

Lighting The Road To The Future

New Orleans

Data

News Weekly

"The People's Paper"




**Michael Ward
Surprise
at the
D-Max
Club**

FREE COPY

**Data Zone
Page 4**

September 21 - September 27, 2013 48th Year Volume 21 www.ladatanews.com



Female Doctors

Writing a Prescription for Good Health

The Soul of New Orleans

Page 2



State & Local

South Market District Breaks Ground

Page 7

Book Review

Terry McMillan's *Who Asked You?*



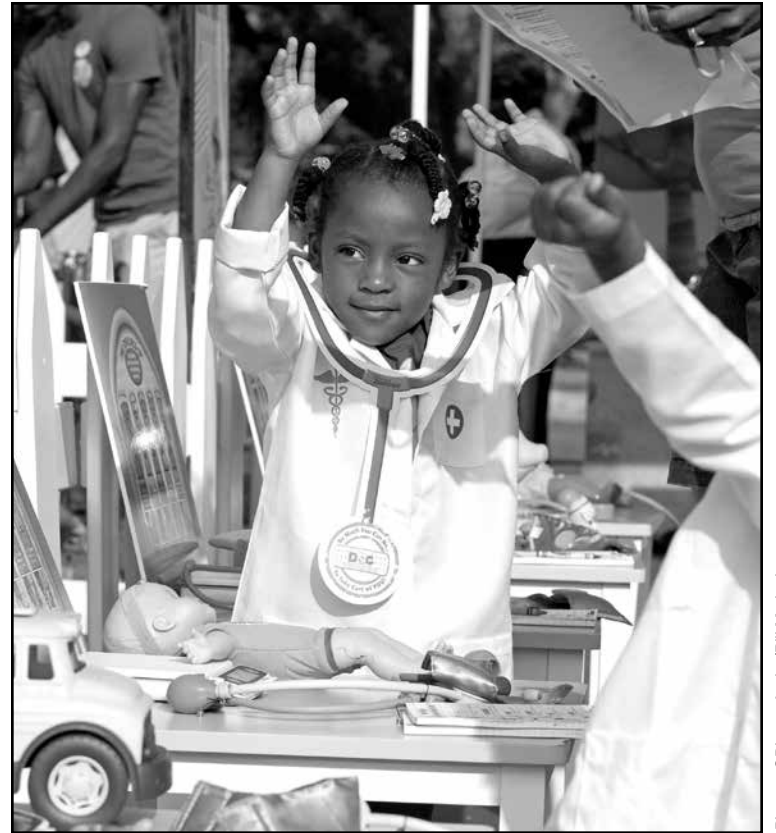
Page 5

Female Doctors Writing a Prescription for Good Health

Disney Jr. and Artemis Medical Society Partner on Initiative to Introduce Young Girls to Possible Careers as Physicians



Team of doctors and Dr. McStuffins in front of the Disney Junior Doc McStuffins "Doc Mobile" tour at New Orleans' Audubon Zoo on Tuesday, Sept. 10.



Kid Doctor-to-be with white coat and toy stethoscope

Photos: ©Disney Junior/Bill Matlock

By Edwin Buggage
Data News Editor

African-American Women in Medicine

African-American Women once relegated to playing a support role and were sometimes overlooked but have for centuries truly been the backbone of the struggle for access and equality. Today African-American women are at the forefront and are poised to lead the nation and

the world into the future. Professions such as physician were once solely thought of as a male pursuit, we now see a shifting tide as women are entering this profession and many others once thought unthinkable in great numbers. Long gone are the days when Rebecca Crumpler struggled against what seemed like insurmountable odds to become the first African-American Woman to earn a Doctress of Medicine Degree (M.D.) in 1864. In recent years we have had two African-American

women U.S. Surgeon Generals, Dr. Jocelyn Elders during the Bill Clinton Administration and recently Dr. Regina Benjamin appointed by the nation's first African-American President Barack Obama. She recently left her post to become the Endowed Chair in Public Health Sciences at her undergraduate Alma Mater Xavier University of Louisiana, a Historically Black University that's gained a national reputation as a leader in placing African-Americans in Medical School.

