

Lighting The Road To The Future

New Orleans

**Data**

**News Weekly**

"The People's Paper"



**First Steps Music Workshop**

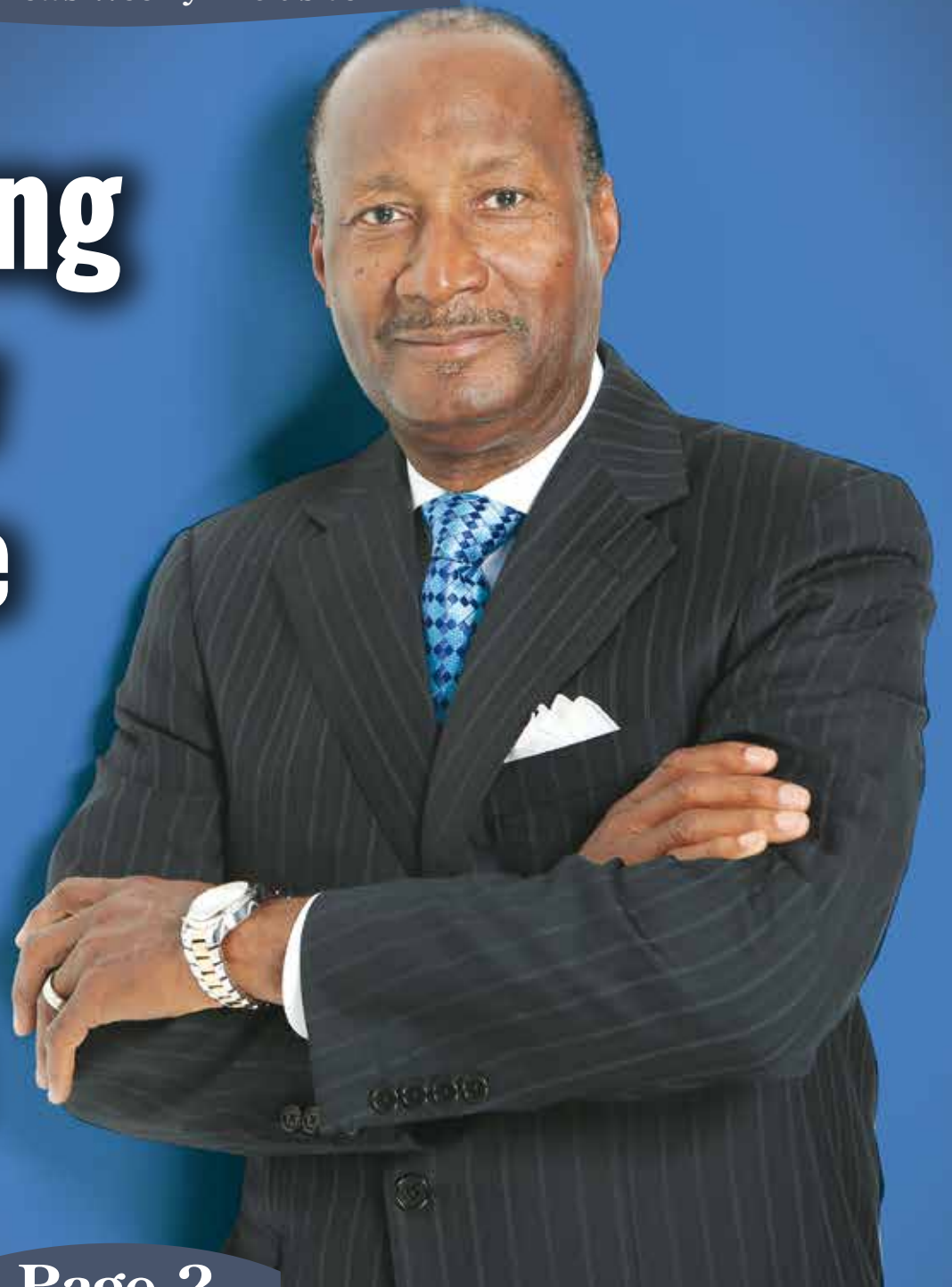
FREE COPY

**Data Zone Page 7**

September 6 - September 12, 2014 49th Year Volume 19 [www.ladatanews.com](http://www.ladatanews.com)

