

Lighting The Road To The Future

New Orleans

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News Weekly

"The People's Paper"



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The Amen Corner

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New Orleans

Continuing a Rich History



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New Orleans Continuing a Rich History



Norman "Jelly Roll" Morton



Mahalia Jackson

Written and Edited by Edwin Buggage

New Orleans: A City and its History

New Orleans is a City with a rich cultural heritage. It is a unique place with a mix of people coming together throughout its history producing a gumbo of a place. One of the main ingredients that have given it its flavor that keeps people savoring the taste of the Crescent City is African-Americans. Who have throughout their sojourn in the City has

been an important part of the allure and magic that makes the City come alive? The world has come to know the City for its food and music, but in other areas New Orleans is just as important. Many who have set precedents and been on the frontlines of the struggle for Civil Rights, to inventors and innovators in so many fields of endeavor have called New Orleans home. Today nearly three centuries after its founding it continues to be the gateway to the world as a truly fascinating place that has the distinction as being the most international and African influenced City in the U.S. On this the beginning of Black History Month Data News Weekly

would like to pay tribute to a few of the many Black New Orleanians who have contributed, leaving their marks on the world. But this is only an entry point into encouraging you to explore the history and contributions of African-Americans to New Orleans.

Jelly Roll Morton: Jazz Pioneer

In the world of music New Orleans stands out as the mecca for the creation of what has been

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called America's classical music, Jazz. It is on the streets and neighborhoods of this mysterious mystical jewel that the sounds of instruments playing the notes and rhythms that would become Jazz. One of the first greats of this music is the great genius of the piano Jelly Roll Morton (1885-1941) whose early life growing up in New Orleans shaped who he would become as one of the true innovators of this new music that took the world by storm. He was a child prodigy that legend has it that at age 12 was making \$100 dollars a night playing in brothels in the Storyville District. As a teenager he also performed at the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair. And while Jazz Music was a new form not looked at in high esteem, it was Morton who was the first artist to publish a jazz arrangement in 1915 with his composition "Jelly Roll Blues." In his personal life Morton led a complicated and controversial life given the racial climate at the time of behaviors and attitudes that were supposed to be displayed by non-Whites he broke the rules and social mores of the time by being bold and brazen in how he chose to live life on his own terms. He was a proud man of extraordinary talent. His musical legacy is one that is forever etched into the history of the Crescent City.

Mahalia Jackson: Queen of Gospel Music

She is a woman who changed the face of Gospel Music and has been hailed the reigning queen of the genre. Mahalia Jackson (1911-1972) was born in New Orleans, Louisiana and was raised in a home filled with inspirational music. A gifted singer she sang in her father's church. With her amazing talent she soon became in demand and traveled across the country performing at churches and social events. After years of performing she finally received a big break with her 1946 hit "I Will Move On Up a Little Higher" selling 2 million copies. Jackson also performed at Carnegie Hall and traveled throughout Europe to wide acclaim with her gift of song. Her powerful contralto voice was in such high demand, so much so she sang at the Presidential Inaugurations of both Dwight D. Eisenhower and John F. Kennedy. But one of the things she is most know for is her soul stirring singing at the Historic 1963 March on Washington and the funeral of her

dear friend, Civil Rights Leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. When an assassin bullet cut down the man who dared to dream, Jackson inspired an audience to push on with a riveting rendition of Dr. King's favorite song, "Take My Hand Precious Lord." Mahalia Jackson is a woman who changed the world with her gift of song and continues to inspire the world with a voice that was part of the soundtrack of a movement that changed America.

Sidney Bechet: Internationally Renowned Ambassador of New Orleans Jazz

Sidney Bechet (1897-1959), the great Saxophonist and Clarinetist was born in New Orleans. Along with Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong was one of the innovators of Jazz Music developing the loose rhythmic style that set Jazz apart from ragtime called "swinging." Throughout most of his life as a musician he was acclaimed by other musicians, but did not receive acclaim from the public until later in life where he was hailed a genius throughout Europe. He was an innovator who worked with many performers including Louis Armstrong, Bessie Smith, Duke Ellington and Josephine Baker. He is one of the many great musical talents that throughout the history of the City have spread the gift of the music of the Crescent City for the world to enjoy. And one of the reasons musicians from New Orleans continue to be world renown is because of artist such as Sidney Bechet who spread the sound of New Orleans music.

A.P. Tureaud: Civil Rights Attorney

A.P. Tureaud, Alexander Pierre ("A.P.") Tureaud (1899-1972) was a key legal activist in an era of vigorous challenges to Jim Crow in Twentieth Century Louisiana. From the beginning of his legal career in New Orleans in the 1920s until his death in 1972, Tureaud directed the most substantive assaults on racial segregation in Louisiana's history. After leaving New Orleans and attending Howard University because he was not allowed to attend any law schools in Louisiana because of segregation he received a Law Degree then he returned



Sidney Bechet



A.P. Tureaud



Oretha Castle

Oretha Castle Haley: Activist and Humanitarian

Defying rigid socially proscribed southern gender and racial role constructions, Oretha Castle Haley (1939-1987) became one of Louisiana's leading Civil Rights, Women's Rights, and Human Rights Activists. She was a founding member, and then President, of the New Orleans Chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality

