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New Orleans

# Data

## News Weekly

"The People's Paper"

Data Zone Page 6



### Backbeat Festival Lineup

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# Candidates Face Off for City Council



Stacy Head



Cynthia Willard-Lewis

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# Data News Talks to Candidates in City Council-at-Large Race

By Edwin Buggage

On April 21st the citizens of the Crescent City will again return to the polls to vote for the candidate they feel would be best suited to occupy the seat as City Councilperson-at-Large. The two frontrunners in the primary, Stacy Head and Cynthia Willard-Lewis will face off to see who the voters will elect. Data News Weekly spoke with both candidates on a host of issues. We hope that this will help you make an informed decision when going to cast your ballot, and we encourage you to go out and vote.

## Stacy Head

On the heels of a placing first in the primary with 43 percent of the vote Stacy Head is energized when talking about her platform and possibility for a victory on Election Day, "I thank the people of the City for their votes and support and I look to increase my support in the run-off and be victorious on April 21st." Head presently sits on the New Orleans City Council representing District B, she says that representing a racially and socioeconomically diverse district has prepared her for the at-large seat, "I have been fortunate to represent a district where so many different types of people have come together to rebuild and I would like to replicate our successes citywide," says Head.

Head moves into the race on the 21st confident that she can increase her number of voters that would get her over the threshold to victory, "When I look at the race and my opponent, I feel that the other candidates who were in the race their philosophies line up more so than with my opponent and I

see their votes coming my way on election day." Adding she says since being elected to the council she has a record of getting things done.

Pointing to the successes of Central City she says and how it has had a positive impact on the City she says, "We have seen home ownership numbers rise in this community and this is important to building sustainable communities and also have seen an increase in high quality rental properties at every level from affordable units to market rate, before Katrina some of our most vulnerable citizens were preyed upon by slumlords, today we are getting closer to creating more adequate housing for all the citizens of our district." Continuing she says, "Housing was one of the key or the lack of it was one of the key issues post- Katrina and we have done something about that, getting people back home so I am proud of that," remarks Head on the improvements in Central City. Speaking of her record of helping to create a more business friendly environment she says, "I believe we should work harder at creating a healthy environment for business and economic development, and within District B we have been able to do that in many areas in our district for businesses both large and small."

As the City continues to experience problems with crime and violence Head feels that reducing crime is key and also providing quality education for all children of the City are important factors to reducing crime, "The problems with crime in our City is something that we have to get under control, I think looking at every aspect of law enforcement and making them all work together more efficiently are important in keeping our streets safe." On education she says, "Also if we are to reduce crime we



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have to work harder to provide quality education for our young people and give them an opportunity to look at other options before choosing a life a crime.”

## Cynthia Willard Lewis

Cynthia Willard-Lewis has been involved in electoral politics at the state and local level for over

two decades. She is making her third bid at the City Council-at-Large seat. After finishing second in the primary with 34 percent of the vote, Willard-Lewis feels she is the best candidate to represent the people of New Orleans, “At this crucial time for the City it is important to have a seasoned, dedicated, committed leader with a proven record of success of working with the many different people of our great City and I feel I am the most qualified candidate,” says Willard-Lewis. Continuing she says, “We need someone who respects all the people of the City, and are able to work in a civil way with their colleagues and be able to bring people together on one accord and realize that regardless of our differences we all want a better City.”

Pointing to her many years of service particularly those during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, “While still on the council I worked to make sure that

27 of Mayor Mitch Landrieu top 100 projects that would impact our community the most would be funded,” continuing she says of her work in District E, “We suffered the most damage during Hurricane Katrina and while there are still problems that exist in the district we have seen so much progress, but this must continue and we must have someone on the council who is sensitive to their needs as well as all the people of the City.”

Crime and its prevention is one of the primary focuses of her platform, “We must have more effective policing and build trust between the citizens and law enforcement so when crimes do occur that people will work with the police to help put our most dangerous people behind bars,” says Willard Lewis. Continuing she says, “But simply putting people in jail is not by itself the answer, we cannot arrest our way out of the problem, we must be proactive in

doing other things to save our young people by creating other avenues for employment, training and focus on educating them, because if they were more educated then this would open more doors of opportunities for young people and give them hope that they will have a better life.”

