Election 2011
The Race to the Polls
As we look ahead to the day when citizens from across the state will head to the polls to vote, Data News Weekly will provide information on key races that will impact the New Orleans Metro Area. This issue we focus on Louisiana State Representative seats in District 98 and 99 in addition to a race for Traffic Court Judge Division A.

**Louisiana House of Representative District 98**

Initially, this was a four man race with two Democrats and a Republican challenger running against incumbent Neil Abramson, who is seeking a second term. One of his opponents, Democrat Evan Wolf recently dropped out of the race and put his support behind the incumbent. The race now is between Abramson and Republican John “Fenn” French.

Abramson, a Progressive Democrat is running on his record of passing legislation that has had an impact on education, crime reform measures, and ethics in government. Of some of his accomplishments in the legislature he touts the passage of bills such as: legislation which eliminates the number of times violent offenders can jump bail and still be let out on the streets to commit more crimes. He also spearheaded the effort to pass legislation later which required the Ethics Administration to create computer links between elected officials’ campaign finance reports and public disclosure forms which would provide transparency and public disclosure between campaign finance reports and the public.

Cover Story, Continued on next page.
Cover Story, Continued from previous page.

contributions and potential appointments. Abramson also, conceived and passed the “Grants for Grads” bill to keep college graduates and post-graduate students in the state. This program allows them up to a $10,000 rebate on their state income taxes toward the purchase of a first home if they stay and work in Louisiana for five years after graduation. Other states have since copied this program.

French, the Republican is a New Orleans area businessman who is making his first run at elected office, but is no stranger to politics. He is a business partner of former District A City Councilman Jay Batt. In addition to running for the Louisiana State Representative in District 98, French has applied for the interim city council seat at-large vacated by outgoing Councilman-at-Large Arnie Fielkow.

Louisiana House of Representatives District 99
In a newly consolidated legislative district combining 101 and 99 has eliminated one seat held by an African-American. This race is an important one because the newly configured district covers parts of New Orleans East and the devastated Lower Ninth Ward, both which face monumental challenges moving forward. This race would have originally slated Bishop, who recently won his seat in a special election to finish the term of longtime State Representative Cedric Richmond, now a U.S. Congressman. Against Charmaine Marchand-Stiaes, the incumbent of District 99. With her deciding not to run this pits Bishop against political newcomer Samuel Cowart.

Bishop, before coming to elected office was a longtime Administrator at Southern University and for the past year has been in Baton Rouge providing leadership in District 101. In his first term he was instrumental in helping defeat the proposed merger of Southern University (SUNO) and the University of New Orleans (UNO). He says he is excited by the challenge if elected to represent the district, “The problems that exist in the newly configured district are similar to those in the district I am already representing, blight, crime, educational issues and a host of other issues,” says Bishop. “But I will continue to fight to erase the problems that exist and bring about a new sense of purpose and bring progressive reforms to my district that is driven by what the people of the district demand. And I feel I am the person that can provide the kind of leadership that the people of District 99 deserve.”

Judge Traffic Court, Division A
The race for Traffic Court Judge Division A is a three-way race between Herbert Cade, Ernest F. Charbonnet and Patrick Giraud. All the candidates are Democrats with two Black candidates in Cade and Charbonnet and one White candidate in Giraud. This election is to fill a seat left vacant by the untimely passing of Chief Judge of Orleans Parish Traffic Court Judge Dennis Dannel.

Herbert Cade has been racking up endorsements: Mayor Mitch Landrieu, Congressman Cedric Richmond, Sheriff Marlin Gusman, Clerk of Criminal Court Arthur Morrell, City Council Member Cynthia Hedge-Morrell and a host of other elected leaders. Cade has been presiding on the bench since 2003 as the judge in Division K of Civil District Court.

Ernest F. Charbonnet, is a former Assistant City Attorney who worked on cases in traffic and municipal court while at City Hall. Eschewing the political establishment, Charbonnet says the only endorsements that matters are those of the people. He has made a major part of his platform about bringing integrity and honesty to have someone in office who is less concerned about serving themselves and more interested in serving the public.

Patrick Giraud is an Attorney and, is the son of longtime Traffic Court Judge Thomas Giraud, who served twenty-six years on the bench. He is the lone White candidate in the race and in a city that is racially divided in a close race he may be able to make it to a run-off if there is one. Although a political newcomer he’s enlisted veteran Political Consultant Bill Shultz, whose worked on many campaigns throughout the years including Herbert Cade.