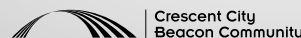
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Louisiana

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Louisiana Civil Rights Family Threatened By Hate Crime

Arson Occurred on Official Day of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Celebration

At approximately 3:00 A.M. on the day of the official holiday honoring the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King-Monday, January 16, 2012 – the daughter of Louisiana Civil Rights icon Robert Hicks heard a loud, frightening knock on the door of her family's home in Bogalusa. Barbara Hicks Collins ran to open the front door, only to see her car in flames. By noon of that day, fire marshals determined that in addition to Ms. Hicks Collins destroyed car, the burned roof of the Hicks' home had been an attempt to burn the house down. The Office of Chief Investigations of the Louisiana Fire Marshal, 1 Donald Carter, said early Tuesday January 17th that the fire was intentionally set, and is under investigation as a hate crime. The FBI is now involved in the investigation.

The fact that the 2012 fire which was intentional is best understood by knowing the legacy of Robert Hicks. Civil Rights lion, died in 2010 at 81. He played a pivotal role in Louisiana's Civil Rights Movement during the 1960's and beyond. His legal victories helped to topple segregation in Bogalusa (known as "Klantown, USA") and



The Hicks family's car. Photo courtesy of The Daily News.

change discriminatory practices throughout the South.

Robert Hicks is remembered for his role as a founder of the Bogalusa Chapter of Deacons for Defense and Justice, established to protect his family and unarmed civil rights demonstrators from the Ku Klux Klan. The following is an account from an April 2010's New York Times Obituary for Robert Hicks:

On February 1, 1965, Hicks received a call to say the KKK was coming to bomb the Hicks' home . . . The Klan was furious that Mr. Hicks, a Black paper mill worker,

was putting up two White civil rights workers in his home. It was just six months after that three young civil rights workers had been murdered in Philadelphia, Mississippi. Mr. Hicks and his wife, Valeria, made phone calls. They found neighbors to take in their children, and reached out to friends for protection (including Deacons from African American nearby churches). Soon, armed Black men materialized . . . (Weeks later), Mr. Hicks took the lead in forming a Bogalusa Chapter of the Deacons for Defense, recruiting many of the men who

had gone to his home to protect his family and guests . . .

Mr. Hicks' role in the Civil Rights Movement also included leading daily protests for months in Bogalusa to demand rights guaranteed by the 1964 Civil Rights Act. He filed suits that integrated schools and businesses, reformed hiring practices at the mill, and put the local police under a federal judge's control.

Decades later, on October 24, 2007, a fire destroyed the Hicks family home. There was no investigation of that fire, just a report stating that the fire was of "undetermined cause." The family rebuilt the home at the same location. Four years later, there is no question that this January 2012 fire was intentional and a hate crime.

The family of Mr. Hicks, including his wife of 62-years Valeria Hicks, daughter Barbara Hicks Collins, and son Charles (Chuck) Hicks are very active in keeping the legacy of Mr. Hicks alive. Valeria Hicks and Barbara Hicks Collins continue to live in the Bogalusa family home that was threatened by arson on Monday, January 16th.

In 2010, the Hicks family established a "Robert 'Bob' Hicks Foundation for Human and Civil Rights." Daughter Barbara Hicks Collins gives presentations throughout the region on the leg-

acy of her father, the Civil Rights Movement, and is continuing to document her father's history for this generation and generations to come. Son Charles (Chuck) Hicks is a prominent community and labor activist in his Washington, DC home. On August 28, 2010, 48 years after Dr. King's March on Washington, a street in Bogalusa was named after Robert 'Bob' Hicks.

The National Congress of Black Women (NCBW) has stepped up to bring national attention to what has occurred. NCBW's National Chair, Dr. E. Faye Williams says:

"Getting the word out across the nation is one of the best protections for the family since there is a strange silence thus far on the part of National Media about this hate crime. Additionally, we must contact the U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Thomas Perez, Assistant Attorney General, at 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20530, urging him to find the culprits and bring them to justice."

Activist Dick Gregory, who knows the Hicks family, says: "This attack on the Hicks Family is an attack upon the spirit of a community. It is an attack on all of us. We cannot stand idly by and allow these perpetrators of domestic terrorism to act without consequences."

Daughters of Charity Metairie Gets a Facelift

The Daughters of Charity Metairie Health Center has received a makeover. The renovation project boasts physical improvements to the health center's exam rooms, lab, pharmacy, and administrative spaces. A ribbon cutting took place on Thursday, January 26 at the health center, 111 N. Causeway.

"We are excited about the makeover," said Michael Griffin, President and CEO of Daughters of Charity Services of New Orleans. "These improvements en-

hance the patient experience and assist us in providing the highest quality care to all members of the communities we serve...including those who are insured, under-insured and uninsured."

In addition to the ribbon cutting, guided tours were provided during the celebration.

Daughters of Charity Services of New Orleans is a member of Ascension Health, the nation's largest Catholic and non-profit health care system. For more information, visit www.dcsno.org.



