New Orleans Data News Weekly
“The People’s Paper”

Legends of the Game
Page 6

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A Data News Weekly Exclusive

Culture Preservation for Future Generations
Black Men of Labor Celebrates 20 Years

Page 2

Newsmaker
On The Ballot

Data News Endorses
Harry Cantrell for Criminal Court Magistrate

Page 4
Page 5
Culture Preservation for Future Generations

Black Men of Labor Celebrates 20 Years

New Orleans a City of Traditions

New Orleans is a City rich with traditions that are not seen anywhere else in the world. It is a cultural jewel that lies at the mouth of the Mississippi where generations of people have contributed to the great legacy of the City. It is the people and their traditions that is the heartbeat of the City giving it its life. But it is important to note that traditions sometimes get lost in the changes that occur in a given society. And as it is today, a City at a crossroads searching for a direc-

On the Cover: Black Men of Labor founding members Benny Jones, Fred Johnson and Gregg Stafford. Cover and Cover Story Photos by Eric Waters

INSIDE DATA

Cover Story . . . . . . 2
Newsmaker . . . . . . 4
Endorsement . . . . . . 5
Data Zone . . . . . . 6

Commentary . . . . . . 8
Book Review . . . . . . 9
State & Local News . 10

Cover Story, Continued on next page.

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tion. This is not unprecedented and was once the case in New Orleans, something the great musician, author and musicologist Danny Barker felt needed to be addressed in the area of Traditional New Orleans Brass Band Music. Seeing changes in the music that troubled him fearing that the music would be lost in 1970 he started the Fairview Baptist Church Marching Band. Its intent was to preserve the great Brass Band tradition in New Orleans and exposing the music to a new generation. His efforts bared fruit as some of the noted alumni of this great band have become great musicians representing New Orleans to the world including, the great Trumpeter Leroy Jones and Wynton Marsalis, Saxophonist Branford Marsalis, Clarinetist and Schola Dr. Michael White, the late Brass Band Legend Anthony “Tuba Fats” Lacen, Drummer Shannon Powell and many others. It was this backdrop of this great moment in history that the Black Men of Labor was formed in 1993 by Fred J. Johnson, Jr., Benny Jones, Sr. of the Treme’ Brass Band and Gregory Stafford of the Tuxedo Brass Band.

Since forming their purpose was to create an organization that would reaffirm and pay tribute to the contributions of African-American men in the work place while promoting and preserving Traditional New Orleans Brass Band Music. “In addition to what Danny Barker was doing out of Fairview Baptist Church, we were also influenced by the work of Jerome Smith and Rudy Lombard of Tambourine and Fan which exposed young people to the traditions of our City. We felt it was important to preserve what makes New Orleans a special place unlike any other City,” says Fred Johnson, one of the founding members.

Black Men of Labor Celebrates Twenty Years of Preserving the Culture and Heritage of New Orleans

Fred Johnson is a wellspring of knowledge about the City and its great traditions. Recounting the formation of the Black Men of Labor he harkens back to the legendary Danny Barker, speaking of how they organized their first parade in 1994, as a way to honor and pay respect to the Legendary Jazz Musician who’d passed away, “When we heard the news of Danny Barker’s passing we of course were saddened, but also we were told that he’d told his wife that he not be given a brass band funeral because in his last days he was not happy with the direction the music had taken,” says Johnson. Continuing he says, “But then people were calling from around the world asking will he have a brass band funeral given his stature in the world of New Orleans music, so I was part of a group that went to speak to his widow noted Singer Louise “Blue Lu” Barker and she said it was ok and I said I would have ten men in suit and ties to march along with the band and that was the begin-
By Eric Connerly

True to our motto as “The People’s Paper” Data News Weekly advises all those who are registered to vote go to the polls to cast their ballots on October 19th where important races in Orleans Parish for Traffic Court, Magistrate Judge, and two ballot measures. One is to abolish several non-functioning organizations from the City Charter and the other that is up for a vote is to change the method for those appointed to the Sewerage and Water Board.