A Data News Weekly Exclusive

# Dr. Jerry Young Offers a New Vision for the National Baptist Convention



Page 2



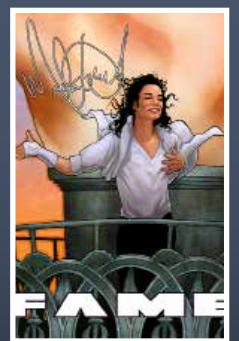
**Newsmaker**

**Daughters of Charity  
Opens in Gentilly**

Page 4

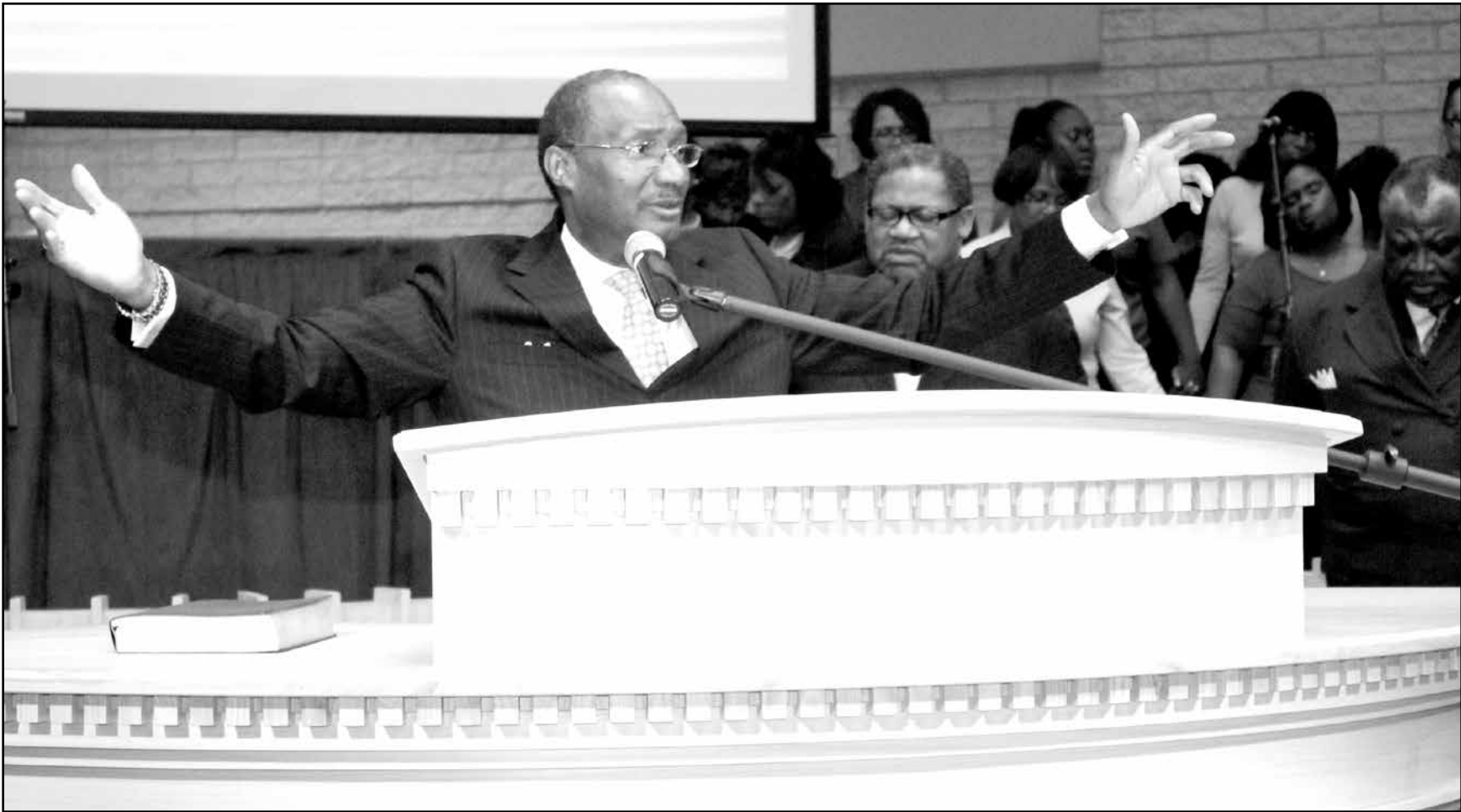
**Data Zone**

**Michael Jackson  
Comic Book**



Page 6

# Dr. Jerry Young Offers a New Vision for the National Baptist Convention



Pictured above is the Rev. Dr. Jerry Young, Pastor of New Hope Baptist Church in Jackson, Mississippi. Dr. Young has been part of the National Baptist Convention for over two decades.

By Edwin Buggage

### The National Baptist Convention a Rich History

The National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. is a history of significant growth and achievements, tracing

its origins back to Saturday, November 22, 1880 when 151 persons from 11 states met in Montgomery, Alabama and organized the Baptist Foreign Mission Convention. With a yearning to see the Gospel of Jesus Christ preached on the Mother Soil of Africa drove this organizing. The Rev. W. H. McAlpine of Alabama was elected as its first President. Six-years later in 1886, 600

delegates from 17 states gathered at the First Baptist Church in St. Louis, Missouri and formed the National Baptist Convention of America. Seven-years later in 1893, the National Baptist Education Convention was formed. None of the three Conventions thrived separately. So in 1895, the three bodies effected a merger in a meeting held at the Friendship Baptist Church in

Cover Story, Continued  
on next page.

INSIDE DATA	
Cover Story . . . . .	2
Newsmaker . . . . .	4
National News . . . . .	5
Book Reviews . . . . .	6
Data Zone . . . . .	7
Commentary. . . . .	8
Dollar & Sense. . . . .	9
State & Local News .	10

## 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

<b>Terry B. Jones</b>	<b>Contributors</b>
<b>CEO/Publisher</b>	Edwin Buggage
Edwin Buggage	Freddie Allen
<b>Editor</b>	Marc Morial
Calla Victoria	Charlene Crowell
<b>Executive Assistant</b>	LaKara Person
June Hazeur	The Bookworm Sez
<b>Accounting</b>	Bernie Saul
	Lenzie LeBeauf
	<b>Art Direction &amp; Production</b>
	MainorMedia.com
	<b>Editorial Submissions</b>
	datanewseditor@bellsouth.net
	<b>Advertising Inquiries</b>
	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.



Left to right, Minister David Veal, Mr. Hoyett Owens, Dr. Jerry Young, Data News Weekly Publisher Terry Jones, Pastor Harry Blake and Pastor Matthew Canada.



Left to right, Mr. Hoyett Owens, Dr. Jerry Young, Pastor Harry Blake and Pastor Matthew Canada.



Rev. Dr. Jerry Young, and Terry Jones.

Atlanta, Georgia. The Reverend E. C. Morris from Little Rock, Arkansas was chosen as the President of his merged body. Prior to 1895, nine men served as president of the Convention. Since 1895, eight men have led this venerable Convention. On September 4, 2014 in New Orleans at their 134th Convention they will elect a new leader to lead the convention in to the future. Who will be that person who will be the drum major leading them to the beat of a new drum addressing the issues of the 21st Century?