Willard-Lewis is an advocate of good government and believes transparency and inclusion of local businesses involvement in contracting with the City is important moving forward, “Upon being elected I would call for an immediate audit of all businesses that are the beneficiaries of participating in contracting and access whether or not there are local companies or Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE’s,) because I feel it is important that we should help to build our business infrastructure and give these companies a hand up in helping them grow their businesses.”



Cynthia Willard-Lewis has been involved in electoral politics at the state and local level for over two decades.

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## XU's Jamaan Kenner receives \$2,000 Pattison Family Scholarship

Xavier University of Louisiana's Jamaan Kenner is one of five NAIA Men's Basketball Student-Athletes to receive a \$2,000 Pattison Champions of Character Scholarship for the 2011-12 season.

Kenner — 6-foot-4 senior guard from LaPlace, LA, and a graduate of East St. John High School — also was named a Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athlete for the second consecutive season.

Each of the 32 teams that qualified for the Buffalo Funds-NAIA Division I National Championship nominated a player who best represents the five core values of the Champions of Character program: respect, responsibility, integrity, servant leadership and sportsmanship. Those student-athletes then were automatically considered



Jamaan Kenner

for the Pattison Scholarship.

The other scholarship recipients are Jake Greene of LSU-Shreveport, Maurice Rutherford of Rogers State, Brice Sharp of Lee (Tenn.) and Mico Sjekloca of Life.

This is the eighth-year that

longtime NAIA supporters Dr. Phil and Mary Pattison have awarded these scholarships. Xavier's Michael Varnado was a scholarship recipient in the 2004-05 season.

Minimum qualifications for Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athlete are junior academic status and a cumulative 3.5 grade-point average.

Kenner is a Biology/Pre-Medical major with a 3.62 GPA and will graduate from Xavier on May 12th. He has been accepted into the School of Medicine of LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport and MeHarry Medical College of Nashville, Tenn.

Kenner, a four-year letterman, averaged 5.7 points and 2.3 rebounds in 30 games and made 37-of-98 3-pointers this past season. The Gold Rush finished 23-9, earned a share of the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference regular-season championship and were 24th in the NAIA post-season coaches' poll.

## UNO Jazz Studies Program Hosts Monday Night Jazz Sessions at the Cove

The UNO Jazz Studies Program will be presenting "Monday Night Jazz Sessions" at the Sandbar in the Cove in April. The performances will feature some of the best UNO Student-Lead Ensembles performing a set of their original songs and arrangements, followed by an open jam session. The series starts Monday, April 9th at 7 p.m. and is free and open to the public. Here's the schedule to date:

### April, 9th

Barry Stephenson's Pocket: Barry Stephenson (bass), Allen

Dejean (sax), Jeronne Ansari (sax), Josh Starkman (guitar), Jordan Baker (piano), and Jamison Ross (drums).

### April 16th

Oliver Bonie Quartet: Oliver Bonie (sax), Leo Rayon (sax), Jasen Weaver (bass), and Jamison Ross (drums)

### April 30th

Jasen Weaver and the Session: Jasen Weaver (bass), Stephen Lands (trumpet), James Partridge (sax), Andrew McGowan (piano), and Darrian Douglas (drums)

## AARP Soul Steppers Hosts Free Walking Clinic at Dillard University Family Sports Festival on April 21st

AARP will sponsor its Second Annual Walking Clinic at Dillard's Family Health and Sports Festival on Saturday, April 21,

10 a.m. - 11:30. Walkers should meet in front of the Professional Schools Bldg. (St. Anthony Ave. entrance).

The AARP Soul Steppers Walking Clinic will be directed by a professional fitness trainer. The Clinic will be divided into three levels: beginner, intermediate and advanced making it helpful for all walkers. Each level of the clinic has a focus: beginners focus on form, intermediate focuses on strength and advanced focuses on time management. The clinic offers different tips for the different levels. Each participant will receive an AARP pedometer and a water bottle.



After the clinic, walkers will meet at the walking trail located on Gentilly Blvd. and St. Anthony Ave. directly across from Dillard University to test their skills. In addition to the Clinic the Dillard's Family Health and Sports Festival will have fun activities for all ages, including sports clinics and free health screenings.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information about the Soul Steppers Walking Clinic call Dana Weisenfeld at 504-827-8649.

To start a walking club in your neighborhood or at church call Linedda McIver, AARP, 504-827-2958, lmciver@aarp.org

## Congressman Cedric Richmond Endorses Cynthia Willard Lewis for Council-At-Large

Congressman Cedric Richmond announced his support for Cynthia Willard-Lewis in the April 21st run-off election for City Council-At-Large.