Judge, Traffic Court

This race drew several candidates looking to occupy the seat previously held by longtime Traffic Court Judge Ron Sholes. Those vying for the seat are Marie Bookman, Patrick Giraud, Steven Jupiter, Richard Perque, Nanak Rai, Nicole Sheppard and Clint Smith.

Marie Bookman is the most qualified and experienced candidate for Traffic Court Judge, Marie pledges to be tough on repeat DWI offenders. With over 29 years experience as a practicing attorney, she has the credentials to be an outstanding Traffic Court Judge. She is the only candidate with years of judicial experience having served 12 years as a Magistrate Commissioner in Criminal Court. She is a graduate of Loyola University Law School and an Adjunct Professor of Trial Advocacy at Tulane University Law School. She is a native of New Orleans and the mother of a nine year old son.

Marie Bookman would be the first woman ever elected to Traffic Court in New Orleans and the mother of a nine year old son.

Marie Bookman would protect the citizens of our community—As a Traffic Court Judge, Marie pledges to be tough on repeat DWI offenders. She also will ensure that those who need help with addiction, get into the programs they need to become productive citizens.

Marie Bookman will work with our youth—Marie has a plan to make sure our young people don’t end up in traffic court to begin with. She plans to reach out to teens in school with real life solutions to the temptations of drinking and driving.

Cover Story/Continued

African-American Benevolent Societies

More than Just a Parade

Some think of Marching Clubs/Benevolent Societies (also known as mutual aid organizations as Benevolent Societies (also known as Mutual Benevolent Organizations) and that’s what we have been doing for what is now going on 20 years at Black Men of Labor.”

Benevolent Societies

More than Just a Parade

The Importance of Cultural Preservation for Future Generations

Post Katrina New Orleans is experiencing changes in many areas that threaten the cultural...
Get Out and Vote

Again citizens of New Orleans will go to the polls to vote on Saturday October 19th. It is very important that we pay attention to every election because it symbolizes our collective voices being heard. Right now we see the disturbing trend of an assault on voting rights across the country and a recent U.S. Supreme Court that may affect voting. So moving forward we must not take our gains at the polls for granted, because if we don’t use it we may lose it.

We made history during the Presidential Election where for the first time in our history African-Americans registered voters voted in a higher percentage than Whites and we saw the difference in the result with Barack Obama being re-elected. These affects we have not only seen in national election, but local ones as well. In some of our recent local elections we have seen candidates that were ousting nearly four to one or those who did not receive major endorsements and still came out victorious. This is because people went out to vote.

So moving forward we must stay on this path and remain vigilant in understanding the power we have when we participate. Even with a smaller population in the City African-Americans still constitute the majority. And we must let our voices be heard, so when whoever is elected they are held accountable to our community as well. Because if we don’t participate then our community is of low or no priority for those elected into office.

In this election there are two judges’ races and two City Charter Amendments up for a vote. In this the primary election cycle we are not endorsing candidates in the race for Traffic Court or the two City Charter Amendments. But in the race for Magistrate Judge of Criminal District Court we are endorsing Harry Cantrell; he has the experience and has a good balance in understanding community safety and citizens’ rights. He has a proven record of integrity serving in many capacities in the Criminal Justice System as a Magistrate Commissioner for 14 years, for he is also an Assistant Professor at Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO) preparing our young minds to be productive citizens in our City. In addition he has led many crime prevention programs. In these changing times for our City we need someone who is strong but compassionate as Magistrate Judge, and Harry Cantrell fits the bill.

And in closing I would like to say that we encourage you to go out and vote. For too many people have fought, struggled and died for us to have this right, and today it is more important than ever to get out and exercise your right to vote. It is your voice and it needs to be heard, for when you vote it is like E.F. Hutton, people listen. So please get out and let your voice be heard and have a hand in shaping the agenda of our City today and for the days to come because the decisions we make at the polls in the present will affect what the City will be like for us now and for future generations.