#### Dr. Jerry Young: A Man of Vision

In Proverbs 29 and 18 it says, "Where there is no vision the people perish." This organization with a rich history that has been meeting for over 130 years will be meeting in New Orleans from September 1st thru 5th and will be electing a new president that will lead the organization. With the question being what is the mission and vision of the convention in the 21st Century? With another pressing question being who is it that is best suited to lead the organization moving forward? The answer to this question may be in the man that is Dr. Jerry Young. He is the Pastor of New Hope Baptist Church in Jackson, Mississippi and has been part of the National Baptist Convention for over two decades. He has been a layman attending the convention and also part of the administration holding several posts including his most recent as Vice-President-at-Large. He is running for president of the convention and feels he is best suited to lead the convention in bold new ways to address the needs of the African-American community. "We are nearly 140 years old, and have a very rich heritage, we have done a lot for people historically with initia-

tives and inspiration and there is no doubt in my mind that it has played a vital role in the lives of African-Americans. But the issue for me is that we have been doing conventions for over one hundred years, I think it is time to transition from simply doing conventions to start a denomination. The question moving forward is how do we have a collective voice in this country when we bring together all these people to the tune of 8 million people pooling our resources together to impact our communities throughout this country," speaking of why he has chosen to run for President of the National Baptist Convention.

Talking about some of his agenda he says, "I think what we ought to do in our first role is evangelism, but here is the key we must also be socially responsible and rethink what we are in the 21st Century as a church but remaining true to what Christ has called us to do. Also we must focus on how that plays out in the context of our communities; when you think of any issue that impacts our community is the National Baptist Convention's name has to be involved and at the forefront in the things that are happening in our community." As we see so much death a depravity in our community, and historically the church has often served as the moral center for the African-American community in things personal and political. Dr. Young feels the National Baptist Convention must take a lead role in guiding these conversations and coming up with solutions. "How can we as a church talk about abundant life and there is nothing but death around us, what a contradiction. Jesus is life and He is the bread and it is clear to me that we cannot make an impact with simply having conventions, we need something that is more sustainable."

#### Working to Build a Denomination and Impacting the Community

Understanding that there is power in working together and moving the convention passed simply being event based, but based more on long-term strategizing to

make an impact in the communities each church serves. He feels collective action is necessary, "One of the things you do when you become a denomination is that you have the capacity to do more. We could build our resources collectively to deal with the things that

impact our community and be one voice with an expanded vision of what we could do. There is power in numbers and we need to utilize that not to simply mobilize and have an event, but organize to make a dif-

Cover Story, Continued on page 4.



## We Bring Health Care Home To You.

Skilled Nursing  
Psychiatric Nursing  
Physical Therapy  
Speech Therapy  
Occupational Therapy  
Home Health Aide Services  
Social Services  
Medical Supplies



### Why Home Health Care Services?

Here are 3 important reasons you should consider home health care for your loved one...

- It allows the client to be in familiar surroundings while receiving care.
- It keeps physicians alert to client's status and medical conditions.
- It provides professional observation of client's conditions.

#### Eligibilities & Criteria

- Physician must order home care for the client who is in need.
- Client must be home-bound based upon medical conditions.
- Skilled intermittent services must be a requirement.



Anyone covered by Medicare/Medicaid and/or private insurance is eligible at NO OUT OF POCKET EXPENSE.

**ABIDE**  
HOME CARE SERVICES

Office: 6960 Martin Drive, New Orleans, LA 70126 • Phone: 504.241.8823



# Daughters Of Charity Gentilly Health Center Opens

Daughters of Charity Health Centers hosted a special ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony on Wednesday, August 27th at Daughters of Charity Health Center – Gentilly, located at 100 Warrington Drive (on the campus of Dillard University). Archbishop Gregory Aymond provided the blessing for the new health care facility. New Orleans City Councilman Jared Brossett, District D, and New Orleans Health Department Director Charlotte Parent, along with other community and faith leaders were on-hand for the celebration. The public was invited to attend.

Daughters of Charity Health Center in Gentilly is open to all members of the community Monday through Friday be-



tween the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. The health care facility

accepts most private insurances, Medicaid, Medicare and the

Greater New Orleans Community Health Connection (GNO-

CHC). A sliding fee scale also is available, as well as low-cost medications through a pharmacy assistance program for those who qualify.

About Daughters of Charity Health Centers

Daughters of Charity Health Centers is a non-profit health care organization offering primary and preventive health services to all members of the community, regardless of their ability to pay. The Daughters of Charity have provided access to high-quality compassionate health care to the greater New Orleans community since 1834. The organization's five health centers are located in Bywater, Carrollton, Metairie, Eastern New Orleans and Gentilly.

## Cover Story, Continued from page 3.

ference. The truth of the matter we can't do it with part time workers and a half-cocked effort. We need full-time workers that will be employed not just in our headquarters in Nashville but all over the country. And you know what happens if we had more full-time workers working with the National Baptist Convention, we just impacted the unemployment rate in the Black community and guess what we did it."

When some think of the church its amazing history as being at the forefront of social uplift, from Richard Allen starting the African Methodist Episcopal Church in the late 18th and early 19th Century becoming the first independent Black denomination in the United States to the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) led by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the Black church has been a galvanizing force in advancing the causes of African-Americans. Dr. Young feels this need to be revisited to meet the needs of the people in the 21st Century. "We ourselves have to work to impact our community in positive ways. When we start a denomination or when we work to support those in our community we also impact poverty and the many social ills that adversely affect us." Continuing he says, "I am talking about understanding

that the picture is a whole lot larger than who is going to sit in the seat of president is solely the answer; it is will you effectively and efficiently serve and understand how to move forward dealing with the challenges of the 21st Century." To the question of why some particularly young people have moved away from the church he says, "I am convinced that if you scratch people where they are itching, if you address the questions they are asking you are relevant. But if you are scratching people where they are not itching and you are answering questions they are not asking then you will be irrelevant. We have to scratch people where they are itching because I feel if you are meeting needs you are relevant."

### Leading by Example: Practicing What He Preaches

There are things Dr. Young is doing in his own church that he feels he would like to bring to the National Baptist Convention that would impact the community long-term. "Our church in Jackson, Mississippi we employ 80 people every day, because we have a school we founded and anybody who works for us have benefits and we as a church pay 80% of the cost of our overhead. This is about the gospel of uplifting those in our community

in addition to stressing the importance of economic development, also no one works for us at minimum wage, not because of any government mandate but we feel it is the right kind of thing to do." Continuing he says, "We have a fairly large church for our state, we have a lot of people in our church who are involved in a lot of goods and services and we publish a booklet that these are the goods and services that are available within this congregation. If you need a plumber here're a guy in the church, or other services. Also we have a business fair where they can display their wares and members of the church go to meet and greet; because we feel it is important for us to patronize one another and I feel if we do not invest in our own communities we can kiss it goodnight."