Richmond said: "I have watched the Council-at-Large race with great interest in how it will affect the future of our City and the region. While my original inclination was to remain neutral, after extensive discussions with many religious, business and community leaders I am convinced that neutrality is not an option in this run-off election. This election is bigger than any one candidate and bigger than any one person. I have carefully considered the relative strengths and weaknesses of both the remaining candidates,



Congressman Cedric Richmond - D, LA

and I firmly believe that the election of Cynthia Willard-Lewis offers the best hope for the future of this City. She will bring a diverse background and perspective that is greatly needed in the at-Large position if we intend to move the City forward with a model of inclusiveness. Cynthia has made a

public commitment to open the doors of economic opportunity to African-American and other minority businesses. This is critically important to solving the crime problem in this City."

"I am deeply honored to receive the Congressman's endorsement," said Willard-Lewis. "I will work hard each day to show him and the many other leaders who are supporting me for this important position of trust that I have heard their concerns and will return to the City Council with a much broader and clearer vision to get the job done!"

In addition to Congressman Richmond, the Willard-Lewis campaign has also received endorsements from Orleans Parish Sheriff Marlin Gusman and from New Orleans Assessor Errol Williams.

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# Xavier University Spotlights Achievements in Student Research

*9th Annual Festival of Scholars showcases research projects*

Xavier University of Louisiana students know that in today's competitive environment, participating in undergraduate research can improve their chances of landing the right job or being ac-

cepted into their preferred graduate or professional school. Those student scholars will share their research efforts with the public April 12-13th when the XU Center for Undergraduate Research (CUR) hosts its 9th Annual Festival of Scholars from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the University Center (2nd floor lobby). The event is free and open to the public.



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The Festival of Scholars spotlights achievements in student research. Projects come from every discipline on campus. More than 100 students will present the work they have been engaged in during the past year through poster sessions, panel discussions, exhibitions and class forums. Nearly 40 faculty members serve as mentors to the students.

This year, the conference continues its tradition of including presentations in the STEM disciplines (science, technology, engineering, and math), the social sciences and the humanities. Some of the scheduled presentations for this year include the effects of social network usage on communication skills, a study of follicle

cell processes in dogfish sharks, and discussions about Twentieth-Century Women Writers. At least two presentations that focus on post-Katrina New Orleans are on the program. One will discuss

re-population of historic Treme' while another will examine school reform throughout the City. There are also topics about Xavier University including its first St. Joseph's Day Altar and a study on the interethnic communication between African-American and Vietnamese American students enrolled at the HBCU.

"Undergraduate research has become a right of passage for students headed to graduate school," said CUR Director Dr. Gary Donaldson. "Not only does it give them the proper background they need to hit the ground running when they begin their graduate experience, but university recruiters are focusing more and more on students who have research experience as potential candidates."

Each semester CUR offers grant opportunities for students to pursue their research interests. Many students gain invaluable experience in applying for grants to secure funding, conducting research projects, and presenting their work to the academic community and the general public.

This year, panel discussions

include topics on suicide, self-esteem in athletes, racial identity, teen pregnancy, interethnic communication, long distance relationships and more. Among the poster presentations, research

ranges from school reform in New Orleans and advanced health and science research to psychology research.

The festival has grown in the past nine years. It now includes

special sessions highlighting performance-based research, and there are staged presentations adapted from research projects presented to live audiences.



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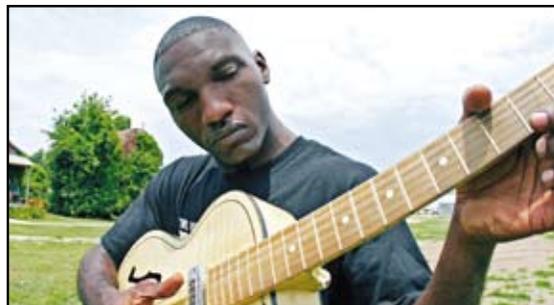
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Many of you have followed us from our humble beginnings and inaugural series on Gravier St., to the legendary Café Brazil, the veritable 3 ring circus at Colton and the mysterious Temple. In 2012 the Backbeat Jazzfest Series will once again traverse the town with shows at The Temple, Tipitina's French Quarter, Blue Nile, 12 Bar and the new Café Istanbul. The line-up will take you on a musical globetrot always returning to the roots of New Orleans. Backbeat strives to create not just concerts but happenings, encouraging new collaborations on stage and helping to create unique experiences for our supporters and the musicians alike.