St. Mary’s Academy Marching Unit Selected To Participate in NYC Parade

St. Mary’s Academy band and marching unit have the rare chance to take their show on the road to New York City for a special Veteran’s Day parade and celebration.

“We are extremely excited and proud to have been among the bands selected for inclusion in this parade,” said SMA band director Ray Johnson. “This event will afford our students the opportunity to say “thank you for serving” to veterans while performing for thousands of spectators on the parade route and on television.”

The NYC Veterans Day Parade is the oldest and largest parade of its kind in the United States. The patriotic event features more than 20,000 participants, including veterans of all eras, active duty military, ROTC and JROTC units, civic and youth groups, all accompanied by music performed by top high school bands from around the country.

According to Johnson, it will cost nearly $700 per student, including accommodations, to get all of the students to New York. To date, the band has raised nearly $10,000 of the $51,000 total package cost. The band hopes to be able to raise $41,000 to offset the cost.

“We have until the end of October to raise the rest of the money needed to make the trip,” said Johnson, adding while it is a challenge, it is a goal that is attainable. “We teach our students that with hard work and perseverance there is nothing out of their reach. This is a huge honor and we are working extremely hard to make this trip a reality for our students.”

If you would like to donate to the marching band, please visit St. Mary’s Academy at 6905 Chef Menteur Blvd. or call (504) 245-0200.

Criminal Court Magistrate

Harry Cantrell #30

In the courtroom and in neighborhoods throughout New Orleans, Magistrate Harry Cantrell has worked to address crime.

For 14 years, he has served the City of New Orleans as Magistrate Commissioner.

He has also been a force in gun buy-back, affordable housing and other crime prevention programs. He is known for his integrity, honor and ability to balance community safety with citizens’ rights.

Education

Southern University Law Center: Juris Doctor, Wayne State University: BS in Public Administration, Cass Technical High School

Professional Business

Criminal District Court Magistrate M-3 (1998-present)
Assistant Professor: Southern University N.O. — Historic District Landmarks Commission: Special Counsel — City of New Orleans: Co-Bond Counsel—Board of Liquidation City of New Orleans: Co-Bond Counsel—Traffic Referee: City of N.O. — Orleans Parish Democratic Executive: Past Member — Cantrell Law Office

309 Baronne Street, New Orleans, LA 70112 504-585-7347

www.ladatanews.com October 19 - October 25, 2013
Second Annual Legends of the Game Concert

Photos by Glenn Summers

The Second Annual Legends Of The Game Concert, featuring Rakim, Doug E. Fresh, Whodini, Big Daddy Kane, MC Lyte, Partners-N-Crime and DJ Jubilee and was hosted by New Orleans Rap Pioneer Gregory D., was held at Xavier University. The concert was a throwback to the ’80s and ’90s highlighting some of rap’s great voices and of course Data was there!

Visit www.ladatanews.com for more photos from these events
Visit www.ladatanews.com for more photos from these events.
Dr. Ben Carson became the darling of conservatives earlier this year by stridently attacking the Affordable Care Act with President Obama sitting just a few feet away. Carson, who was serving as the keynote speaker at the National Prayer Breakfast at the White House, said, "Here's my solution: When a person is born, give him a birth certificate, an electronic medical record, and a health savings account to which money can be contributed—pretax—from the time he is born 'til the time he dies.

Predictably, the Right wing rushed to embrace him. Rush Limbaugh, Sean Hannity and the crew at Fox News were ecstatic that a prominent Black neurosurgeon shared their world view. Jonah Goldberg, a columnist for the Right-wing National Review, compared Carson to racial apologists—pretax—from the time he was born 'til the time he dies.

It was never about healthcare, it was about control.

The great irony of this temper tantrum over federal health care reform is that it has reminded us just how important the federal government really is.

This manufactured crisis is just the latest battle in a deeply troubling war against the Affordable Care Act. In the three and a half years since President Obama signed the bill into law, the U.S. House of Representatives has voted to repeal or defund it 42 times, while shrinking many of its other responsibilities. As millions of Americans struggle with unemployment, untenantable student loans and a middling economy, extremists in the "People's House" have chosen to prioritize political theater over the immediate needs of the American people.