Artemis Medical Society Encourages Young Girls to Dream Big

In the 21st Century where we live in a world of unprecedented media images, the unfortunate reality is there are still very few positive images of African-Americans or people of color in general. One of the bright spots is a television program called Dr. McStuffins on Disney Jr.," It is about a 6-year-old African-American girl who aspires to be a doctor like her mom and runs a clinic for stuffed animals

Cover Story, Continued
on next page.

On the Cover: Dr. Christy Valentine and daughter Phoenix Wilson. Photo: ©Disney Junior/Bill Matlock

INSIDE DATA

Cover Story	2	Opinion	6
Data Zone	4	State & Local News . . .	7
Book Review	5		

DATA NEWS WEEKLY

P.O. Box 57347, New Orleans, LA 70157-7347 | Phone: (504) 821-7421 | Fax: (504) 821-7622
editorial: datanewseditor@bellsouth.net | advertising: datanewsad@bellsouth.net

Terry B. Jones

CEO/Publisher

Glenn Jones

VP Advertising

& Marketing

Edwin Buggage

Editor

Calla Victoria

Executive Assistant

June Hazeur

Accounting

Contributors

Edwin Buggage

Terry Jones

The Bookworm Sez

Art Direction & Production

MainorMedia.com

Editorial Submissions

datanewseditor@bellsouth.net

Advertising Inquiries

datanewsad@bellsouth.net

Please call 504-309-9913 for subscription information or to obtain a back issue of the paper ONLY.
Dated material two weeks in advance. Not responsible for publishing or return of unsolicited manuscripts or photos.

Cover Story, Continued from previous page.

and toys out of her backyard playhouse. A dozen women physicians of color saw reflections of their childhood selves in Doc – and were inspired to form the Artemis Medical Society (Artemis-A Greek Goddess who was a protector of young girls and known for relieving diseases and illnesses in women), a first-of-its-kind organization designed to nurture and mentor women of color to pursue careers in medicine. The group now has more than 2,900 members around the world, who bring incredibly different experiences to the table, but in Doc they've found a common purpose: to empower more girls and women.

The group has joined a powerful nationwide youth health initiative led by Disney Junior – the nationwide “Doc Mobile” Tour, which is bringing the positive health-focused messages of the hit preschooler series “Doc McStuffins” to kids in ten cities around the country that called, “So Much You Can Do...to Take Care of You.” Similar to the animated series, the Doc Mobile, a 27-foot Airstream trailer custom made to reach young children and families with fun and empowering lessons on health, wellness and nutrition. “As a physician and mother, I'm grateful to Disney Junior for creating meaningful programming,” said Dr. Myiesha Taylor, Artemis Medical Society Co-Founder and President said in a statement released to the media. “We credit Doc McStuffins with sparking a movement, now we are organized for a greater purpose and vision. Artemis is setting the ground work for a more diverse physician workforce. We want people to know Doc can be on the small or big screen, and she can also be in your communities.”

Local Physician Dr. Christy Valentine on Giving from the Heart and Serving Others

The tour recently stopped in New Orleans and had a great turnout as thousands came out for a fun-filled day which its purpose was to inspire young girls to reach higher. Dr. Christy Valentine is a New Orleans native and a local physician, who is a member of the Artemis Medical Society. “I am one of seven children and have a brother that has special needs, growing up I helped out my family with him, so at a very early age I became interested in becoming a physician,” says Dr. Valentine of her earliest memories of what inspired her to pursue a career in medicine. Continuing she says, “And we who are members of Ar-

temis Medical Society realize that our collective efforts can help a lot of young girls become successful in life.”