The 2012 initial line-up includes: Carolina Chocolate Drops, Soulive; George Porter Jr. & Runnin' Partners; Big Sam's Funky Nation; Tab Benoit; Ivan Neville's Piano Sessions Vol. 2; MASHUP: feat. Ike Stubblefield. Terence Higgins and Grant Green Jr.; Dirty Dozen Brass Band; Cyril Neville's: Nevillumination; Honey Is Theresa Anderson; Dr. Klaw: feat. Eric Krasno, Adam Deitch, Nick Daniels and Ian Neville; Pedrito Martinez Group; Funky Butt Revisited; Debo Band; Slavic Soul Party!; Stooges Brass Band; Khri Royal & Dark Matter; Flow Tribe; Mia Borders and many more.

Tickets: Tickets for all shows are available online at [www.backbeatfoundation.org](http://www.backbeatfoundation.org)

The Backbeat Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt Louisiana non-profit corporation established in September 2005 in New Orleans to address the critical needs facing the local artist community in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Since its initial formation as a Disaster Relief Organization, the Foundation has become a long-term partner and resource to local artists through art presenting and supporting activities. The mission of the Backbeat Foundation is to foster support of the rich New Orleans cultural heritage through the presentation of innovative arts and music programming and community based events and projects. For more information, please visit [www.backbeatfoundation.org](http://www.backbeatfoundation.org).



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**We thank you for your participation.**

# 50,000 Bones In Congo Square

Photos by Kichea S. Burt

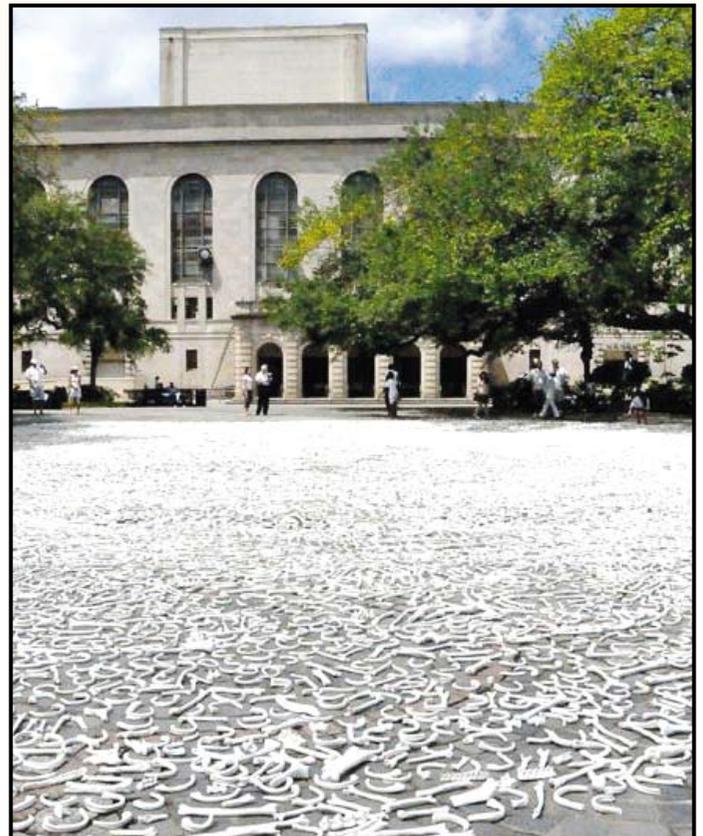
On Saturday, April 7, 2012, a 50,000 Bone Installation Art Project happened at Congo Square, with 200 or so volunteers from the New Orleans area. The 50,000 ceramic bones in New Orleans were made by students, activist and volunteers. This is part of the One Million Bone Practice growing out

of Albuquerque New Mexico with the goal of laying 1,000,000 art bones on the lawn of the National Mall. The objective is to raise awareness of genocides and atrocities going on around the world.

Each bone represents \$1 donated to on the ground relief for the survivors of genocide in So-

malia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo up to \$500,000. These funds are generously donated by the Bezos Family Foundation. New Orleans participants raised \$50,000.