But in an ironic twist, the repercussions of their grandstanding have only served to illustrate the important roles that government plays in our everyday lives.

The stories stream in to Capitol Hill from across the country, only to fall on deaf ears. Free health care clinics for the poorest of the poor are unable to take on new patients. Habitat for Humanity has lost federal funding for new affordable housing projects. On the first day of October alone, more than 19,000 American children lost access to Head Start services, and that number continued to grow until two philanthropists stepped in with stopgap funding.

Striking examples can even be found in Congress' own backyard. The federal government has not authorized Washington, DC to spend its own tax dollars, so the District's budget is frozen just like any federal agency. The city has frozen Medicaid payments for 220,000 residents, and it is quickly running out of reserve funds to pay for police and ambulance services.

These stories play into the ongoing debate about the size and role of government, which inevitably raises related questions about race and class. Although people of color will be disproportionately impacted by these developments, the truth is that low-income white communities will suffer in far greater numbers. So it is not only ironic but truly tragic that some activists associated with the Tea Party have chosen to inject race into the conversation by flying the Confederate Flag at rallies on the National Mall. They are forgetting that White non-Hispanics, who make up 42 percent of the poor in this country, actually receive 69 percent of all government benefits.

It is time to end this shutdown.

We need to continue to put the pressure on our elected officials and demand accountability. Call your congressional leaders. Tell them that enough is enough. The NAACP is strongly urging all congressional leaders to bring peace to this crisis.

The Affordable Care Act is here to stay. Extremists in Congress need to admit that other federal programs deserve their funding as well. Every day of this shutdown only reminds us how the federal government provides a safety net to those in need, and a leg up for those vying to make it into the middle class. No amount of pointlessgrandstanding will change that fact.

Benjamin Todd Jealous is the President & CEO of the National NAACP.

By Benjamin Todd Jealous
President & CEO, NAACP

The Shutdown’s Consequences

Dr. Ben Carson
‘Gifted Hands,’ Foot in Mouth

When you die, you can pass it on to your family members, so that when you’re 85 years old and you got six diseases, you’re not trying to spend everything. You’re happy to pass it on and there’s nobody talking about death panels.

"Number one. And also, for the people who were indigent who don’t have any money we can make contributions to their HSA [Health Savings Account] each month because we already have this huge pot of money. Instead of sending it to some bureaucracy, let’s put it in their HSAs. Now they have some control over their own health care."

Professionally, Carson is no dumb man. He earned his undergraduate degree from Yale University and his M.D. from the University of Michigan. At the age of 33, he became director of pediatric neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, the youngest major division director in the school's history.

In 1987, he led a 76-member surgical team that separated twins who had been joined at the back of the head. After the successful 22-hour surgery, Carson gained national recognition. His autobiography, Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story, was published in 1992. The book recounts how his mother, Sonya, reared him and his older brother, Curtis, after she and her husband, Robert, divorced when Ben was 6 years old. In 2009, TNT released a television movie with the same title as his book, starring Cuba Gooding, Jr. as Ben Carson. In 2008, George W. Bush presented Carson with the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Carson has made several controversial remarks after his appearance at the White House. In March, he said on Fox TV: “Marriage is between a man and a woman. No group, be they gays, be they NAMBLA [North American Man/Boy Love Association], be they people who believe in bestiality, it doesn’t matter what they are. They don’t get to change the definition.”

Under pressure, Carson withdrew as commencement speaker for the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. He also apologized for “not the best choice of words,” called his critics racist, and then apologized again.

Of all of his outrageous comments, his latest one ranks among the most egregious.

Speaking at a Voter Values Summit, Carson said, “I have to tell you that Obamacare is really, I think, the worst thing that's happened to this nation since slavery. It was never about healthcare, it was about control.”