Speaking of another project he is working on in his home church as an example of what can be done on a larger scale by the National Baptist Convention and also in the larger African-American community to foster a spirit of working together to empower ourselves economically and being our brothers and sisters keeper. "We are building a multi-million dollar church structure, when we began this process I said I want two things: can you find an African-American owned company that can be the

general contractor, we found a few but they could not get the insurance, but then we stipulated whoever the general contractor is they have to give a minimum of 35% of that businesses to minorities, we spelled out what we meant by minority. The guy, who got the deal, came up to 40% minority participation. After the deal was closed the African-American contractors asked for a meeting with me at the church and sat in a room and said this has never happened before. There have been places built in Jackson and the surrounding areas where there have been no minority participation and they told me you don't know what you have done."

### Dr. Jerry Young Envisions the National Baptist Convention Going from Good to Great

It is a fact that we all are blessed with some form of talent, but it is incumbent upon us to use them wisely, and there is even a parable that appears in Matthew 25: 14-30 that speaks of that. Dr. Young speaks of this parable in addition to referencing a book by Jim Collins called Good to Great; Why Some Companies Make the Leap and Other Don't, "In the book he raises the issue of how do you go from good to great, the number one thing you have to do is get the

wrong people off the bus and you got to get the right people on and in the right seat. And to get people who are there for the right reasons and that is to advance the collective and not themselves."

As a man of the cloth who is the son of a pastor and has been in the pulpit since the age of 17, Dr. Young spews great wisdom that creates a great visual for what he and his campaign represents, "In an automobile you have a rear view mirror and you have a windshield, the rear view mirror is there for you to glance at the past, but the windshield is broad because they expect you to look out that thing in every conceivable direction because of this reason; where you are going is much more important than where you've already been. My campaign is future oriented and is focused on what should happen, can happen and will happen. In my mind what's most important is what God will allow us to do in the future envisioning its potential and possibility and making it a reality. Ultimately, I want folks to know there is hope. I am focusing on the future through my vision of what can be. And if I am elected I can tell you that if Jerry Young is the leader of the National Baptist Convention I guarantee the things I promised will be done that will impact our community in a positive way."

# Black Voters in the South Face New Threats

By Freddie Allen  
NNPA Washington  
Correspondent

WASHINGTON (NNPA) —Despite major advances to access to the ballot box nearly 50 years after the passage of Voting Rights Act of 1965 (VRA), Blacks, living primarily in the South and Southwest, continued to face challenges at the ballot box, according to National Commission on Voting Rights (NCVR) report.

"Though protection under the Voting Rights Act has produced significant gains, African-Americans are continually subjected to new threats to their full enfranchisement," stated the report. "The ongoing protection of the Voting Rights Act is vital to the inclusion of this community."

Last summer, the United States Supreme Court invalidated the Section 4 coverage formula in the Voting Rights Act that required jurisdictions with a demonstrated history of voter discrimination to "pre-clear" any changes in voting laws with the Justice Department of a federal court. The ruling effectively neutered Section 5 of the VRA.

"Four states formerly covered by Section 5 of the VRA — Texas, Louisiana, South Carolina and Georgia — rank as the worst offenders," according to the report. The study found that, when it comes to voting discrimination, Texas was the worst state in the country, "including multiple state-level violations."

Last August, Attorney General Eric Holder filed a lawsuit against Texas over a restrictive voter ID law that went into effect after the Shelby decision, and also sought to support groups who took the Lone Star State to court over redistricting policies.

Following the Shelby v. Holder ruling, civil rights lawyers have increasingly used Section 2 of the VRA to defend voters' rights across the nation, but the report acknowledged the limitations of Section 2 lawsuits.

"While Section 2 provides important and considerable safeguards against discrimination, it does not provide the same level of protection that Section 5 afforded minority voters," stated the report. "Section 2 litigation is often complex and can be slow, time-consuming, and expensive," especially for poor, minority voters

with access to limited resources.

Under Section 5, covered jurisdictions had to prove that new laws didn't create added hardships for poor and minority voters. Section 2 reverses that burden of proof, placing it squarely on the shoulders of the voters and civil rights lawyers.

Since the Shelby v. Holder decision, new, controversial voting laws have been passed, forcing civil rights and Justice Department lawyers to expend resources battling

over whether those laws hurt thousands of voters.

The report covered a number of forms of voter discrimination, including minority vote dilution, voter challenges and intimidation, felony disenfranchisement, voter purges and restrictive photo ID requirements.

"The findings show that contrary to the court's assertion voting discrimination is still rampant and that states and localities previously

covered by Section 4 and Section 5, the [Voting Rights Act] provisions struck down by the court, continue to implement voting laws and procedures that disproportionately affect African-Americans, Latinos, Asian Americans and Native Americans voters," said Arnwine.

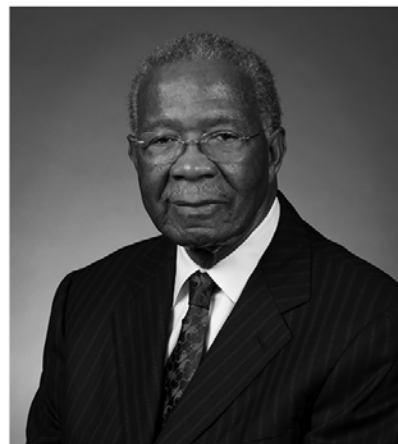
From 1995-2013, redistricting changes made up 58 of 113 Section 5 preclearance denials, the report said.

"Redistricting plans that dilute

minority voting strength typically submerge minority voters in overpopulated districts, divide minority population concentrations to prevent them from comprising the majority of a fairly-drawn district ("fragmentation" or "cracking"), or unnecessarily over concentrate them in a minimal number of districts ("packing")," stated the report.