Again, Data News Weekly in staying true to our motto as “The People’s Paper” is dedicated to giving you, the readers’, information that can guide wise decisions at the polls. So please go out and vote, early voting is from October 8 - 15 and the primary elections are on October 22, 2011. Locations are City Hall, 1300 Perdido Street, Room 1W23, The Voting Machine Warehouse, 8870 Chef Menteur Highway and 225 Morgan Street in Algiers.
Senate Confirms City Attorney Jolivette-Brown as US District Court Judge

Executive Counsel Richard Cortizas Will Serve as Acting City Attorney

The United States Senate confirmed President Barack Obama’s nomination of City Attorney Nanette Jolivette-Brown for a judgeship on the US District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana. Jolivette-Brown, who has served as City Attorney since May 2010, is the first African-American female to be selected for a Federal District Court Judgeship in the State of Louisiana.

“Nanette has been an essential member of our team and a true public servant in our city,” said Mayor Landrieu. “She has been a key figure in saving the City millions of dollars by renegotiating several key contracts from sanitation to the purchase for Methodist Hospital. The depth of her legal background and experiences uniquely qualify her to serve in this federal judgeship. She will be sorely missed.”

Jolivette-Brown stated, “It is a tremendous honor to be confirmed as a United States District Court Judge by the United States Senate. It is also an extraordinary honor to have been nominated by President Obama and to be recommended by Senator Mary Landrieu to serve as an Article III Judge. The collective confidence in me is humbling, and I look forward to serving with integrity and a commitment to the rule of law.”

Ms. Jolivette-Brown was previously a partner with Chaffe McCall, LLP, where she had a diverse legal practice representing individuals and a variety of business and commercial interests in litigation as well as in transactional matters. She has been lead attorney in matters before state and federal courts in several jurisdictions and specifically in several precedent-setting environmental permit appeals in Louisiana, as well as point-person in negotiations regarding settlement and other forms of dispute resolution. As a Law Professor, she has taught Federal Civil Procedure, Sale and Lease, Conflicts of Law and Professional Responsibility, Environmental Law, Environmental Justice, and Toxic Torts. Ms. Jolivette-Brown also has over 20 years experience representing parties in mediation and mediates commercial matters and a variety of other disputes. She was a member of the American Arbitration Association/Louisiana Department of Insurance Hurricane Mediation Program as a Mediator where she mediated hundreds of insurance related disputes after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Ms. Jolivette-Brown also served as Director of New Orleans’ Sanitation Department from 1994-96. She was a founding member of the Mediation Section of the Loyola University College of Law; Law Clinic & Center for Social Justice, where she initiated criminal restitution mediations, helped revive pro bono domestic mediations in Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans and trained student mediators in federal court and state small claims mediation.

Upon her formal commission, Jolivette-Brown will relinquish her role as City Attorney. Richard Cortizas, who serves as Executive Counsel, will serve as Acting City Attorney.

Prior to the Mayor’s office, Richard Cortizas was most recently an Attorney in the Business & Finance Practice Group of the Jones Walker Law Firm. He focused his practice on the representation of clients in transactional matters, primarily representing corporate clients in complex land use and zoning matters, public finance and economic development projects. He has represented several major developers on multi-million-dollar commercial and residential development projects throughout the State of Louisiana. Prior to practicing law, Mr. Cortizas served as Regional Director for U.S. Senator Mary Landrieu in Louisiana. He is a graduate of Loyola University’s College of Business (B.B.A.) and Loyola University’s College of Law (J.D.). He is the immediate past President of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Louisiana.

U.S. Senator Mary Landrieu Endorses Kira Orange Jones

Senator Landrieu, who enjoys one of the strongest ratings by the National Education Association for her pro-education record, said Ms. Orange Jones shares her passion for children and reform-minded public schools.

“For Louisiana to join the global economy, we need citizens who care about life-long learning. Leaders like Kira Orange Jones will help our state continue to be a leader in public education reform,” said Senator Landrieu.

Kira Orange Jones is also endorsed by the Mayor Mitch Landrieu, Alliance for Good Government, SEIU, the Regular Democratic Organization, the Orleans Parish Republicans, among others.