First, the Affordable Care Act does what its proper title implies—it makes health care affordable to millions of people, including the uninsured. If making insurance more affordable, not allowing insurance companies to reject people with pre-existing condi-

Curry, Continued on page 10.
By The Bookworm Sez  
Data News Weekly  
Contributor

When the music starts, your feet do, too.  
Oh, how you love to dance – and if singing is involved, that’s even better. You sing in church, in the choir. If someone mentions it, you dance for the family. Heck, you’ve been known to break out in song and do a little shuffle on the street.

But what will you do with your talent? In the new book, "Harlem Nocturne" by Farah Jasmine Griffin, you’ll see how three women used theirs to change society.

In the years surrounding World War II, Harlem was a “vibrant” neighborhood, “brimming with creativity” and the sounds of Lena Horne, Lady Day, Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughn, Miles Davis, and Dinah Washington. It was a great time and place, if you were an artist or musician – but it was “no utopia” because of Jim Crow’s laws, segregation, and social inequality.

Born in the Caribbean, dancer Pearl Primus immigrated to New York as a child, and though she never experienced the kind of racism that was common in the

South in the 1940s, she was aware of it. Believing that dance was “a means of contributing to the ongoing struggle,” Primus used her talents – including the astounding ability to jump some five feet into the air – as a weapon for social justice.

Ann Lane Petry was born into a well-established and highly-educated Connecticut family in 1908. Her father was a pharmacist, her mother was a chiropodist, and they wanted Ann to follow in the family’s footsteps, but she had other ideas: as a “bookish, chubby child,” she had always wanted to be a writer. Harlem, for Petry, was a great place to find inspiration for stories that might affect a change in racial inequality, particularly for Black women.

Mary Lou Williams started singing and playing piano at age three and was “confidently aware of her genius.” As a member of the progressive Café Society, she “saw Black music as the deepest expression of Black history,” and used it to support her ideals – including an attempt at creating an all-female interracial band, something almost unheard-of in the 1940s...

Though it’s filled with plenty of important history – both of the national and of the entertainment kind - “Harlem Nocturne” isn’t a book for everybody.

Author Farah Jasmine Griffin takes readers for a stroll down the streets of Harlem, inside smoky jazz joints, and past the kind of educational opportunities that were available for the three women about whom she writes. I found that highly interesting, and I loved the history behind the stories, but I also thought this book was occasionally rather dry and repetitious. I wanted liveliness from these women’s lives, and that often seemed to be lacking.

I think there’s something in here for music fans. There’s something in this book for political historians, too, but I wouldn’t say this is a book you’d read for fun. Still, if you want to learn more about women and the roots of social justice, “Harlem Nocturne” will make you dance.
Progressive Organizations Offer Praise for Gov. Jindal for Recent Decision

Governor Jindal, in spite of his long political history of supporting right-wing organizations, has declined to attend this year’s Values Voter Summit in Washington DC.

His last-minute scheduling conflict came immediately after a coalition of national organizations dedicated to LGBT advocacy and racial justice, including the NAACF, Southern Poverty Law Center, GLAAD, and Faithful America, issued an open letter urging the governor to distance himself from the anti-LGBT opposition and racism espoused by the summit’s sponsors, the Family Research Council and the American Family Association.

Even more remarkable, is that this announcement comes on the heels of Jindal’s public support for Tony Perkins, the Family Research Council’s longtime President, as a member of the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement. Perkins is also a member of the Governor’s Commission on Marriage and Family along with Gene Mills, his successor as the leader of FRC affiliate Louisiana Family Forum.

“Jindal, of course, is well-known around the country for insisting after the 2012 elections that Republicans should stop being ‘the stupid party’ and focus on promoting new policies and ideas to inspire voters,” said Matthew Patterson of Equality Louisiana.

Patterson and other progressives applaud Jindal for finally following his own advice and rejecting the incendiary policies promoted by Tony Perkins and his associates. Josh Glassstetter says in his writing for the Southern Poverty Law Center’s Hatewatch blog, “Regardless of why he skipped the event, what matters at the end of the day is that Jindal isn’t lending his support to groups that demonize LGBT [people] with falsehoods.” Louisiana Progress and Equality Louisiana join Patterson and others in their unexpected congratulations for Gov. Jindal.