Unity in the Community

By Parnell Herbert

New Orleans is a City known for two very appealing qualities - its culture and its cuisine. Something some may have forgotten and others never knew; The Southern Christian Leadership Conference was founded here on February 14, 1957." New Orleans Historian Rev. Samson "Skip" Alexander was urged to become the first SCLC President. Rev. Alexander declined and nominated Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. who had recently gained national fame for leading a year-long boycott of segregated buses in Birmingham, Ala.

New Orleanians are beginning to recognize the strength of unity and organizing in our Community.

At a very well attended meeting January 30, 2012 participants again had the opportunity to thank Mayor Mitch Landrieu for bringing them together. Organizers reminded supporters that Landrieu's November 22, 2011 snub of NAACP President Danaus King and other Black organizers is the catalyst to this new city-wide movement.

Organizers introduced speakers who spoke on topics from stress to religion. The first speaker, a social worker suggests that stress is a large contributor to New Orleans increasing murder rate. He feels that the lack of control of stressors that affect our lives moves us to act out through displaced anger and lash out at persons weaker than ourselves.

Racism is a very influential factor as it manifests itself in three forms - internal, individual and institutional. We are governed by politicians with little or no accountability. New Orleans police officers stop young African-American males; command them to drop to their knees and hand cuff them. When officers decide to release these young men they remove the cuffs, allow them to stand and unceremoniously dismiss them. Chaos reigns in our school system because teachers have low expectations of the students and they fear the children they are hired to teach.

Another spoke of the sexual ha-

arrassment and abuse endured by women who live in public housing being witnessed by their children.

She spoke of how the crime rate skyrocketed after the destruction of much of the affordable housing

in the City forcing some to find ways to pay unaffordable housing rates.

Others deem economics as the greatest problem affecting our community and our dependence

Making a Difference by Paving a Way.



There are those who give back not just during the month of February, but every month. McDonald's Annual 365Black® Awards honors them. Those who, every day, continue to make a difference in the community. Because no matter how much they have achieved, they still find the time to give back. Read more about our honorees at 365BLACK.com.



Shoot Ya Best Shot!

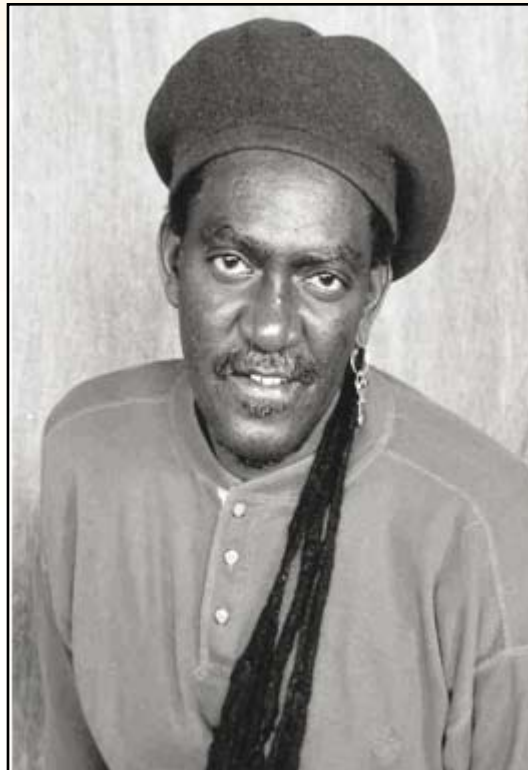
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ABCT Presents the Amen Corner



By Elise Schenck

The Anthony Bean Community Theater enters its 12th year bringing top quality plays to the stage. This season kicks off with the American Classic, 'The Amen Corner' by James Baldwin. A drama in three acts. It tells the story of a fire and brimstone Pastor of a Harlem Church who is haunted by her past. Directed by Anthony Bean. Scenic Designed by John Grimsley. Lighting Designed by Damany S. Comier and Costumes by Wanda (Ms. B) Bryant. Starring Venita Matthews, Donna King and Edward Buckles. "I am excited about bringing this great play to the stage for the people of New Orleans," says Anthony Bean.

James Baldwin—a novelist, playwright, poet, essayist and Civil Rights Activist—wrote "The Amen Corner" in 1954, but the play was not performed professionally until 1965 and not published until 1968. The play tells the story of Pastor Margaret Anderson, whose congregation admires her strength and

righteousness—especially given that her husband abandoned her and their young son many years ago. "This is a story with many twist and turns that will leave the audience captivated," says Bean. On the upcoming season he says, "We are grateful that the community continues to support ABCT and we will continue to bring quality productions to the stage, as well as continuing in giving young people the opportunity to be introduced to theatre." Performances are January 27-29, February 3-5 and February 10-12. Friday and Saturday at 8:00 pm, & Saturday and Sunday matinee at 3:00 pm. Special Note: On Sunday, February 5, there will be an 8:00 pm show ONLY! Tickets are \$20.00 for adults, \$18.00 for students and seniors, and are available by calling the Box Office at (504) 862-7529. (Box Office hours are Tuesday – Saturday, 6pm-8pm and two hours before performances.) You can also charge by phone or charge on line at www.anthonybeantheater.com

Shoot Ya Best Shot!

The NAACP Annual State Conference Meeting & Annual Awards Ceremony.