Find more info and how to get involved at <http://www.onemillionbones.org/>



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# Trayvon Martin was Standing His Ground



George C. Curry  
NNPA

Most people are asking whether Florida's 'Stand Your Ground' Law should apply to George Zimmerman, the 28-year-old neighborhood watch captain who killed an unarmed Trayvon Martin. That's the wrong question. A better one is, given the circumstances, did the law protect Trayvon when he physically confronted Zimmerman?

In a word, yes.

Looking at the 2005 law from a different perspective – through the eyes of 17-year-old Trayvon instead of Zimmerman – is critical because the debate over what happened on Feb. 26th in Sanford, FL is being misframed.

Some facts are undisputed: Trayvon was walking home from a nearby 7-Eleven store, where he had purchased a bag of Skittles and a can of Arizona iced tea, when he was spotted by Zimmerman, who was driving a SUV. Zimmerman dialed 911 and reported seeing a suspicious Black male in the gated townhouse community.

Though he had no proof, Zimmerman claimed that Trayvon appeared to be high on drugs. When Zimmerman confirmed that he was following Trayvon,

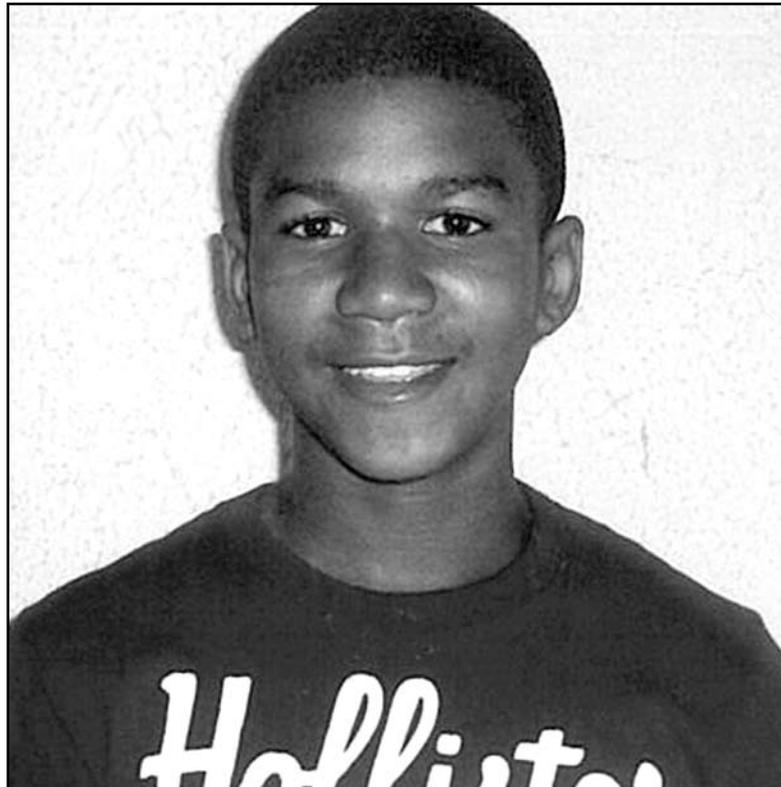
the 911 operator specifically told him to stop following Trayvon and that police officers were on their way to the scene. Instead of following instructions, Zimmerman continued to follow Trayvon.

What happened next is unclear because we are left only with Zimmerman's version of events. We do know that shortly before he was shot to death, Trayvon had been talking on his cell phone with his girlfriend. She later told Trayvon's family lawyer that he told her he was being followed by a strange White man. She urged him to run away from him.

According to the Orlando Sentinel, Zimmerman told police he lost sight of Trayvon and got out of his SUV to follow him on foot. Zimmerman said he was returning to his vehicle when Trayvon allegedly approached him from the rear. The two exchanged words and began fighting. The neighborhood watch captain claimed Trayvon knocked him to the ground with a punch in the nose. Zimmerman said Trayvon climbed on top of him and began slamming his head into the sidewalk.

Zimmerman told police that he began yelling for help, but two voice experts hired by the Sentinel concluded that the voice heard screaming for help on the 911 tapes was not that of the neighborhood watch captain. During the scuffle, Zimmerman pulled his 9 millimeter semi-automatic handgun and fatally shot Trayvon once in the chest.

Police said that when they arrived, Zimmerman was bleeding from the nose, had a swollen lip



Trayvon Martin

and had cuts on the back of his head.