Kirk is GCAC Player of the Week for Second Time This Season

Xavier University of Louisiana’s Moira Kirk, who starred in Gulf Coast Athletic Conference women’s volleyball road victories against SUNO and Philander Smith, is the GCAC Player of the Week for Oct. 7-13.

It’s the second time this season that Kirk won the award and the fourth time in her career. She is the first XU player to win the award twice this season.

Kirk, a 5-foot-9 junior middle blocker from Dallas and a graduate of Bishop Lynch High School, had 10 kills and nine blocks — one less than her career best — against SUNO to help Xavier take sole possession of first place in the conference. Then she had 10 kills, three blocks and hit a season-high .643 in 14 attempts against Philander Smith to help Xavier tie a school record with its eighth consecutive victory.

It’s a ridiculous comparison. At the rate he is going, Carson’s photograph will be slapped on boxes of rice. Dr. Ben will be more appropriately known as Uncle Ben.

George E. Curry, former editor-in-chief of Emerge magazine, is editor-in-chief of the National Newspaper Publishers Association News Service (NNPA). He is a keynote speaker, moderator, and media coach.

Curry/ Continued from page 8.
Entergy and ‘National Night Out’ Put Crime Prevention in the Spotlight

Security Lighting Can Help Promote Safety During Fall’s Shorter Days and Year-round

NEW ORLEANS - As 2013 Night Out Against Crime events launch on Oct. 15 in neighborhoods across the metropolitan New Orleans region, Entergy’s area utility companies are joining law enforcement agencies and area utility companies are joining law enforcement agencies and community members in celebrating crime prevention successes as well as helping strengthen efforts for safety into the future.

In support of National Night Out, Entergy Louisiana, LLC and Entergy New Orleans, Inc. remind customers that security lighting can be a very economical and effective crime-prevention tool for homes and businesses during fall’s shorter days, as well as throughout the entire year. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, effective security lighting is the single most significant crime deterrent. It enhances natural surveillance, delineates private and public spaces, can help direct access and has been proven to increase security and safety.

“It’s no coincidence that National Night Out began as a ‘lights on’ campaign and symbolic front porch vigil to promote neighborhood camaraderie and crime prevention,” said Pat Waters, vice president of Entergy’s lighting business. “Properly lighting your home or business helps deter intruders and is one of the most impactful ways to take control of your personal safety, while also making the entire neighborhood safer for family, employees, customers and all community members.”

The idea behind National Night Out, which has grown to include a series of events, partnerships and efforts across America, is to raise awareness of how everyone can take steps both as a community and individually to prevent crime and violence. In support of this message, particularly as fall ushers in shorter days, Entergy’s security lighting campaign offers customers the opportunity to make a big difference in crime prevention with this easy-to-manage and cost-effective service.

By filling out a short form available online at www.energylouisiana.com/securitylighting, customers can let Entergy Louisiana or Entergy New Orleans know they are interested in having a security light installed at their home or business. Within just two business days, they will be contacted and a lighting expert will assist them in determining what best suits their needs. The process can also be initiated by calling 1-866-603-0192.

Security lights are available in a variety of sizes, styles, wattages and lamp types for home and business use. Customers are charged a set monthly fee for the lights, with the cost conveniently added to existing bills. The charges vary depending on the light’s wattage. Whether the light is installed on an existing pole, or a new pole is needed for the lighting, Entergy will work with customers to determine the most cost-effective option. In some cases, installation may even be free.

As well, there is no fee for regular maintenance, which includes bulb replacement. If the light and pole are destroyed in a storm event - such as a hurricane or tornado - they will be replaced free-of-charge to customers.

Cover Story, Continued from page 4.

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 driver’s 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 part-time position.

Contact Terry at Data News Weekly to apply.

(504) 821-7421

Call Now!

This space can be yours for only $80

Call 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