National News,  
Continued on page 8.

**First  
NBC**  
Member FDIC



*First NBC Bank  
Vice Chairman  
Dr. Charles C. Teamer*

**First NBC Bank recognizes that a community based financial institution grows when it has professional and caring employees. We strive every day to supply the best banking services to each of our customers.**

**Majority local ownership allows us to cut through red tape and make decisions quickly when responding to our customers' financial needs. The Bank's flexible organizational structure affords our clients access to highly skilled and empowered bankers who are valued as trusted financial partners. And because we believe in open communication with customers, we will always encourage you to discuss your financial objectives and look for ways to implement them. First NBC Bank never stopped lending even during days of market instability. We're recognized as one of the top lending and service related banks throughout the Crescent City and the Metropolitan Area. So, if you want to work with a bank that makes client services its primary concern, you know who you can turn to—First NBC Bank.**

[www.firstnbcbank.com](http://www.firstnbcbank.com)

504-566-8000



## JEFFERSON PARISH

**Elmwood Office**  
504-671-3510

**Kenner Office**  
504-671-3540

**Lapalco Office**  
504-671-3570

**Veterans Office**  
504-671-3530

**Transcontinental Office**  
504-671-3425

**Terrytown Office**  
504-671-3550

**Manhattan Office**  
504-252-4315

**Cleary Office**  
504-252-4360

## ORLEANS PARISH

**Main Office**  
**210 Baronne Street**  
504-566-8000

**Mid City Office**  
504-252-4345

**St. Charles Office**  
504-252-4330

**Read Office**  
504-671-3875

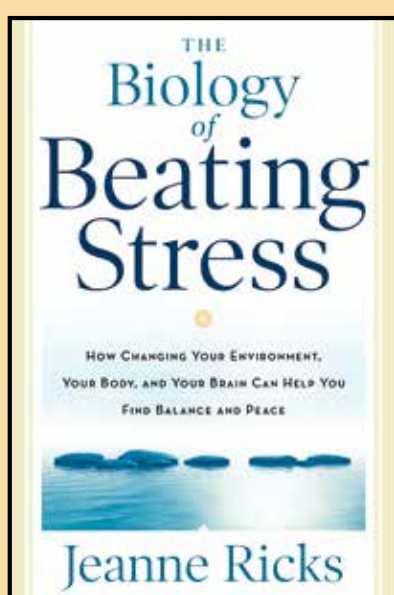
**Carondelet Office**  
504-671-3560

**DeGaulle Office**  
504-252-4300

**Lakeview Office**  
504-671-3520



# The Biology of Beating Stress



**The Biology of Beating Stress**  
by Jeanne Ricks  
c.2014, New Page Books  
\$14.99 / higher in Canada  
189 pages

By The Bookworm Sez

These days, antacids are your most-efficient of-fice assistant.

Aspirin is your co-worker. Sodium bicarbonate, your best friend. And stress? It's your roommate and constant companion.

Maybe it's the up-and-down of the economy that's made you feel this way. Maybe it's the uncertainty that accompanies today's workplace or perhaps it's a combination of all of the above, but you're a bundle of ready-to-scream. You need "The Biology of Beating Stress" by Jeanne Ricks.

Your grandfather was a hard worker. Your mother is a businesswoman and you're a Type A person, just like them. You might have their entrepreneurial genes, but genetics are not what drives stress and makes you miserable. Your environment, the people in it, and how you feel about those factors is what makes you seize up and grit your teeth in anxiety and irritation. That also causes belly fat, and it can make you physically sick.

In order to start ridding your life of stress, you need to first acknowledge that you're fed up. "Be in the moment," says Ricks, "and not on auto-pilot."

Next, learn to use the "STOP Technique," which requires that you tell yourself to STOP whatever you're doing, "absorb the scene around you," relax, and breathe. On that note, learning to breathe properly (which Ricks says "most of us" don't know how to do) is imperative.

"The best thing about deep breathing," she says, "is that you can do it anywhere..."

Get outside and go for a walk; studies show that

being outdoors eases stress. Know which foods are the healthiest for you when you're feeling on edge. Talk to your doctor about taking nutritional supplements and digestive enzymes. Think like a cat: s-t-r-e-t-c-h. and move. Write down your feelings and make an "attention list" every night, so you don't fret about forgetting something, and can sleep better. Look for time to exercise; Ricks says all you need are 20 minutes, three times a week. Forget about perfection ("a myth"), learn to forego blame when mistakes are made, and remember that change is out of your control.

Finally, learn to deal with "6 Big Ones" – the biggest anxiety-producers – by using tools for "all-purpose... jitter reduction." And "be kind. It costs you nothing..."

"The Biology of Beating Stress" might seem to fit in the new-agey column. It would be less so without its cheerleader atmosphere and the abundance of exclamation points!! but, that aside, what you'll find here is sound advice.

At issue, however, is that it's a lot of common sense and information that's been heard before. If, in fact, you've read anything about stress-reduction, you've read this book. Still, author Jeanne Ricks' instructions are good reminders; they're accessible, easy to understand, and can be implemented with little-to-no money and almost no experience in this kind of self-improvement.

And there, I think, is where the appeal of this book lies: its ease-of-use means quick help if you're tearing your hair out. And if that's what you need now, skipping "The Biology of Beating Stress" may be a bitter pill to swallow.

## New Michael Jackson Audio Comic Book Hits the Stands

Bluewater Productions has announced a new audio comic book about the life of superstar Michael Jackson. The updated release, Tribute: Michael Jackson is in celebration of what would have been the King of Pop's fifty-seventh birthday on August 29th. In conjunction with the audiobook, an expanded edition of the original comic book, Fame: Michael Jackson, a 40-page graphic novel, will be available in print and digital formats.

Several Jackson family members have expressed their appreciation regarding this touching tribute to Michael.