In her practice Dr. Christy Valentine delivers quality, affordable family and urgent healthcare to the New Orleans community in a compassion-



New Orleans Saints Tight End Benjamin Watson and family stopped by the first-of-its-kind group, inspired by the hit preschooler series, whose mission is to nurture and mentor women of color to pursue careers in medicine. (L-R) Watson, son Isaiah, and daughter Naomi.

ate, professional environment. Dr. Valentine specializes in Pediatrics and Internal Medicine, uniquely qualifying her to provide medical care for the entire family. Her practice has two locations in both New Orleans and Gretna, LA. Dr. Christy received her undergraduate degree in 1996 from Xavier University of Louisiana and her medical degree from Louisiana State University School of Medicine in 2000. She completed an Internal Medicine and Pediatrics residency at Tulane University Medical Center in 2004. Dr. Valentine is currently an Associate Clinical Professor of Pediatrics, and an Internal Medicine and Pediatrics Clinical Community Liaison at Tulane University. She also serves as a preceptor for the Louisiana State University Nurse Practitioner Program.

While on paper Dr. Valentine is an impressive young woman, her greatest asset is her huge heart and passion for giving back. She says her family and her experience at Xavier University formed the basis of her being dedicated to service. Xavier University is also where she met Artemis Medical Society Co-Founder Dr. Myiesha Taylor. Dr. Valentine recalls this time as a great experience and credits her success to the supportive environment. But she is troubled that this is something she feels many young people need and unfortunately do not receive lessening their chances of reaching their goals. So it is the mission of the New Orleans Chapter of Artemis to give young girls help by mentoring them to overcome the obstacles that sometimes get in

the way of reaching their full potential. Members of their chapter go to many places around the City spreading their message of hope whether it is at churches, Girl Scout meetings, career day or any other place they can help. They are on the front lines giving back, “I feel great when we go out and

choose when they see somebody else doing what it is they want to do; it helps them see that they can achieve it as well.”

It Takes a Village

Since forming in June of 2012, Artemis Medical Society has created partnerships and continues



Disney character Dr. McStuffins high-fiving future doctor.

to grow and is becoming an organization that is making an impact on the lives of young girls, “We are proud to be partnering with Disney for our first national pro-

gram. It has energized us and revealed the goodwill and commitment of Artemis members to the community and our profession” Dr. Deonza N. Thymes, Vice President of Programs said in a statement released to the media.

In a world where sometimes people dreams for some are never fully realized and where some never reach their full potential because of barriers both external and internal, Dr. Valentine gives her prescription for reaching your goals and fulfilling your dreams. “Sometimes the only person that needs to see your dream and vision is you and then come up with a plan on how to get there. Also never let anybody put you in a box and tell you that there's something you cannot do because of your race, your gender or where you come from. Never be afraid to say I need help, because I know without the help of many people I would not be where I am today. And finally, we all need to know that you have to push past setbacks and never give up and work hard and your dreams can become a reality.”

JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER ORCHESTRA with WYNTON MARSALIS Performing Abyssinian: A Gospel Celebration



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13TH SAENGER THEATRE ON SALE NOW

Tickets available at ticketmaster.com
or by calling 800-745-3000.

www.saengernola.com



Shoot Ya Best Shot!

Michael Ward!!!

Photos by Terry Jones

Michael Ward makes a surprise appearance at the D-Max Club and gave one hell of a show and Data was There!!!



Visit www.ladatanews.com for more photos from these events

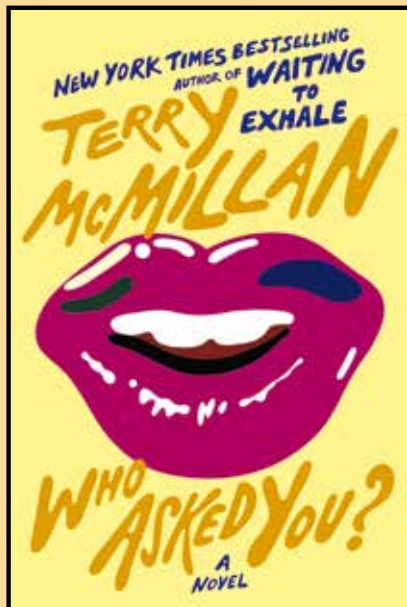


Find us on:
facebook®
more photos
more stories
more data

subscribe
to data chatta
New Orleans in your inbox



Who Asked You?