Congressman Cedric Richmond Endorses Sen. JP Morrell

United States Congressman Cedric Richmond announced his support of State Senator JP Morrell for re-election to Senate District 3. Congressman Richmond and Sen. Morrell served together in the Louisiana State Legislature for several years before Richmond’s election to the U.S. House of Representatives last fall.

“JP Morrell is an experienced attorney and a gifted legislator. Working with JP in the Louisiana Legislature gave me the opportunity to see his passion and ability for public service first hand, and it makes me proud to support his re-election,” said Richmond. “From his leadership in the fight to save SUNO and UNO to his securing of more than 8 million dollars for a new hospital in New Orleans East, JP has proven that he will deliver for his constituents when it matters the most. I need JP Morrell’s style of results-based leadership advocating alongside me for important matters like improved flood protection for our region.”

With just over three weeks until the election, Sen. Morrell’s campaign gained significant momentum this week by picking up the endorsements of both Mayor Landrieu and Congressman Richmond, Other elected officials who have announced their support of Sen. Morrell include State Senators Karen Carter-Peterson and David Heilmeier, State Representatives Walt Leger, III and Jared Brossett, Jefferson Parish Sheriff Newell Normand, and Jefferson Parish Council Member Byron Lee.

State & Local News

Latest Updates on the October 22nd Elections

“Daughters of Domestics Respond to ‘The Help’” at Xavier Oct. 17

Xavier University will present “Daughters of Domestics: Poets and Academics Respond to The Help,” Monday October 17, 2011 at 6:30pm at the Pharmacy Qatar Pavilion Auditorium. The event is free and opened to the public.

Dr. Kimberly Chandler, Assistant Professor of Communications at Xavier will be the Moderator. Guests include poets Kelly Harris DeBerry, Kynthia Brown Robinson, and Asali DeVan Ecclesiastes, and Dr. Theresa M. Davis, Associate Professor of Cross Cultural Performance at UVa; Dr. Brenda Edgerton-Webster, Professor of Communications at Xavier; Dr. Denise O. Shervington, M.D., M.P.H.; President and CEO of the Institute of Women and Ethnic Studies and Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Tulane University.

“This engaging panel of intellectuals and artists will take on the contradictions, complexities and sites of contention engaged in a movie and book that has become an American cinematic favorite!” said Chandler. “The poets will perform creative literary works while the academics will engage in a provocative discussion with the audience and each other.”

For more information on “Daughters of Domestics: Poets and Academics Respond to The Help,” contact Chandler at 504-520-5091.
New Orleans Celebrates the Life of Archbishop Philip Hannan

By Rocco Polomo

New Orleans faithful celebrated the life and recognized the passing last week Archbishop Philip Hannan, the 11th Archbishop of New Orleans, whose 55 years of episcopal ministry saw him take on roles from media pioneer to political powerhouse – and seemingly everything in between – Archbishop Hannan died at 98 on September 28, 2011.

An ecclesial and civic force alike well into his quarter-century retirement, Hannan’s passage fittingly came not just on the feast of the Archangels – the historic patron-saints of communication but 46th Anniversary of his appointment to New Orleans, a time that would become evenly split in two 23-year spans as ordinary and Archbishop-Emeritus.

Widely held as the New Orleans’ “First Citizen” – and, arguably, likewise its most beloved – there was little of the 20th Century in either the church or the world that the Washington native’s ministry failed to experience first-hand: decorated Army Chaplain in the World War II airborne ranks; adviser to the nation’s lone Catholic President and Eulogist at his funeral; father of the Second Vatican Council and host of the first Papal Visit to the American South; a combatant in wars against racism, poverty, crime, abortion and AIDS; founder of a TV station who rode out Hurricane Katrina while stranded in his studio and, from its 1967 founding, the spiritual father of an NFL Franchise (whose first Super Bowl victory he was present for, at age 96)...

...and much like the prelate who came to be known as the “Energizer Bunny,” the epic list goes on, and on, and on...

Ordained a priest of Washington in 1939, Hannan became an auxiliary bishop of the capital in 1956 – but only after founding the DC Archdiocese’s Newspaper, the Catholic Standard. At Vatican II, the future archbishop was the lead coordinator of briefings for the English-language media covering the Council; with Hannan’s death, retired Archbishop Raymond Hunthausen of Seattle becomes the last surviving American prelate to have attended all four of the Council’s sessions as a bishop. (Retired since 1991, Hunthausen, now 90, was ordained bishop of Helena two months before the Council’s opening in October 1962.) Current NOLA Archbishop Gregory Aymond – who the late archbishop ordained a priest, then named as rector of the city’s Notre Dame Seminary in 1986 said that “in every way,” Hannan “was a good shepherd of the church who was modeled after Christ, not just for Catholics of New Orleans but for the whole community.”