Those details were leaked by police to the Orlando newspaper in hopes of bolstering Zimmerman's case. However, even if everything Zimmerman said is true – which is doubtful – he was clearly the aggressor, not the victim. He was the one who pursued Trayvon against the advice of the 911 dispatcher. And with police officers enroute, he decided to leave his SUV and hunt for Trayvon.

Even supporters of Florida's Stand Your Ground Law don't believe Zimmerman should be allowed to hide behind the controversial legislation.

State Rep. Dennis Baxley, the

Ocala Republican who sponsored the bill in the House, told the Tampa Bay Times, "They got the goods on him [Zimmerman]. They need to prosecute whoever shot the kid. He has no protection under my law."

Jeb Bush, who signed the bill into law when he was Governor of Florida, agrees.

"This law does not apply to this particular circumstance," he said. "Stand your ground means stand your ground. It doesn't mean chase after somebody who's turned their back."

Florida statute 776.013(3), known as the Stand Your Ground law, says, in part:

(a) person who is not engaged

in an unlawful activity and who is attacked in any other place where he or she has a right to be has no duty to retreat and has the right to stand his or her ground and meet force with force, including deadly force if he or she reasonably believes it is necessary to do so to prevent death or great bodily harm to himself or herself or another or to prevent the commission of a forcible felony.

Trayvon was clearly operating within those boundaries when he faced-off against Zimmerman. He was a guest in one of the townhouses and therefore had an undeniable reason to be in the neighborhood. He had no duty to retreat simply because Zimmerman was the aggressor. And Trayvon had every right to believe that the person who had been stalking him was intent on inflicting great bodily harm.

Regardless of how Zimmerman's family tries to spin the facts, it was Trayvon Martin who had the clear right to stand his ground. Whatever he did to Zimmerman was totally justified. And Zimmerman had no right to kill a 17-year-old youth carrying only a bag of candy and iced tea.

George E. Curry, former Editor-in-Chief of *Emerge Magazine*, is Editor-in-Chief of the National Newspaper Publishers Association News Service and Editorial Director of *Heart & Soul Magazine*. He is a keynote speaker, moderator, and media coach. Curry can be reached through his Web site, [www.georgecurry.com](http://www.georgecurry.com). You can also follow him at [www.twitter.com/currygeorge](http://www.twitter.com/currygeorge).

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# Data News Weekly Endorses Cynthia Willard-Lewis

It is time for us again to go to the polls to cast our ballots. The race for City Council-at-Large is one that pits current council member representing District B Stacy Head against Cynthia Willard-Lewis who has held elected seats at both the local and state level. I feel both candidates are qualified to fill the seat and can bring competent leadership this post, but unfortunately only one can be elected. And at this time where our City is I believe we need a bridge builder. And someone with experience in getting things done, so for this reason I am endorsing Cynthia Willard-Lewis.

As I look around the City I see much progress in some areas of the City, but in others there are still areas that resemble the horrible days of our not so distant past. We need someone who can repre-

sent the interest of all the people of the City. While I must say that both candidates have done great work that have benefitted the City, Cynthia Willard-Lewis is the person we need at this time with her experience at many levels of government in addition to being someone who displays a talent for bringing diverse people in the City together.

I remember during the City's darkest hour Cynthia Willard-Lewis was on the frontline fighting the righteous fight. Not simply for the people of her district, but for the entire City. This is the type of person we need have on the council. So I ask please get out and vote for a candidate that is a proven leader. And stand with Data News Weekly as we endorse Cynthia Willard-Lewis.

But while I endorse Cynthia



Cynthia Willard-Lewis

Willard-Lewis and her candidacy, this alone will not get her elected. It is important that the people of our City get out and vote. In many of our recent elections turnout has been extremely low. We cannot continue to have in some cases 70 percent of registered voters not making their way to the polls. And this voter apathy is across the board, not just as some would assume a problem that exists solely in the African-American community. We must reverse this trend, because we cannot any longer stand idly by and not be involved. It is our future that is at stake and by voting we can become the architects that can design and build the City we desire for ourselves and future generations.

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# Zimmerman Charged with 2nd-Degree Murder



George Zimmerman



The parents of Trayvon Martin, Sybrina Fulton, right, and Tracy Martin watch a news conference in Washington, D.C. as special prosecutor Angela Corey in Sanford, Fla., announces charges against George Zimmerman. Zimmerman is in custody and will face a charge of second-degree murder in the shooting death of 17-year-old Trayvon, Corey said.