"Who Asked You?"
by Terry McMillan
c.2013, Viking
\$27.95 / \$29.50 Canada
383 pages

By The Bookworm Sez
Data News Weekly Columnist

You can't fix everything.

That's a hard lesson to learn, no matter who you are. You can't swoop in and make things right when they're not yours to correct. You can't throw money at something to make it go away, there are some issues that can't be mended, and you surely can't fix stupid.

You can, however, try to lessen the impact of life gone wrong - and in the new book "Who Asked You?" by Terry McMillan, you can also remember that potential fixes might take awhile.

Betty Jean had her hands full.

Her husband, Lee David, had dementia and spent his days watching TV in the bedroom and sleeping. It wasn't his fault but those days, Betty Jean could barely remember why she ever loved him.

Their children might as well have had brain problems, too: Dexter was in prison; Quentin had distanced himself from the 'hood as soon as he was able; and daughter Trinetta was an addict with two little boys that seemed to be at Betty Jean's house more than they were at their own.

To say that Betty Jean was overwhelmed was an understatement, although she had some help. Her next door neighbor and best friend, Tammy, was always able to pitch in and Betty Jean had hired Nurse Kim to help with Lee David. Those two women were a lot of comfort, which was good - because Betty Jean's sisters, Venetia and Arlene,

were worthless in that department. Venetia couldn't leave her church out of any conversation and Arlene was just a nasty woman, overall.

Yep, Betty Jean often felt like she was running in place - a feeling made worse when Trinetta left her kids with her mother and disappeared. Raising two young kids wasn't what Betty Jean wanted, but Luther and Ricky didn't ask for it, either.

Yet somehow, they'd manage. They were family, after all, and that's what family did: they ignored bad blood and bad advice, gossiped about one another, did what needed doing, circled wagons, and muddled through.

Fixing life, and everybody's problems, wouldn't be easy - but then, what was?

Right away, from Page One, you know that "Who Asked You?" is going to be a lot of fun to read. Betty Jean is a woman with keen sarcasm, not quite beaten down by life - but close! - yet still managing to keep a finger-nail-hold on a sense of humor.

She's the best of author Terry McMillan's signature-cast of strong women characters, but Betty Jean's not the only. Each woman here is a great surprise, from Nurse Kim to the Social Worker who makes a cameo, but very important, appearance. Not to be ignored, the men in this book round out the story perfectly. I found plenty of burst-out-lauding moments here, some I-didn't-see-that-coming gasps, and I loved it.

If you're looking for a little escape this weekend, or confirmation that your life isn't so bad after all, then here's the novel you want. "Who Asked You?" is fun, and it's a book you should be fixin' to read.

Connect to the Source

Data News Weekly, your one stop for what's happening in New Orleans.



ladatanews.com



WBOK 1230AM

A BAKEWELL MEDIA COMPANY

Real Talk for Real Times...

1639 Gentilly Blvd. New Orleans, LA 70119 (504)942-0106

www.wbok1230am.com

Letter to the Editor:

Justice Group Seeks Clarity On Orleans Parish School Board's DBE Policy

The organization Justice and Beyond is a coalition made up of various civic, community, and religious leaders in New Orleans. Their leaders have provided us with a copy of the following letter which they sent to the Orleans Parish School Board in regards to their DBE policy.

Dear President Thomas and Board Members:

This letter requests clarification of your Board's DBE policy and its implementation. Members of the coalition Justice and Beyond asked in recent discussions that you be queried about procedures by which you apply this new policy and how you weigh DBE along with other factors in the procurement of goods and services.

When the Orleans Parish School Board's DBE policy was

announced, many leaders in the community who love righteousness and justice felt relief that Black fathers and mothers would take home a paycheck to satisfy their families' needs. We also felt relief that disadvantaged contractors would be brought in the mainstream of this very lucrative commercial activity, make profit and wealth.