“He truly made New Orleans his home. This was his parish and his archdiocese, and it had no boundaries. He was there for anyone and everyone. That was his goal in life.

“He always quoted St. Paul, and he truly believed that his mission and ministry was to preach the Gospel untiringly both in actions and in words.”

Hannan is the first Crescent City Archbishop to pass away since 1964, when Archbishop Joseph Francis Rummel died at 88. The German-born prelate famously ordered the desegregation of the city’s Catholic schools, then garnered national headlines for excommunicating three members of his fold who led public resistance to the move.

At the end of several lifetimes’ worth of labors, may he rest well and know his well-merited reward... and as only New Orleans can do, let the jazz funeral begin.
Al Jarreau to headline Scholarship Benefit Concert Nov 18th for Xavier University

Grammy award-winning Singer Al Jarreau is the concert headliner for Xavier University’s Fourth Annual Dr. Norman C. Francis Endowed Scholarship Benefit Concert, Friday November 18 at 8:00 pm at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center Theater.

New Orleans native and 1980 XU graduate John Boutte is the opening act and BP America, Inc. is the lead sponsor. The benefit concert began three years ago to celebrate Dr. Francis’ 40th Anniversary as President of Xavier University, the nation’s only Historically Black and Roman Catholic institution of Higher Education.

The net proceeds generated by the annual concert series are dedicated to funding the Dr. Norman C. Francis Endowed Scholarship Fund. The ultimate purpose of this fund is to help ensure that deserving students are able to earn a college degree regardless of their financial situation. The total goal established for the endowed scholarship fund is $1 million.

Under Dr. Francis’ tenure, Xavier’s enrollment has grown to over 3,400 students and the operating budget exceeds $90 million. The physical campus has also grown and expanded with new modern facilities. Francis has received 40 honorary degrees, and 20 major awards in recognition of his leadership and service to New Orleans and the nation. He is the longest serving college president in the U.S.

Al Jarreau’s unique vocal style is one of the world’s most precious treasures. His innovative musical expressions have made him one of the most exciting and critically-acclaimed performers of our time with seven Grammy Awards in the categories of jazz, pop, and R&B.

He continued to top the stateside charts in 1987 and became a weekly guest in America’s living rooms singing the Grammy® nominated theme song for the hit television series Moonlighting.

He received his Star on the “Hollywood Walk of Fame,” in March 2001, commemorating his status as one of the best singers of his generation. Time Magazine has called him “the greatest jazz singer alive.”

Opening for Al Jarreau is New Orleans native and 1980 Xavier graduate John Boutte. Boutte is included among this city’s top male vocalists. He hails from a very talented musical family. Boutte himself has claimed international recognition for his performances. His most notable vocals include his performance of the highly acclaimed theme song for the HBO series “Treme.”

Tickets are on sale through the Ticket Master hot line 1-866-448-7849 or online at http://www.ticketmaster.com. Special sponsor tables, patron packages and concert tickets are available through the Office of Institutional Advancement’s special concert hot line at 504-520-4252. Additional concert information is available on the Xavier website at www.xula.edu.
St. Augustine Hampton Festival

St. Augustine High School held its 3rd Annual Hampton Festival, named after its longtime Band Director Edwin Hampton. An event that raises funds for the world renown St. Augustine Marching Band. People from around the city came out to support this worthy cause, it was a night of music, food and fun featuring Singer Jeffrey Osborne and Data News Weekly was there.
Republican Presidential Candidate Herman Cain professes to know why most African-Americans don’t vote for Republicans — they are brainwashed. Cain’s decision to insult people he hopes will vote for him proves that he is both brainwashed and brain dead.

“African-Americans have been brainwashed into not being open minded, not even considering a conservative point of view,” Cain said on CNN’s The Situation Room. He added, “I have received some of that same vitriol simply because I am running for the Republican nomination as a Conservative. So it’s just brainwashing and people not being open minded, pure and simple.”