President Ernest Johnson addressed the meeting and Lamotte Cole spoke on the State School System past, present and future. The awards program and swearing in of officers:

Windy Calahan District GVP & President Jack-

son Parish Branch NAACP, Rev. Chipps Taylor, III, Religious Affair Chair- State Conference NAACP, Rodney Joiner, President, Lafayette Branch NAACP, Dr. Ernest Johnson, Gloria London, Rev. Justin Connors- President, Greater Concordia, Cathoula

NAACP, Attorney Alfreda Bester, Dr. Raphael Cassimere, Inez Cassimere, Membership Chair, New Orleans, George Mack, and Danatus N. King, Sr.

Photos By James Terry III and Scott Lewis



2012 Queen Zulu

Ms. Tanyanika Philips, M.D. is the 2012 Queen Zulu, and her arrival and secondline at the airport were a grand occasion. Of course, Data was there. Photos by Ray Bonnee for Bonnefied Images, LLC.



Governor Christie Distorts Civil Rights History



Marc Morial
President and CEO
National Urban League

No minority should have their rights subject to the passions and sentiments of the majority. This is the fundamental bedrock of what our nation stands for." Newark Mayor, Cory Booker

In recent weeks, outrageous statements targeted at minority citizens have come out of the mouths of a number of conserva-

tive politicians – everything from the assertion that African-Americans prefer food stamps over pay checks to the claim that “Black people” are using “other people’s money” to get ahead.

But last week, Governor Chris Christie of New Jersey may have topped them all when he declared, “People would have been happy to have a referendum on Civil Rights rather than fighting and dying in the streets in the South.” The Governor’s statement was made in the context of his proposal that the issue of same-sex marriage in New Jersey be settled by a voter referendum. But his words amounted to an insult to generations of men and women who put their lives on the line for equal rights. They also ignore the fact that the sole purpose of any Civil Rights struggle is

to gain rights for minority citizens that the majority has historically and consistently denied.

The nonsense of Christie’s statement was made all the more apparent by the fact that during the heyday of lynchings, poll taxes and “separate but equal schools”, any referendum on voting rights and Civil Rights for African-Americans would have excluded many of the very people seeking those rights. In fact it was only because the majority for centuries had first enslaved and then discriminated against African-Americans that it became necessary for people of conscience to organize in protest against such treatment. Christie should remember that in the 18th Century, it was not a referendum but a revolution that formed the United States of America. In the

19th Century, it was not a referendum, but a civil war that ended slavery and unified our nation. And in the 20th Century, it was not a referendum, but a series of non-violent Civil Rights struggles that defeated Jim Crow and secured voting rights for women, African-Americans and other disenfranchised minorities.

Sheila Oliver, New Jersey’s first African-American woman Assembly Speaker, correctly saw Christie’s proposal to submit same-sex marriage rights to the whims of voters as a shirking of responsibility. She said, “The major issues of our time such as women’s suffrage and Civil Rights were rightly decided legislatively. We are elected by the people of New Jersey to protect Civil Rights. We do not pass on such tough decisions.”

Oliver also took issue with Christie’s characterization of the Civil Rights struggle, adding, “Governor, people were fighting and dying in the streets of the South because the majority refused to grant minorities equal rights by any method. It took legislative action to bring justice to all Americans, just as legislative action is the right way to bring marriage equality to all New Jerseyans.”

It is almost unthinkable that a sitting governor would either be so uninformed, so callous to suggest that Civil Rights movements have not played a necessary and positive role in ensuring that the promise of freedom, equality and democracy is made real for every citizen. We think the Governor owes the people of New Jersey and all Americans a clear explanation.

Market for Disrespect



Julianne Malveaux
NNPA Columnist

Arizona Governor Jan Brewer has one hell of a nerve. In an image that has gone viral, she put her finger in President Obama’s face, apparently lecturing him about something or other, making her the pure picture of arrogant disrespect. Apparently, she has learned from the best of the marketers. Before her finger-wagging diatribe, her book *Scorpions for Breakfast* was ranked 285,568 on the Amazon list. By the time she finished promoting and defending her disrespect, with appearances on Fox News and other networks, the book rose from its lowly perch to be ranked at 21 by Thursday and at 15 by Sunday. And, you know, I almost bit by buying the

book myself, figuring that I ought to read about something I’m going to talk about. But Kindle lets you “sample” and the sample was not impressive. And Amazon lets you browse parts of the book. Also unimpressive. At the end of the day, I refuse to enrich a woman who lacks such basic disrespect that she has to finger wag and still does not have the good sense to apologize. Shame on her and shame on Arizona!

She is not the first, though, and she won’t be the last to disrespect President Obama and the First Family. Indeed, from the time President Obama was nominated the disrespect has been replete, and it has had a racial component that only an ostrich would deny. Brewer played the race card, with body language that screamed “boy”. Then she said President Obama was “disrespectful” when he walked away from her mid-conversation. She is lucky that President Obama has such amazing self-restraint. I can imagine quite a few folks, failing to relish the experience of a leader so undisciplined as to resort to finger wagging, who might have responded very differently than

President Obama did. Later, Governor Brewer said she felt “threatened” by President Obama. Give me a break! This is classic Birth of a Nation, with the fragile White woman so threatened by brutish Black man that she runs off a cliff. If anyone should have felt threatened by the conversation, it was President Obama, which is perhaps why he walked away. Look at the picture. Who looks contained, and who looks out of control? Brewer’s invocation of racial stereotypes sent her pathetic book rising to the charts, just like Limbaugh’s racial attacks on President Obama keep his ratings up.