The recent rejection of a 100 percent DBE owned company vying to obtain a contract to search for the Orleans Parish Superintendent confused and dashed hopes that your Board and administration had changed and was implementing a fair policy to award contracts to the disadvantaged business community.

When Mr. Westley Bayas III, chair of the committee to recommend a search firm, reported to the Board at the last meeting that the committee had rejected the proposal of the only 100 percent DBE company, we were shocked. We were shocked at Mr. Bayas' report that the administration advised the Committee that the DBE criteria was one of 18 con-

siderations and should be valued as 1/18 score. When Mr. Bayas reported this to the Board, we expected the administration's position would have been corrected by a more enlightened view. This matter was not challenged, clarified, or corrected by the Board. And we feel that you should have. It is our view that the only responsive bids would have been bids that adequately addressed the inclusion of DBE, as per the Board's policy. Several bids that moved forward for the next round should have been rejected as non-responsive to the RFP. Additionally, some of the companies eliminated from competition might not have been eliminated if the criterion were fair to DBE responders.

Therefore, we are requesting that three issues be placed on the agenda for the September Board meeting: (1) superintendent search, (2) implementation of your DBE policy, and (3) the one app program.

Members of our coalition will be present to discuss the items. As regards the superintendent search, we will suggest many so-

lutions, including the Board and administration take over this process and run it in-house, or reject bids that were non-responsive to the DBE criteria and re-consider the rejected DBE vendor.

Why is this issue of such importance? Why are we so strident? As a city, New Orleans will never live up to its full potential until that day that everyone is fully included in our city's economy. Our poverty rate remains well above the national level. In New Orleans, recent studies have shown that over half of Black men eligible to work are unemployed. Once there were sufficient jobs in our port and construction jobs that Black men could find work. Eight years after Katrina swept us out and the federal government responded with reconstruction money, the African-American citizens are out of work in a \$4 billion boom. Our youth understand that racism's hellhounds are constantly saying, "These jobs are not for you."

Mr. President and School Board members, we ask how many children shot and killed

in New Orleans in the past year would have been spared the bullets if the youth involved had been shown some love, their parents gainfully employed, and had hope of a better future?

The DBE policy is in place for a reason. The community demands that it be fully implemented and enforced. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once remarked that "Discrimination is a hellhound that gnaws at Negroes in every waking moment of their lives to remind them that the lie of their inferiority is accepted as truth in the society dominating them." The school board must act swiftly and resolutely in this matter. Failure to do so will dash the hopes of many that you have put in place a fair and equitable process not only for the superintendent search process, but in the way the Orleans Parish School Board does business as a whole.

Thank you for your consideration. We wait for your response.

Signed

The members and concerned citizens of Justice and Beyond

Xavier Names Dannton Jackson Interim Athletics Director

Dannton Jackson, a Xavier University of Louisiana alumnus and former Gold Rush letterman who has headed his alma mater's men's basketball program since 2002, has been named interim athletics director at the university, according to XU President Dr. Norman C. Francis.

Jackson, who will retain his head coaching position, replaces Dennis Cousin, who retired this summer after nine years as AD. Jackson takes over an athletics program that has achieved unparalleled recent success competing in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA).

In the past nine years Xavier teams have won 46 Gulf Coast Athletic Conference or NAIA unaffiliated group championships and qualified 34 times for NAIA



Dannton James

National Championships in basketball, cross country, tennis, and volleyball. During that same stretch, 125 of 130 senior student-athletes under the current head

coaches received degrees from Xavier or are still enrolled. XU facilities also received a major upgrade last year with the completion of the XU Tennis Center and the new Convocation Center for basketball and volleyball.

"As a head basketball coach Dannton has exhibited a thorough understanding of Xavier as an academic institution and a passion for both his sport and the student-athletes under his care," said Francis. "We expect that he will bring that same energy and fervor to this new task." Francis said a national search for a permanent athletics director is ongoing.