Michael Jackson's reign as the King of Pop is celebrated in the latest biographical comic book. The

newest addition features a cover and foreword by artist and friend of Jackson's Giuseppe Mazzola. The life of the world's most popular entertainer was infused with fantasy and tragedy. His discography is legendary. His legacy is complicated and unparalleled.

The Fame series was launched in 2010 as a companion piece to the successful Female Force and Political Power biography titles. The comic series allows Bluewater to delve into the celebrity culture and understand how a person rises to fame, deals with the newfound celebrity status, and continues to produce in the public eye. Individual issues spotlight actors, sports figures, recording artists, and the British royal family.





# Shoot Ya Best Shot!

## First Steps Music Workshop Featuring Jazz Violinist Michael Ward

Photos by Lenzie LeBeauf

Michael Ward shared his talent with the students and engaged them in nursery rhymes, counting, and listening activities. The students left with treat bags, music balloons, music beads, and an au-

tographed picture of Mr. Ward letting the students know to "Reach High for the Stars". The students also enjoyed a cake covered in music notes. Mr. Ward and his family wanted to do something nice

for the students at First Steps where both of his son's attend. Owner Mary Brown appreciates Mr. Ward and his family giving their time to invest in the next generation.



Visit [www.ladatanews.com](http://www.ladatanews.com) for more photos from these events

### Connect to the Source

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



[ladatanews.com](http://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](http://www.wbok1230am.com)



## To Be Equal

## Stop the War on Young Black Men



**Marc Morial**  
President and CEO  
National Urban League

of color are left behind and seen only as objects of fear." President Barack Obama

I had originally planned to use this column to denounce the July 17th death of Eric Garner, a 43-year-old, unarmed Black man following the unlawful use of a chokehold by New York City police officers who suspected Garner of selling untaxed cigarettes on a Staten Island street corner.

Garner, an asthmatic who repeatedly yelled, "I can't breathe!" while being wrestled to the ground by at least five officers, died at the scene, leading to calls of police brutality from his family and members of the community. I had planned to point to the death of Eric Garner as the latest in what has become an all-too-frequent occurrence in com-

munities of color across America – the excessive and often fatal use of force by police against young, unarmed Black men.

Then came the August 9 fatal police shooting of 18-year-old Michael Brown in Ferguson, Mo. Brown, who was unarmed and was preparing for his first year in college, was stopped and then shot by Officer Darren Wilson for the alleged crime of jaywalking, or specifically according to Ferguson police chief Thomas Jackson, of "walking down the middle of the street blocking traffic."

I have never witnessed a situation more poorly handled than this one. For almost two weeks following Brown's death, his family, community and outraged citizens across the nation have sought answers and justice from the local authorities, who have been slow to respond and quick to blame the victim, leading to intense demonstrations. Our thoughts and prayers are with Michael Brown's family. Now

that the Justice Department and FBI have entered the investigation, we have confidence that justice will ultimately prevail. Attorney General Eric Holder is doing the right thing by conducting a comprehensive parallel investigation and not waiting for local authorities – a refreshing departure from the traditional approach.

But this is not enough.

The tragedies in Ferguson and Staten Island are not isolated incidents. Just four days before Brown's death, on August 5, police shot and killed 22-year-old John Crawford in a Beavercreek, Ohio Walmart, after responding to a call that a man was wielding a gun in the store. It turns out that Crawford was holding a BB rifle that he had picked up while shopping in the store.

Clearly, racial suspicion and harassment of Black men, especially by law enforcement, has become an often deadly epidemic in many parts of the country. That is why we are urgently calling upon the White

House, the Department of Justice and congressional leaders to review and address the ongoing pattern and practice of racial violence and systemic discriminatory treatment by law enforcement in so many of our communities.

Too often, tactics like the "broken windows" strategy result in the targeting of communities of color for enforcement of minor offenses. Too often, there is a rush by police and the media to portray Black male victims who have been killed by Whites as "thugs" as we saw with Trayvon Martin, Ramarley Graham, Jordan Davis, and now with Michael Brown – particularly regarding the Ferguson Police Department's attempt at character assassination by releasing the store video of Michael Brown and attempting to deceptively link it to his killing. Add to that the militarization of police departments and the overuse of tear gas, stun grenades

**Commentary, Continued  
on page 10.**

## Thank You New Orleans!



To the Citizens of Orleans Parish,

I want to thank you for entrusting me, once again, to serve as **your** Judge of Civil District Court, Division "J". I emphasize "your" because I have never forgotten, nor will I ever forget for whom I work and why I answered the call to public service.

As I embark upon this next term, rest assured that I will continue to serve you with honor and integrity.

Again, thank you for your support.

**Judge Paula A. Brown**

## National News, Continued from page 5.

Robert Kengle, co-director of the Voting Rights Project at the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, said that redistricting is the reallocation of political power and there is always a temptation to make minority voters the pawns in that process.

"Whether you're talking about disputes between political parties or disputes between incumbents or one faction or another it's tempting to dilute minority voter strength to achieve your political goals," said Kengle.

Kengle added: "Sometimes it's just as simple as saying, 'We don't want minority voters electing candidates,' and the district lines are drawn to prevent that."

Jurisdictions that pass plans are usually more discreet today than they were in the 1960s or 1970s, but when you look at the results, sometimes the results are very similar, observed Kengle.

Leon Russell, the vice chairman of the NAACP Board of Directors called redistricting 'a partisan tool.'

"For legislatures that are dominated by one particular party, it's that party that usually draws those lines to protect its political power,"

said Russell. "If you can control who votes and where they vote, you can control the power."

Following the Shelby decision, the Justice Department made severe cuts to its federal observer program.

"The federal observer program provided an important deterrence against voter discrimination with 10,702 observers deployed from 1995-2012," the report said.

Kengle said that federal election observers serve multiple purposes and one of the most important purposes doesn't result in litigation. Election officials often request federal election observers from the Justice Department to calm tense situations when there have been concerns about claims of voter intimidation or other misconduct at the polls.