The insults to the Obamas have been too numerous to detail, but I was appalled when Congressman James Sensenbrenner (R-WI) dared discuss the First Lady’s posterior, and even more appalled when legions of people did not rise and call him on it. Similarly, South Carolina Congressman Joe Wilson shouted “You Lie” when the President was speaking and went on to raise money in the wake of his disrespect. Kansas House Speaker Mike O’Neal, a Republican, circulated an email describ-

ing our First Lady Mrs. Yo-Mama, then clumsily apologized that he didn’t read the whole email. While most decent people consider children hands off – that was the case for Amy Carter and Chelsea Clinton – the Obama girls have also been the subjects of sickly racist jokes. The Obamas have been stoic in the face of crazy racism, but Brewer says our President is thin-skinned. He didn’t write a book replete with whining complaints about the response to her racist SB 1070 that not only attempted to close borders, but also charged law enforcement officials with stopping people who “look” like illegal residents of our country. If you can’t take the heat, Mrs. Brewer, then stay out of the legislation. And keep your finger out of people’s faces.

Rudeness, however, seems to be a marketing ploy these days, and disrespecting the President seems to be even a better ploy still for the Republicans who implicitly play the race card. And it does not cut both ways. When the Dixie Chicks were critical of President Bush, their sales plummeted and they were disinvited to a number of concert opportuni-

ties. Jan Brewer is disrespectful to President Bush, her book sales rise and she becomes a conservative heroine. She attempted to do what so many conservatives have also attempted to do – put President Obama in his place. But here’s the deal. He is in his place. His place is in the White House!

Write, call, email Arizona Governor Jan Brewer. If you make discretionary decisions on meeting places, consider what support of Arizona says to this disrespectful governor and the people she represents. Jan Brewer needs to know that while some people are grabbing up her book, others see through her as a disrespectful citizen who would stoop to finger-pointing theatres to take her mediocre book from the bottom of Amazon pile to the top. I can’t say it enough – shame on you Jan Brewer. You are very blessed and highly favored to have chosen to wag your finger at a man of restraint. Don’t try it anywhere else, because the next person might meet you toe-to-toe instead of choosing to walk away.

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

The 10 Worst Moments of Disrespect Towards President Obama

By Lauren Victoria Burke,
Politic365

It starts with the Superiority Syndrome: People acting as if they're more important than a U.S. President — when they clearly are not. To fingers in the face. To people questioning his already established and proven citizenship.

The incidents of disrespect towards President Obama continue.

When people criticize Administration policy, that's just politics. But several incidents directed at this President appear to find new lows. Of course, people can disagree with the President. But, why can't people respect the Office of the Presidency?

The very public nature of disrespect towards President Obama is noteworthy. Did Gov. Jan Brewer (R-AZ) have to conduct business with the President in front of reporters?

Wasn't there a better time and place? Would a visiting leader from a foreign country be greeted with a finger in his face by a Governor? If not, why would it happen to the leader of our own country? Could a hockey goalie have executed a quiet no-show for a White House invitation honoring his team? See Facebook for the answer on that one.

It wasn't the end of the world when Speaker John Boehner refused the President's date to speak to a joint session on jobs in September 2011. And yes, the White House picked that date to steal attention from a GOP debate. But like so many moments of disrespect towards the 44th President: No one can find another example in American History where a U.S. President requested a date to address Congress and was refused. Can anyone find another incident like the Brewer one? That the list below can even be compiled is telling.

1. The birther fiasco (2009-2011). No evidence. No proof. No documentation. But the story traveled on for years. Yes, Hawaii is part of the United States of America.

2. "You lie" (Sept. 2009). That any individual — no less a member of Congress watching a U.S. President during a joint session on live national television — is so lacking in self-control that this



Barack Obama, Jan Brewer Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer points during an intense conversation with President Barack Obama after he arrived at Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport, Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2012, in Mesa, Ariz. Asked moments later what the conversation was about, Brewer, a Republican, said: "He was a little disturbed about my book." Brewer recently published a book, "Scorpions for Breakfast," something of a memoir of her years growing up and defends her signing of Arizona's controversial law cracking down on illegal immigrants, which Obama opposes. Obama was objecting to Brewer's description of a meeting he and Brewer had at the White House, where she described Obama as lecturing her. (AP Photo/Haraz N. Ghanbari) Haraz N. Ghanbari / The Associated Press

moment was made possible is incredible — even in an age of incivility. Remember this happened only nine months into Obama's Presidency and is another "we can't remember that ever happening ever before" moment. Close your eyes and pretend Rep. Maxine Waters was Wilson doing this to President Bush and image the reaction.