Merriam-Webster defines brainwashing as: 1) a forcible indoctrination to induce someone to give up basic political, social, or religious beliefs and attitudes and to accept contrasting regimented ideas 2) persuasion by propaganda or salesmanship.

Herman Cain fits that description better than Black America.

Anyone with a scintilla of a brain knows that African-Americans have not always favored Democrats. Blacks voted overwhelmingly for Republicans, the party of Abraham Lincoln, until Franklin D. Roosevelt and the New Deal, a package of programs that helped lift America out of the Great Depression. By 1936, 75 percent of African-Americans had switched their support from Republicans to Democrats.

Still, the GOP continued to receive a respectable share of the Black vote for the next two decades. Even with a Democratic Presidential Candidate as attractive as John F. Kennedy, Republican Richard M. Nixon managed in 1960 to capture 32 percent of the Black vote. However, the GOP took a sharp right turn in 1964 with the nomination of ultraconservative Barry Goldwater of Arizona. Black GOP support plummeted to 6 percent that year and has never risen above 15 percent since that decade.

African-Americans knew what they were doing in the 1930s when they switched allegiance. And instead of being brainwashed today, they have wisely decided to extend solid political support to the party that supports them. When you examine how differently Democrats and Republicans vote in the House and Senate, it should not be surprising that African-Americans shun the party that shuns them.

With only a couple of exceptions, the record of GOP lawmakers shows that they don’t want to merely turn back the clock on Black progress, they want to turn back the calendar.

This is from a column I wrote in 2008:

The NAACP has been issuing a Civil Rights Report Card since 1914. When it comes out, there are often efforts to discredit it, as though the NAACP doesn’t know what’s good for Black people. If you read the last report card for the complete session of Congress (the 109th), you might learn why Republicans have such a difficult time attracting African-Americans.

In the 109th Congress, 25 Democrats in the Senate received an A from the nation’s oldest civil rights organization, 15 earned a B, and two got Cs. None was graded D or F.

By contrast, no Republican senator earned an A or B. One, Lincoln Chafee of Rhode Island, earned a C, and another, Mike DeWine of Ohio, was given a D. The other 54 Republicans who served the full session earned Fs.

There was a similar pattern in the House, where 133 Democrats earned A’s, 41 got B’s, 15 received C’s, and 19 brought up the rear with D’s. Among Republicans, none earned as high as a C. Three received the highest grade of D and 211 got Fs.

At the end of this session of Congress, the Republican record will certainly be worse.

Any African-American supporting a party with such an anti-Black record must be, in Cain’s words, brainwashed.

The only reason Cain gets away with making such outlandish charges is because he is Black.

Pollster Cornell Belcher made that point on CNN’s Anderson Cooper 360. In a face-off with former George W. Bush Spokesman Ari Fleischer, he said: “You know, if I came on your show, Anderson, and I said, all Jewish people are brainwashed, I probably wouldn’t be invited back to CNN and I assure you the condemnation would be swift and it’d be powerful and be strong. What Herman Cain said was a racist, bigoted statement and [he] should be treated like a racist and bigoted person who makes those racist and bigoted statements.”

Instead of acknowledging that he can’t speak for all Blacks, Cain likes to frame criticism of him in racial terms.

In a speech in Pella, Iowa, Cain said he would not sign a bill longer than three pages. (He later claimed that he was exaggerating.)

Jon Stewart had fun with Cain’s ridiculous proposal, joking that if Cain were elected president, “Treaties will have to fit on the back of a cereal box.”

The State

Herman Cain
Continued on page 11.

Herman Cain is Brainwashed and Brain Dead

By Lynnesia Carson
Data Staff Writer

Rapper Lil’ Dee God and his crew, The Zone Gang, a socially conscious troupe, were at the center of a media firestorm after being arrested while shooting a robbery scene for their music video. Displeased with the media’s coverage of the incident, the West Bank rapper sat down with Data News Weekly to share his side of the story saying, “I felt like the news took me saying that I should’ve gotten a permit and I said, ‘The police went to a location and I said, ‘No, you need a permit to shoot inside a place where we already have permission to shoot, is like saying I need permission to shoot inside of my own house.’”

“That was his [store owner] business and I had permission to shoot inside of his business,” he continued. He said next time, they will probably get a permit, but he still feels as if they wouldn’t need a permit for this video shoot.