Election observers monitor the polls "not so much with an eye toward bringing a lawsuit, but rather allowing people to vote without concerns for intimidation," said Kengle, adding that, in recent years, observers have documented compliance with the language minority provisions of the Voting Rights Act.

Federal observers also keep an

eye on the voting process on the ground and take notes in a way that attorneys or other election observers are not able to do, said Kengle, who worked in the Voting Section at the Justice Department for about 20 years and supervised election coverage.

Losing that monitoring power will be a huge loss for minority voters, said Kengle.

"Blacks are conscious of the history that produced the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and all the sacrifices that people made so that act could become law," said Arnwine.

Arnwine disagreed with the majority decision in the Supreme Court Shelby County case that concluded that the rise in Black voter turnout and the number of minority elected officials signaled that the Section 4 pre-clearance formula in the VRA was outdated and that voter disenfranchisement was largely a problem of the past.

Arnwine sees it differently, noting that increased Black voter turnout doesn't mean that it's easier to vote, "it means that people are more determined to vote."



# Do's and Don'ts of Charge-Off Debts

By Charlene Crowell  
NNPA Columnist

With 19 of the nation's banks annually selling \$37 billion in charged-off debts, the absence of clear guidelines for banks and debt collectors has led to many consumers facing lawsuits, harassing telephone calls and threats over debts that they may not even owe. Even worse, debt collectors have coerced or sued the wrong people, overstated the amount, or even collected illegitimate debts.

Now, thanks in part to the efforts of advocates, a federal regulator has taken an important first-step towards holding banks accountable for the businesses they sell debts to and the threshold information that must now accompany those sales.

On August 4, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) issued guidelines that 1,729 national banks and federal savings associations must now observe. As of June 30, these institutions collectively held \$7.76 trillion in assets.

According to the OCC, "Banks that engage in debt sales should do so in a safe and sound manner and in compliance with applicable laws – including consumer protection laws. . . . Banks should be cognizant of the potential for fraud, human error, and systems failures when selling debt to debt buyers."

At the crux of OCC's guidance is a trio of concerns: consumer protection, accountability and accuracy.

Fair treatment of customers must now be part of the structure of debt-sales agreements.

Banks must provide timely notification to customers when their past-due debts are being sold. And these notifications must clearly identify the dollar amount of the debt that has been sold, as well as the name and address of the debt buyer. At the time of sale, banks must provide accurate and increased information for each debt.

"This guidance is one of the first actions taken by a federal regulator to address the way banks sell off their old debt," said Lisa Stifler of the Center for Responsible Lending. "The agency sent a strong message to banks that they must no longer sell debts without proper due diligence, risk management, and attention to the fair treatment of consumers."

OCC also identified specific types of debt that are not appropriate for sale. The list includes:

- Deceased account holders;
- Borrowers that have

sought or are seeking bankruptcy protection;

- Accounts lacking clear evidence of ownership;
- Account holders currently in litigation with the institution;

• Debt that has been otherwise settled or is in the process of settlement and

- Debt incurred as a result of fraudulent activity.

By advising banks of the dos and

don'ts of debt selling, the hope is that consumer harms stemming from these transactions will disappear.

**Dollars & Sense,**  
Continued on page 10.



## SERVING OTHERS IS THE GREATEST REWARD OF ALL.

All of the McDonald's® 365Black® Award honorees deserve recognition, but for them, nothing is more fulfilling than helping others. Please join us as we applaud their dedication and let us all be inspired to be **deeply rooted in the community™** by giving back. Find your motivation at **365Black.com**.



**365BLACK**  
AWARDS



# Moral Mondays, One Voice, Dream Defenders to Speak at SRABC Sept 24-26

## Conference brings together leaders to discuss innovative solutions for wealth gap

NEW ORLEANS—"We' is the most important word in the social justice vocabulary. The issue is not what we can't do, but what we can do when we stand together," said the Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II.

Barber, who started the national Moral Mondays movement, is the keynote speaker for the Southern Regional Asset Building Coalition's conference in New Orleans, from Sept. 24-26.

"With an upsurge in racism/hate crimes, criminalization of young Black males, insensitivity to the poor, educational genocide, and the moral/economic cost of a war," he

said, "we must stand together now like never before."

The Rev. Dr. Barber has helped to lead the fight for voter rights, just redistricting, health care reform, labor and worker rights, protection of immigration rights, reparation for women survivors of eugenics, release of the Wilmington Ten and educational equality. He also serves as a national board member and the national NAACP chair of the Legislative Political Action Committee.

Barber will be joined by other leaders in equity and advocacy including One Voice and Dream Defenders, as part of the speaker line up for the two-day conference, Closing the Racial Wealth Gap: Innovative Solutions for Change, takes place September 24-26, 2014 at the Astor Crowne Plaza New Orleans French Quarter. Early registration

for hotel discounts ends Sept. 3. Early registration for the conference ends Sept. 8 with discounts.

Other featured speakers and panelists

- Michael Sherraden, Founder and Director of the Center for Social Development at Washington University in St. Louis, author, Assets and Poor: A New American Welfare Policy, co-author, Working and Living in the Shadow of Economic Fragility.
- Thomas Shapiro, Professor of Sociology and Public Policy at Brandeis University and is the Author The Hidden Cost of Being African-American and the Co-Author of Black Wealth/White Wealth.
- Derrick Johnson, President and CEO, of One Voice, works with local elected officials, the phil-

anthropic community, and local stakeholders to make sure voices often neglected in Mississippi get heard. Mr. Johnson has served as State President for the Mississippi State Conference NAACP since 2004. He earned his Juris Doctorate from South Texas College of Law in Houston and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Tougaloo College in Jackson, Miss.

- Steven Pargett, Communications Director of Dream Defenders since 2012, is a former community advocate with the Southern Poverty Law Center and has a background creative consulting work for start-up businesses, college programming and political campaigns targeted at millennial and people of color demographics.

## Commentary, Continued from page 8.

and other tools of war in response to largely peaceful demonstrations, as we have seen in Ferguson, and a toxic relationship between police and the communities they are sworn to protect and serve is all but certain.