"Xavier has a proud tradition of winning, but also one of developing well-rounded men and women," said Jackson. "We get our student-athletes ready for

life, prepare them for the future. We have a high graduation rate and a family atmosphere. That's how the tradition has grown." Jackson, who graduated from Xavier in 1992, has compiled a 226-98 record in 10 seasons at the helm of Xavier's men's basketball program, which includes four regular-season GCAC co-championships and seven appearances at the Buffalo Funds-NAIA Division I National Championship, and three top-25 finishes. Last season under Jackson, who was named GCAC Coach of the Year in 2012-13 for the second year in a row, the Gold Rush compiled a 24-8 record, sharing the regular-season conference title with Philander Smith, and advancing to the NAIA national tournament.

He is the only Xavier men's

basketball coach to reach the NAIA's national tournament more than three times, and his winning percentage of .692 is the best at XU since 1946. He ranks third at Xavier in career victories and is in fourth place in Louisiana men's basketball history with a total of eight 20-win seasons.

Jackson succeeded Dale Valdery as head coach in June 2002, following four seasons as an assistant coach. Prior to that he served as an assistant women's basketball coach (1993-97), and head coach of men's and women's cross country (1994-96). He also spent one season as a men's basketball assistant coach at Virginia State University in Petersburg, Va. Jackson also served as a court coach for the 2012 USA men's national team.

Celebrating the South Market District Groundbreaking

On Tuesday, September 16th, Mayor Mitch Landrieu joined representatives from The Domain Companies, elected officials and other dignitaries to celebrate the start of construction on the first phase of the South Market District. The \$200 million mixed-use development links the Central Business District with the historic Warehouse/Arts District and the Sports Entertainment District and will play a major role changing the landscape of the historic downtown.

Representatives of The Domain Companies, Mayor Landrieu, State Representative Walt Leger III, State Representative Helena Moreno, City Council President Jacquelyn Brechtel Clarkson, District B Councilmember LaToya Cantrell, Kurt Weigle, President and CEO of the Downtown Development District, and state and local leaders attended the groundbreaking ceremony.

Located just steps from the Superdome and New Orleans Arena, South Market District plans to combine first-class apartments with retail shops, restaurants and entertainment venues. The completed project



Representatives of The Domain Companies, Mayor Landrieu, State Representative Walt Leger III, State Representative Helena Moreno, City Council President Jacquelyn Brechtel Clarkson, District B Councilmember LaToya Cantrell, Kurt Weigle, President and CEO of the Downtown Development District, and state and local leaders took part in the groundbreaking ceremony at the new South Market District.

will include over 600 new apartments and 170,000 square feet of retail space within a four-block area that runs along both sides of Girod Street, from Loyola Avenue to Baronne Street. The District is adjacent to the Union Passenger Terminal and the recently completed Loyola Avenue streetcar line.

"The progress that we've seen in the redevelopment of our city during the last 3½ years is proof that New Orleans is coming back strong. Whether it's the Domain Companies' new mixed-use transit-oriented development, the

construction of the New Orleans East Hospital, the redevelopment of Louis Armstrong International Airport or the new complex at Mid-City Market, we are consistently introducing jobs, new housing and retail options, and critical infrastructure across the city," Mayor Landrieu said.

The Paramount at South Market, the first building to commence construction, will feature 209 luxury apartments and 22,000 square feet of retail space. The \$48.4 million Paramount will occupy the full city block bounded by Girod Street,

S. Rampart Street, Lafayette Street and O'Keefe Avenue and will include 209 apartments and 22,000 square feet of retail. The five-story building will achieve Silver LEED for Homes certification and features a design based upon a modern interpretation of the architectural influences of the Warehouse District. The ground floor will feature retail storefronts along Girod, O'Keefe and a portion of Lafayette and South Rampart.

This fall, Domain will commence work on a second building, located on the Girod and O'Keefe corner. The \$20 million project will include an additional 25,000 square feet of retail space and 435 garage parking spaces. The remaining two sites, located between Girod, O'Keefe, Julia and Loyola, will include a mix of residential and retail space. Construction will commence in 2014 and 2015.