It all started when someone passed the convenience where the crew was shooting, thinking they were committing an actual robbery and notified authorities. Upon arriving, officers arrested the rapper along with seven others. They were charged with criminal mischief, while two of the men were also charged with illegal carrying of a concealed weapon. “We had real guns in the robbery scene, but they were registered, unloaded, and the people who owned the guns were there,” said Lil’ Dee.

He says The Zone Gang feels their arrests were unwarranted. “We explained what happened and had thirty minutes of film showing multiple shots of us coming in the store from different angles, but they [officers] still decided to bring us to jail,” he added. “They knew it was fake, but they still brought us to jail,” he continued.

According to Lil’ Dee, society’s slighted view of hip-hop artists played a role in how much attention the incident has gotten saying, “I feel like their [officers] attitudes changed when we saw it was a hip-hop video.” They don’t know us to know that we don’t rap about killing or drugs, I don’t even cuss in my music, but they don’t know that,” he continued. He says he feels as if officers automatically stereotyped them as typical gangster rappers once they saw the guns.

The story line of the music video at hand was about a basketball player who felt his dreams were taking too long to come into fruition, leading him to think of ways to make fast money. In a hypothetical dream sequence, the basketball player would team up with two other men, rob a convenience store, and ultimately get killed at the scene.

“We’re working overtime to make sure this video comes out so we can prove our point.” “Now, everyone can see what we were working on when we were arrested. It’s all positive,” he continued.

Now Lil’ Dee and The Zone Gang are taking the controversy in saying “everything was blown out of proportion.”

Lil’ Dee Detained During Video Shoot
13th Annual Armstrong Family Services Gala

Armstrong Family Services, (named after New Orleans native, Louis Armstrong), and a 501(c)3 non-profit since 1996 that assists homeless families, (especially those with adolescent boys) will hold its 13th Annual Gala and 2nd Annual “Sounds of Motown and More...” on Thursday, October 13, 2011 at LACE. The Grand Ballroom, located at 6978 Martin Drive in Kenilworth in New Orleans East. LACE, the Grand Ballroom, is located at the former Roje’s Ballroom site but has been exquisitely renovated in remarkable grandeur. It has been donated to Armstrong Family Services for its Gala by owner and longtime Armstrong Family Services supporter and friend, Ms. Lisa Crinel, a former Ms. Zulu. Ms. Crinel will serve as the only Gold Sponsor this year, along with other sponsors including the Jazz & Heritage Foundation, Capital One and The Friends of St. Augustine.

Blackshear-Smith and last but certainly not least, house band, Clark Knighten and 4 x 4. A few other special guest entertainers plan to stop by and make a contribution to the success of the evening.

Ms. Linda Lewis, the Executive Director, stated “This is the epitome of a “Party with a Purpose. This is an opportunity for donors to have a great time yet help AFS to raise funds to continue its services of assisting the many homeless families that knock at its door - a number that is growing daily.”

AFS provides such services for temporary and emergency housing, clothing, food, job referrals, case management...all the ingredients that help these families get back on their feet to become self-sustaining, hardworking families trying to stay together to work out their strife. It makes no sense to separate a family when times are hard. AFS is the only organization in the State that concentrates on assisting and keeping homeless families, especially those with adolescent boys (an at-risk population) together. Other organizations separate the males from the females. Ms. Lewis added, “We say no, let’s keep that family together. It works out better for all involved”.

AFS 13th Annual Gala and 2nd Annual Sounds of Motown and More... will be held Thursday, October 13, 2011 from 7 – 11pm at LACE. The Grand Ballroom located at 6978 Martin Drive. Tickets are $50 each, general tables -$500 and sponsorships start at $1,000. Be a part of the best evening in town. For information, please call (504) 821-6023 or 905-5937. We hope to see you there.

Letter to the Editor

The New Orleans Branch NAACP is very disappointed that our elected government officials have been cleared of any wrongdoing when they fired weapons to prevent innocent citizens from fleeing to safety to avoid the flood waters of Hurricane Katrina. The actions of those elected officials was not only a violation of Civil Rights but also a violation of the basic human right of self-survival. The actions of those officials is even more appalling when juxtaposed with the fact that residents of St. Bernard Parish were allowed access to the West Bank to flee the flood waters.

