, President Obama took to the radiowaves saying he understands their concerns.

Obama appeared on the popular Black-oriented Tom Joyner show today as part of an effort by his administration to remind Black voters that the country's first Black president is fighting for them.

The President reminded the show's primarily Black audience that Martin Luther King's efforts regarding unemployment took time, and that he is committed to getting people back to work even "if it's slow and frustrating."

"It's always important to remember that when Dr. King gave the 'I Have a Dream' speech, that was a march for jobs and justice, not just justice," Obama said during the interview. "And the last part of his life, when he went down to Memphis, that was all about sanitation workers saying, 'I am a man,' and then looking for economic justice and dealing with poverty."

"It's not enough for us to just remember the sanitized version of what Dr. King stood for," the President added.

Just last week the Congressional Black Caucus wrapped up its national jobs fair and town hall tour. The tour was designed to put public pressure on the White House to address Black joblessness as part of the plan Obama will announce next week.

Politico quoted an Obama insider as saying, "The whole thing is bull-[bleep] ... We have met with [Black leaders] more than any other group and we are increasing our outreach."

Aug. 27 Marches Cancelled in D.C., Will Be Rescheduled

Special to the NNPA from The Washington Informer

WASHINGTON - The impending arrival of Hurricane Irene has caused the cancellations of two major marches that were to take place Sat., Aug. 27 in D.C.

Just prior to calling a state of emergency for the city, Mayor Vincent C. Gray's office announced cancellation of both the D.C. Statehood Rally and a March for Jobs that was to be led by the Rev. Al Sharpton and his National Action Network.

Harry Johnson, President of the Martin Luther King Memorial Foundation, announced that because of the hurricane, the dedication of the King Memorial would be postponed until September or October.

The hurricane, which is expected to bring severe storms to the D.C. area, has also threatened travel along the eastern seaboard.

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