"South Market is going to take the CBD to the next level," said District B Councilmember LaToya Cantrell. "The impact is huge – in terms of economic development, jobs, and quality of life. Downtown is not just a great place to work, it's a great place to live."

AmeriHealth Caritas Partnership, LaCare Team Up in Fight Against Diabetes

September 19 Boot Camp Includes Screenings, Education And Fun Physical Activities

While an estimated 358,000 Louisiana adults have diabetes, proactive care and healthy lifestyles can put those adults on a healthier path. To that end, AmeriHealth Caritas Partnership, in collaboration with LaCare, a Medicaid managed care health plan serving Louisiana, will hold their first Diabetes Boot Camp. This engaging yet informative program for LaCare members will take place on Thursday, September 19, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at Church of Life Fellowship, located at 6066 Evangeline St. in Baton Rouge. LaCare is

part of the AmeriHealth Caritas Family of Companies, a majority-owned subsidiary of Independence Blue Cross; Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan holds a minority interest.

A team of diabetes educators will help participants learn how to win the fight against diabetes, working from a curriculum approved by the American Association of Diabetes Educators. Attendees will also receive free A1C screenings, learn healthy cooking techniques and recipes and participate in a line-dancing class.

According to the American Diabetes Association, approximately 10.3 percent of Louisiana adults have diabetes. The national rate is 8.3 percent.

"Diabetes is far too common a problem in Louisiana, and it is

especially prevalent among lower-income populations that often have the hardest time managing it," said Steven Beckham, pastor of Church of Life Fellowship. "We are pleased to support the AmeriHealth Caritas Partnership and LaCare's efforts to stamp out diabetes in this state."

"Addressing diabetes in our communities is one of the ways LaCare and the AmeriHealth Caritas Partnership are building a healthier Louisiana," said Rebecca Engelman, executive director of LaCare. "We look forward to an informative yet fun event that will provide our members with the tools and knowledge to manage their diabetes and stay out of the hospital."

The Diabetes Boot Camp is part of the AmeriHealth Caritas Partnership's Health Ministry,

a faith-based, health education program designed to educate participants on important health topics. Health Ministry events address the body, mind and spirit by focusing on stress and the degree to which stress can trigger chronic conditions prevalent in vulnerable communities. Events are held throughout the year across the country.

"The Diabetes Boot Camp addresses a health issue affecting Louisianans," said Maria Pajil Battle, president of AmeriHealth Caritas Partnership. "By helping people better control their diabetes, we improve their quality of life and reduce health care costs."

Space is limited. Any LaCare members interested in attending should contact LaCare at 225-300-9213 or 225-924-2484.

DATA CLASSIFIED

Call 504-821-7421 to place your classified ad.

Mailboxes by Mark



You pay for the bricks or maybe you have bricks already. You provide the mailbox.

I will provide the cement, wood, mortar, nails etc. You choose or create the design. Prices vary according to the design.

Contact: Mark (504) 723-7318

AVON

The company for women \$\$\$ \$\$\$\$

Can you use some extra cash? Try Avon!!! Avon is easy to sell, no experience necessary. It cost only \$10.00 to start.

Become your own boss or just earn extra money. Whether you are interested in purchasing Avon products or becoming an Avon Representative yourself, I can assist you.

Call June - 504-606-1362
I will explain everything and help you to get started.

Distribution Manager Position Available

Data News Weekly is seeking a Distribution Manager for our weekly newspaper distribution.

The position requirements are:

- Must have a valid Louisiana drivers license
- Must have a truck/van/SUV and must be insured.
- Must have a thorough knowledge of the City of New Orleans
- Work days are Thursday, Friday, Saturday, flexible schedule on those days.

This is a paid, Part-time Position.