George Zimmerman, a neighborhood watch volunteer who says he was acting in self-defense when he “fatally shot teenager Trayvon Martin in Sanford, Florida, has been charged with murder in the second degree, special prosecutor Angela Corey told reporters Wednesday.

Special Prosecutor Angela

Corey said that Zimmerman has surrendered to authorities and has been arrested.

George Zimmerman has turned himself in to law enforcement and is in custody in Florida, according to CNN legal analyst Mark NeJame at Data News Weekly press time.

Zimmerman also has a new at-

torney, Mark O'Mara, according to NeJame.

NeJame reported that Zimmerman, before he surrendered, was “out of the state of Florida, as I understand it, for his safety.”

On Tuesday, Zimmerman's former attorneys Hal Uhrig and Craig Sonner told reporters they

had lost contact with Zimmerman and no longer represent him.

Earlier on Tuesday, Florida Gov. Rick Scott has released a statement ahead of the special prosecutor's news conference:

“We are fortunate in our state that most Floridians and local civic leaders are law-abiding,

responsible citizens who all want justice to prevail. No matter what State Attorney (Angela) Corey determines following her investigation of the Trayvon Martin tragedy, I trust in the goodness of all Florida citizens to allow our justice system to reach an appropriate conclusion in this case.”



City Council-at-Large Candidate Cynthia Willard Lewis' (pictured far left) meet and greet at LeRoux Supper Club and Banquet Hall last weekend. Hosted by Kurte Pellerin (pictured far right) the event was well attended by supporters.

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# Black Republican Congressman calls Democrats Communists

By Jennifer Benderly

Washington - As many as 80 House Democrats are communists, according to Rep. Allen West (R-Fla.).

West warned constituents at a Tuesday Town Hall Event that he's "heard" that dozens of his Democratic colleagues in the House are members of the Communist Party, the Palm Beach Post reported. There are currently 190 House Democrats.

West spokeswoman Angela Melvin later defended West's comments - and clarified to whom West was referring.

"The Congressman was referring to the 76 members of the Congressional Progressive Caucus. The Communist Party has publicly referred to the Progressive Caucus as its allies. The Progressive Caucus speaks for itself. These individuals certainly aren't proponents of free markets or individual economic freedom," Melvin said in a statement to The Huffington Post.

West's campaign also sent over the transcript of the actual exchange that took place during the town hall to show that West was asked directly about the role



Congressman Allen West - (R - FL) is the only African American Republican member of Congress earlier this week accused over 80 Democratic colleagues of being Communists.

of communists in the House. "I can confirm that Congresswoman Baldwin is not a communist," said Jerilyn Goodman, spokeswoman for Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D-Wisc.), a Vice Chair of the Caucus.

"Chellie is a Democrat, a farmer and a Lutheran but no,

she is not a Communist," said Willy Ritch, Spokesman for Rep. Chellie Pingree (D-Maine), also a Vice Chair of the Caucus.

During the same event, which took place at Jensen Beach, the freshman Republican said President Barack Obama wouldn't have a public debate with him

over their policy differences because he was "scared." The President was in Florida on Tuesday giving remarks about the economy and holding campaign events.

"I really wish that, standing here before you was Allen West and President Obama," West said, according to the Palm Beach Post. "We could have a simple discussion. But that ain't ever gonna happen."

When an audience member asked why, West said in "a mocking voice" that it was because Obama "was too scared."

Moderator: What percentage of the American legislature do you think are card-carrying Marxists or International Socialist?

West: It's a good question. I believe there's about 78 to 81 members of the Democrat Party who are members of the Communist Party. It's called the Congressional Progressive Caucus.

Some members of the Congressional Progressive Caucus confirmed that they are not, in fact, members of the Communist Party.

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Bethany United Methodist Church will host their Annual Hattitude themed "It's Head to Toe". The Spring Fashion Emporium will feature an afternoon of elegant fashion models, extraordinary door prizes, exquisite music and enchanting liturgical dance. This annual event will happen on Sunday, April 22, 2012 at 4 PM at the church located at 4533 Mendez Street, New Orleans, LA 70126. Dr. Anita H. Crump and Mrs. Alice Porter are Co-Chairperson of this event. Rev. Hadley R. Edwards is Senior Pastor. Additional information and reservations may be obtained by calling the church at 504-324-5057 or visiting our web site at [www.bethanyumcneworleans.org](http://www.bethanyumcneworleans.org).

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