3. Signs of the Tea Party (July 2010) and Naked Racism (April 2011). Anyone remember California GOP official Marilyn Davenport's racist e-mail? Did she ever resign for that? I remember all the criticism of the NAACP — particularly from Black Republicans — for their "Tea Party resolution" of 2010. Where was that indignation regarding what can be viewed in the video?

4. Donald "unchecked ego" Trump inflames birther fiasco, media assists (April 2011). The mouth of Donald Trump is a powerful thing when joined with a 24-hour cable news cycle des-

perate for viewers. That news organizations invited Trump on the air unchallenged with zero proof of what he was saying speaks volumes on the state of journalism. That Trump was completely comfortable demanding that a U.S. President "show him his papers" displays a superiority complex that exists among those who can't accept someone they view as "lesser" in a position of power over them.

4. (tie) Deadbeat dad and probable one-termer thinks his presence before the President actually matters and needs to tell everyone (Sept 2011). The disrespect isn't that probable one-term Congressman Joe Walsh (R-IL) wouldn't attend the President's Sept. 8th speech. The disrespect is that Rep. Walsh actually believed that everyone knowing he wasn't attending was important. That he needed to announce he would not attend on national television, as if anyone cared, was yet another delusional superiority episode.

That proudly showing public disrespect towards the President is a winning strategy in some political circles reveals a lot.

5. Newt Gingrich's "Kenyan anti-colonial behavior" comment (Sept 2010). Even Washington Post columnist and conservative thinker George Will slammed this attempt to define the President as "foreign." Never mind the facts: President Obama wasn't reared by his father in Kenya with whom he spent only a month of his 50 years on this earth. The strategy to define the President as a "foreign" or "alien" being was started by Sarah Palin in 2008.

6. One of the underlying premises of disrespect towards the President is that he can be ordered around and dictated to like he's Tipi the laundry boy. The presumption that a U.S. President can be ordered around is a new phenomenon that appears to have gotten underway around January 2009. From big mouth Congressmen to millionaires with nothing

to do, you name it — they all inherently believe they can order President Obama around. At least Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is an actual leader of something. Regardless, read this and ask yourself if you think this would have happened to Presidents Bush, Reagan or Clinton.

7. Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer puts her finger in the President's face (January 2012). The photo speaks for itself. Of course there are strong political disagreements between President Obama and Gov. Brewer. But is it just possible there was a better time and place for this conversation? Brewer said she felt "a little threatened" by President Obama. Please.

8. GOP House prompted by Tea Party — refuses to raise debt ceiling (Aug 2011). Sounds like this was just hardball politics right? Let's review the facts: The debt ceiling had been raised 69 times since 1962 without incident. Seven times during Bush II and 18 times during Reagan. Suddenly, with President Obama, a shiny new precedent is set with regard to raising the debt ceiling. Another never before seen incident is born.

9. Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) Publicly Announces His Top Political Priority (Dec 2010). McConnell wants the President out of office? No news there, but, wait, there's more to it. "Our top political priority over the next two years should be to deny President Obama a second term," Sen. McConnell told the Heritage Foundation. Of course the Senate Republican Leader doesn't want the President to be re-elected. But what's with the public announcement? In July 2010 McConnell acknowledged his single most important political goal: President Obama being a one-term President. Again: In public and on national television.

10. Speaker Boehner refuses speech date request (September 2011). No it is not the end of the world. Of course, the White House intentionally wanted to step on a GOP debate that same night. But, this is yet another first in American History. Once again, no one can find another instance where a President of the United States requested a date to address Congress and was refused.

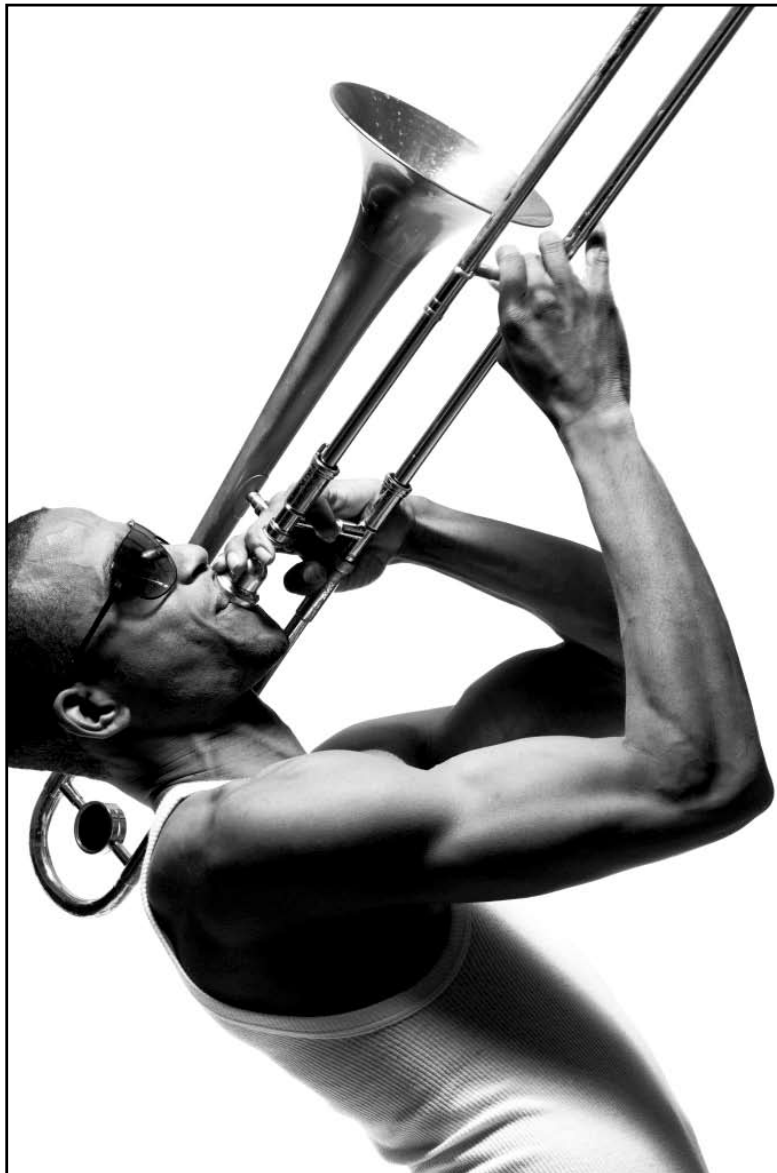
"Trombone Shorty" Visits Warren Easton High School