It is also extremely disappointing that the Mayor of the City of New Orleans and the Members of the New Orleans City Council have failed to effect a January 12, 2011, resolution passed by the New Orleans Branch NAACP mandating that the New Orleans City Council enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the government officials of the municipalities surrounding the City of New Orleans whereby said municipalities would guarantee safe passage to citizens of New Orleans through those municipalities in the case any other such disaster in the future. The failures of the Mayor and the City Council to take the requested action have doomed the citizens of New Orleans to the potential of once again experiencing death as the result of a future man-made or natural disaster.

Danatus N. King
President
New Orleans Branch NAACP
2475 Canal Street, Suite 308
New Orleans, Louisiana 70119

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First Annual City Reunion Music Festival Comes to New Orleans

By Edwin Buggage

New Orleans is a City with a heritage that centers on festivals. It is truly a City that celebrates life. Across the City there is a festival for almost anything under the sun, well add one more, “The City Reunion Festival.” Founded by Jerome Cosey and Anthony Bradford this event is a more than just a music festival but it is about bringing people together.

“We created this event because we felt it was important to bring a cross section of people together and help create a dialog and for people to build relationships and realize that we all have one common interest and that is to rebuild the city of New Orleans,” says the event co-founder Jerome Cosey.

The event was originally slated for Labor Day Weekend has been rescheduled to October 8th at the Sugar Mill located in the Warehouse District. With the theme being the “Heartbeat of Bourbon Street” it is an indoor/outdoor event. There will be awards honoring those who are making positive contributions to the community and there will also be live performances by local and national artist including R&B heartthrob Miguel, Soul Men Avant and Carl Thomas and Chante’ Moore and Oliva. But what would a New Orleans party be without the music of New Orleans. Some of the featured acts that will be blazing the stage, the brass band sounds of Rebirth and the Hot 8 and New Orleans newest music sensation Jive Recording Artist Kourtney Heart and R&B Singers Elliot Luv and Rantz and the sounds of DJ Captain Charles on the ones and two. The show will be hosted by the sexy and talented actress Meagan Good and New Orleans own “Hollywood.”

Also this “party with a purpose” marries music with civic responsibility. Awards will be presented to this year’s Honorees of The Crescent City Appreciation Award are Damon Batiste of New Orleans South African Connection After School Programs (NOSACONN), Radio Personality and Entrepreneur Wayne “Wild Wayne” Benjamin for his work with the Benjamin Foundation Black Love Kids Summer Program and Gerod Stevens, Program Director of WBOK 1230AM for his work in the community.

Cosey says of the talent and of the event, “I thought bringing a roster like this together for the inaugural event was a good mix of artist, but we hope to continue to grow the festival and it can become a staple just like Jazz Fest, French Quarter Fest or many of the other festivals because while yes we want people to have a good time, it is also about bringing diverse groups of people together in an effort to renew and rebuild hope for our City.”

Wayne “Wild Wayne” Benjamin is one of this year’s Honorees of The Crescent City Appreciation Award for his work with the Benjamin Foundation Black Love Kids Summer Program.

Hume Child Development Center Centennial Celebration

Hume Child Development Center is celebrating its Centennial this year. Honorary Centennial Co-Chairs Elise Dunn Cain, daughter of the founder, Lydia Sindos Adams and Marc H. Morial invite the community to join Hume at “Jazz, Sweets, Treats and Art.” The event will be held on Sunday October 16, 2011 from 4 to 7pm at the Anthony Bean Community Theater, 1333 S. Carrolton Avenue.

There will be sumptuous desserts and plentiful drinks. A silent auction of many intriguing items will also be held. Music will be provided by Dr. Robert Perry, Board Chair and grandson of the founder. Noted local artist Terrence Osborn has contributed an original piece which will be sold in a live auction. Guest MC is Norman Robinson, Anchor on WDSU-TV Channel 6.

Admission is $50.00 per person and reservations may be made by calling 504-822-7883 during business hours. Sponsorships are also available up to $1500. Contributions to Hume Center are tax deductible as allowed by law.

Hume Center is one of the oldest continually operating child care centers in New Orleans. It was founded in 1911 by Rev. Henderson H. Dunn as an outreach program of Central Congregational Church. Hume Center provides affordable, quality child care to children from 15 months to six years of age. Hume Center is a ministry of Central St. Matthew United Church of Christ. Hume is a United Way and Head Start partner agency.
By Kingfish

The Oakland Raiders’ Owner Al Davis made “just win baby” famous in the 70’s. The Raiders team won many games in that era in a way that at the time was very unconventional. This week’s win by the Saints over the Jacksonville Jaguars was just that. The ’09 Super bowl champs were a balanced attack between run and pass. This Sunday, the Saints played an under matched team with a rookie quarterback making his first start.