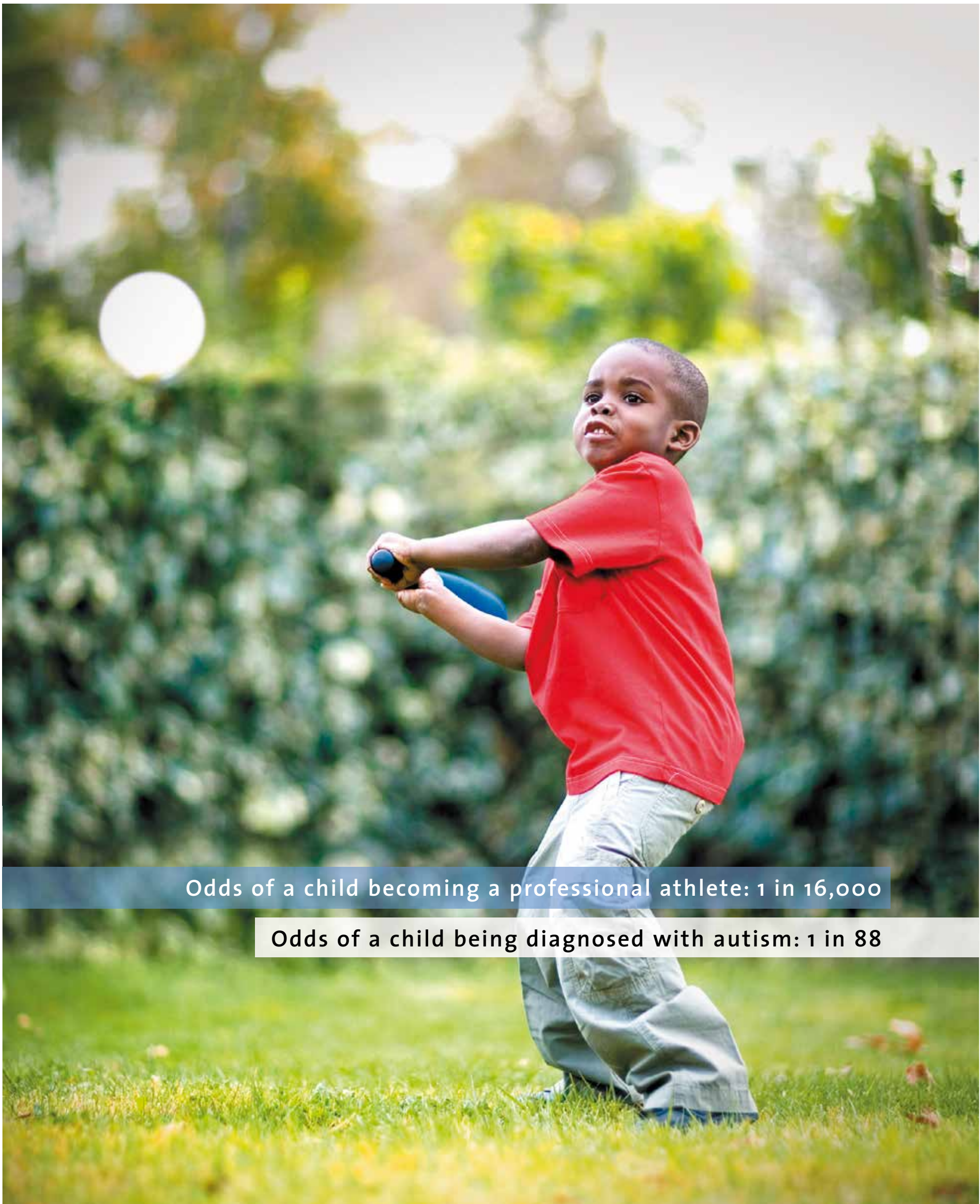
Contact Terry at Data News Weekly to apply.

(504) 821-7421

This space can be yours for only \$80

Call Now!

504-821-7421



Odds of a child becoming a professional athlete: 1 in 16,000

Odds of a child being diagnosed with autism: 1 in 88

Some signs to look for:

No big smiles or other joyful expressions by 6 months.

No babbling by 12 months.

No words by 16 months.



To learn more of the signs of autism, visit autismspeaks.org



AUTISM SPEAKS™
It's time to listen.