Andrews presented Warren Easton's music program with specially designed, professional-musician level trumpets and trombones as part of his newly-created "Horns For Schools" Project.

Troy "Trombone Shorty" Andrews, who was accompanied by Mayor Landrieu, visited with students, faculty, staff and administration at Warren Easton Charter High School as a surprise during the school's Honor Roll Pep Rally to speak with the students about the importance of the arts in education and staying in school. The visit was another in a series of school appearances by Mayor Landrieu and Andrews over the past two years where they continue to share the same message with young people across the City. Andrews attended Warren Easton and was a member of the Class of 2004.

At the visit, Andrews presented Warren Easton's music program with specially designed, professional-musician level trumpets and trombones as part of his newly-created "Horns For Schools" Project. The instruments were specially created to Andrews' specifications.

"Joining Troy on these visits has been an extraordinary experience, as he inspires young people



to achieve despite whatever challenges they face," said Mayor Landrieu. "Troy shares his message that through dedication – whether its music, sports, or another avenue – you can choose the right path. Seeing these young, budding musicians' faces light up today at the thought of being able to play one of these instruments is a gift in itself."

"I've seen in my life how much it can help someone to get involved in music and I also know how much it can help to have a good instrument to play," said Andrews. "To be in the position where I can help some young kids get good instruments is an honor and a mission, and I'm going to keep doing all I can to help. And it is a particular honor to do so at my own high school."

"We truly appreciate Trombone Shorty's generous gift and support of the Music Education Program at Warren Easton," said Alexina Medley, Principal of Warren Easton Charter High School. "He is an important part of the Warren Easton family and his efforts underscore the role that music can have in students' lives, furthering their involvement in New Orleans' musical tradition and magnitude, and empowering students to succeed in college and

in life. Our kids are thrilled with the opportunity to perform with instruments bearing Trombone Shorty's name."

Also joining the Mayor and Andrews was a member of the "Rebirth Brass Band" and Mike Corrigan, a.k.a. "The Horn Doctor." The Master Craftsman and Master Repairman, who has traveled from his primary business location in Kansas to New Orleans to repair brass and woodwind instruments at no cost to musicians since Katrina, created the special line of horns at Andrews' request. The trombones feature a gold brass hand spun bell, a nickel silver hand slide and a brush-lacquered finish. The trumpets feature a yellow brass hand spun bell. All instruments are deluxe-hand engraved to Andrews specifications, and are packaged in deluxe fiberglass cases. The instruments will be a part of the B.A.C. Artist Series and will be known as the "Trombone Shorty Model."

Earlier this school year, Andrews and the Mayor presented a set of the same instruments to KIPP McDonogh 15 Middle School. Andrews plans on continuing this mission into the future with schools throughout New Orleans.

Cover Story/ Continued from page 3.

(CORE), one of the most active organizations in the Civil Rights Movement. Later in her career, Haley advocated better health care for New Orleans Black citizens and helped found the New Orleans Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation. She began working with the local Civil Rights Movement that year, picketing with the Consumer's League of Greater New Orleans, which demanded the increased hiring of Black salespeople and equal access to the stores for Black customers. In the summer of 1960, she worked with members of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People's Youth Council, and co-founded the CORE Chapter in New Orleans. Haley served as CORE President from 1961 to 1964, an unusual position for



Ernest "Dutch" Morial

a Black woman in a major Civil Rights Organization. In 1960, police arrested Haley, along with three male activists, for picketing and sitting-in, as well as distributing leaflets calling for a boycott

of Woolworths. The four were charged with advocating opposition to the State of Louisiana and conspiracy to commit criminal anarchy. The case, *Lombard, et al v. Louisiana*, was hailed as one

of the most important U.S. Supreme Court cases of the Civil Rights Movement. Justice Earl Warren overturned an earlier state conviction, arguing that it violated the 14th Amendment and was, essentially, an attempt to "quash the sit-ins." In 1970, as a leader in the Black Organization for Leadership Development, she successfully led a campaign to stop construction of a bridge that would have displaced 3,500 people, 90 percent of whom were Black. In 1971, Dorothy Mae Taylor, Louisiana's first Black Female Legislator chose Oretha to head her successful election campaign. Throughout the 1980s, Oretha served as a Deputy Administrator at Charity Hospital, where she worked to institute reforms that created better health care

for Black New Orleans citizens. In addition, she helped found the New Orleans Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation.