In this columnist’s opinion the Saints played a three-headed beast of a backfield in Maurice Jones-Drew, a running back. Yet the Saints have more weapons on offense than you can count on two hands. The Saints have a three-headed beast of a backfield in the running backs, but they are throwing the ball as if they are all on injured reserve. The Saints threw 44 times and ran 34 times.

The Saints gained by running the ball came from big runs by the greatest offensive acquisition Darren Sproles. Sproles ran 7 times for 75 yards. 17 runs for 55 yards by Ingram and 6 runs for 36 yards by Thomas split the rest of the yards. Brees should not have had to throw the ball 44 times for 377 yards with two interceptions. The interception came because he was forcing the pass and the defense knew it. I love a win like the next fan, but I also know this kind of play won’t get us to the Super Bowl. I can’t wait till Sean Payton features and the offensive line shows that they can be dominant. Ladies and Gents that’s how you win in the fourth quarter in the NFL.

I hope that I don’t have to say I told you so. I hope the Saints pull it together and get the runs in order. If not our defense will not be able to stop everyone in the fourth like they did last week with the Texans. The defense needs to be able to rest by the offense holding onto the ball, winning the time of possession i.e., the run game.

Next week the Carolina Panthers: They have a sick rookie quarterback in Cam Newton and a savvy vet at wide receiver in Steve Smith. Newton has thrown for over 400 yards in two of the four games played this year. It will be key for the Saints to establish the run and keep the ball out of their offense’s hands.

Until next week enjoy the win, it’s hard to sell, can you explain to the kids that running the ball can be the light. The Jaguars had one weapon like win I on the other hand, can say they sucked in the fourth quarter. Let the truth be the light. The Jaguars had one weapon on offense. Maurice Jones-Drew, a running back. Yet the Saints have more weapons than you can count on two hands. The Saints have a three-headed beast of a backfield in the running backs, but they are throwing the ball as if they are all on injured reserve. The Saints threw 44 times and ran 34 times.

A person may think that was close to a balanced attack. The truth is, it’s about when everybody knows you’re going to run. The truth is the majority of the 177 yards the Saints gained by running the ball came from big runs by the greatest offensive acquisition Darren Sproles. Sproles ran 7 times for 75 yards. 17 runs for 55 yards by Ingram and 6 runs for 36 yards by Thomas split the rest of the yards. Brees should not have had to throw the ball 44 times for 377 yards with two interceptions. The interception came because he was forcing the pass and the defense knew it. I love a win like the next fan, but I also know this kind of play won’t get us to the Super Bowl. I can’t wait till Sean Payton features and the offensive line shows that they can be dominant. Ladies and Gents that’s how you win in the fourth quarter in the NFL.

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Until next week enjoy the win, it’s hard to come by in the NFL 3 and 1 for the first quar ters of the NFL season...LET’S GEAUX!!!

Kingfish

Herman Cain / Continued from page 8.

of the Union Address will be delivered in the form of a fortune cookie.”

Speaking at the Iowa Falls Fire Department, Cain asserted that Stewart was criticizing him “because I’m Black.”

No, Cain was targeted because he makes ridiculously laughable comments.

Cain could have avoided the brainwashing controversy by asking Republican rival Mitt Romney about his father’s failed 1968 presidential campaign. George W. Romney, the former Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and ex-governor of Michigan, was considered a serious candidate for president until he gave a radio interview in 1967 in which he said, “When I came back from Viet Nam [in 1965], I’d just had the greatest brainwash ing that anybody can get.”

Instead of defeating Richard Nixon for the Republican nomination, Romney’s poll numbers tanked and he never recovered. I don’t know why Herman Cain never asked the younger Romney about his father’s failed campaign. Perhaps Cain had been already brainwashed by then.

George E. Curry, former Editor-in-Chief of Emerge magazine and the NNPA News Service, is a Keynote Speaker, Moderator, and Media Coach. He can be reached through his Web site, www.georgecurry.com. You can also follow him at www.twitter.com/currygeorge.
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