Ernest "Dutch" Morial: New Orleans First African-American Mayor

Ernest "Dutch" Morial (1929-1989) was an Attorney and Politician who was active in the Civil Rights Movement in New Orleans beginning in the 1960s. His political career was marked by a number of firsts for an Afri-

Cover Story,
Continued on page 11.

St. Peter Claver School Dedication and Celebration

St. Peter Claver Catholic School, established in 1920 by St. Katherine Drexel, Foundress of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, and currently under the leadership of The Society of St. Edmund, has completed two and half years of new construction

and renovations. The new construction will house administrative offices, Library, PreK3 - 1st grade; Old Academy building received a complete renovation and will house 2nd - 8 grades, Catapult (Title 1), Science Lab, Computer Lab, Cafeteria, Stage

and Resource Room and the former Kindergarten Building will be used for Art, Physical Education and Music.

On Friday, February 3, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. Archbishop Gregory Aymond will celebrate Mass and immediately follow-

ing will bless the school buildings, as well as three marble sculptures of St. Peter Claver, St. Katherine Drexel, and Henriette Delille. On Saturday, February 4, 2012, there will be Open House from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. On Sunday, February 5, 2012,

following the 9:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Masses until 3:00 p.m., there will be a celebration for Catholic Schools Week. All alumni and friends are invited to come and celebrate.

Cover Story/ Continued from previous page.

can-American, including being the first since Reconstruction elected to the Louisiana State Legislature and the first to serve on the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals. He was also the first African-American Mayor of the City of New Orleans. Ernest Nathan "Dutch" Morial, the youngest of the six children of Leonie V. and Walter Etienne Morial, was born in New Orleans, Louisiana on October 9, 1929. After his early education, Morial received a BS in Business Administration from Xavier University in 1951. In 1954, Morial became the first African-American graduate from Louisiana State University Law School. Morial's mentor was A.P. Tureaud, a leading Civil Rights Attorney and key figure in Black New Orleans since the 1930s. As President of the New Orleans Chapter of the NAACP from 1962 to 1965, Morial was at the forefront of Black protest and the dismantling of Jim Crow. He became an attorney with the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, serving on the national level. Morial participated in the Dryades Street Boycott and fought for the desegregation of buses and streetcars and the integration of Louisiana State University of New Orleans (LSUNO). Morial also filed suits for African-Americans to use the Municipal Auditorium and for the wider desegregation of public schools in New Orleans. In 1967, Morial was elected to the Louisiana State Legislature as Representative for District 80 (Wards 1 and 2), becoming the first African-American elected to that body since Reconstruction.

Other similar accomplishments of Morial include becoming the first Assistant African-American U.S. Attorney in New Orleans, the first African-American to serve as Juvenile Court Judge, and the first African-American on the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals. In 1977, Morial announced his candidacy for Mayor of the City of New Orleans, suing the State Judicial Commission for the right to campaign while remaining a judge. Ultimately, Morial won the general election over Joseph DiRosa by over six thousand votes, becoming the first African-American Mayor of New Orleans. He gained national attention in his first term as Mayor for standing up to police and sanitation workers - leading to a city-wide strike resulting in the cancellation of Mardi Gras in 1979. Morial served two terms opening up the doors of City Hall to African-Americans giving them access to city contracts, equal opportunities and having a voice in politics in the City.

New Orleans: A History Still Being Written - These profiles are only a few of the many people from the great City of New Orleans who have contributed to the City and the world. But there are so many unsung heroes and sheroes that are contained within the story that is the History of New Orleans. And Data News Weekly is a publication that continues to chronicle the living history within its pages and we encourage our readers to not only look at African-American History in the month of February but every day of the year.

Unity/ Continued from page 5.

on White New Orleans to give us the opportunity to earn a decent living. Billions of dollars have come through and continue to come into our City but contracts and jobs are allotted to out of town companies and employees. We must demand the hiring of at least 51% of New Orleanians on jobs funded with government dollars.

S&WB is requesting an increase in its billing. Federal funds have been released to this City to make the repairs that this increase is slated to cover but many of those federal dollars were used elsewhere in areas of the City that suffered little or no damage in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Easy money comes quickly in the street game. For some

it holds no greater value than play money as they gamble, give and throw it away. Other young people feel inclined to support their families when parents are terminated from their jobs. As some City officials claim to want to "Save Our Sons" we can offer a few suggestions. Stop firing their parents, pay livable wages to those you employ, and stop trying to reverse the gains of Affirmative Action by attempting to disregard civil service policies and procedures.

United Teachers of New Orleans hosted this meeting facilitated by the United New Orleans Front. Black people in New Orleans are going back to the basics, organize and unite. Unity in the Community is the call for today.



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