Let's be clear. There is no justification for looting, property destruction and otherwise breaking the

law in the name of the First Amendment, and the irresponsible actions of an ill-intentioned few do not represent the legitimate grievances of an entire community. The Civil Rights Movement has always been and continues to be one of peaceful – yet effective and strategic – protests and actions that have initiated massive change.

As we look to solutions to ensure that a higher value – a human value – is placed on the lives of our Black men, legal remedies are absolutely needed, but this is essentially a problem of the heart. Until White Americans and police departments begin to see and treat young African American and Latino males with the dignity and deference afforded to their White counterparts, nothing will change. The death of

Michael Brown has once again exposed the widespread and dangerous mistrust that exists between law enforcement and too many communities of color in America. For the sake of our nation, our communities and equal justice, we must bridge that divide.

Marc H. Morial, former mayor of New Orleans, is president and CEO of the National Urban League.

## Dollars & Sense, Continued from page 9.

"For years, debt collectors have gotten away with flooding the courts with frivolous debt collection lawsuits and fraudulently obtaining judgments, when they have no proof that the debts are actually owed," said Susan Shin of New Economy Project. "The OCC's guidance should help stop this wrongful transfer of wealth from low-income people and communities to debt buyers."

Instead of debt buyers rushing to courts to sue consumers for debts owed, OCC's guidelines and ongoing monitoring will stem – if not end – consumers having their paychecks surprisingly garnished, or a court finding in favor of a debt collector simply because the affected consumer never received a notice of the impending action. Unfortunately, many default judgments have been based on inaccuracies, incomplete or outdated personal information or questionable claims.

"The OCC guidance will help bring banks and debt collectors into compliance with federal and state consumer protection, as well as other laws," said Rob Randhava of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, a coalition of more than 200 groups.

For advocates, the hope is that this first step towards consumer protection in debt sales will not be the last.

Charlene Crowell is a communications manager with the Center for Responsible Lending. She can be reached at [Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org](mailto:Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org).

## Community Development Institute Head Start Job Advertisement

CDI HS Serving Orleans Parish, Louisiana is currently seeking applicants for the following positions.

**Receptionist:** This position performs all duties as required for the smooth operation of an office, and other duties including greeting visitors, answering the telephone, taking and distributing messages, picking up and distributing mail, data entry, typing, word processing, faxing, and other clerical duties. Bilingual preferred. Non-exempt: \$10.00 per hour.

Requirement is high school diploma or G.E.D. High school diploma or G.E.D. with one year of receptionist experience is preferred. Word processing skills of at least 40 words per minute, and some knowledge of Microsoft Office (Word, Excel) preferred. Must have the ability to manage numerous tasks, possess good organizational skills, communicate effectively with co-workers and the public, and work collaboratively in a team environment.

**Health Services Manager:** Responsible for health (medical and dental), mental health services, and nutrition and child safety areas provided by an Early Head Start program. Collaborates on the development and implementation of the program, tracking and recordkeeping, community relations and outreach. Provides content area training and technical supervision to other agency staff. Ensures health procedures are performed only by licensed/certified health service are supported by staff/consultants with training and experience in public health. Requirement is an AA in a health or nutrition field or other closely related field. Experience working in public health or nutrition arena and working with low-income clients preferred. Experience and training in public health, nursing, health education, maternal and child health or health administration preferred. Experience and knowledge of family-strengths/family-centered practice preferred. 52 wks. /year: 40 hrs. /wk. -\$25.00 hourly-Bilingual (English/Spanish) preferred

**Home Visitor:** Responsible for education, case management, and family advocacy to families in an assigned caseload by providing and linking families to comprehensive services including home visits and socialization activities. This position works with typically developing children and children with disabilities. Because this position is one part of a large system of services provided to children and families, this position also serves as a social service referral person and shares responsibility for parent involvement in the program.

Requirement is a current CDA credential [home-based setting preferred] upon employment or have high school diploma or GED and it is recommended that individual be in training and able to obtain the CDA within one year from date of hire. At such time as the Home Visitor receives the CDA credential he/she will receive a pay increase. AA/BA degree in ECE or related field preferred.

In addition, training and experience to develop: consistent, stable and supportive relationships with very young children; knowledge of infant and toddler development and safety issues including reducing the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome; and methods for communicating effectively with infants, toddlers, parents and other staff are a requirement of this position for Early Head Start home visiting. 52wks. /year; 40 hrs. /wk. -\$13.75 hourly with CDA/ \$14.25 hourly with One Year Certificate. Bilingual (English/Spanish) required.

RESUME'S **WILL NOT** BE ACCEPTED IN LIEU OF APPLICATIONS. Applications are available M-F, 8:30 – 4:30 P.M. at the CDI HS serving Orleans Parish Early Head Start Administrative Office, which is located at 2714 Canal St., Suite 407, New Orleans 70119, only. Completed applications may be returned to the administrative office or mailed to P.O. Box 8249, New Orleans, 70182. Successful applicants must possess a clear criminal records and background check – acceptable under LA codes to work with children, clear TB screening and health exam. Applications will be accepted until the closing date which is September 10, 2014 or until the position is filled. CDI HS is an Equal Opportunity Employer



Find us on:  
**facebook®**

**more photos**  
**more stories**  
**more data**



## Ford Partners With Professor Henry Louis Gates Jr. on Second Season of "Finding Your Roots"

By: LaKara Person

### One show. Ten episodes. Thirty guests.

As fall arrives and your favorite shows return to the small screen, there's only one television show to watch to learn more about the heritage and ancestries of 30 of today's leading entertainers, athletes, chefs and media personalities, including Hip Hop Superstar Nas and Actor Courtney B. Vance.

Ford Motor Company has joined forces with PBS to bring the second season of "Finding Your Roots with Henry Louis Gates, JR. back this fall. The 10-part series, finds Gates continuing on his quest to, as he says, "get into the DNA of American culture." By weaving a group of celebrity stories together, each episode takes viewers on a journey through layers of ancestral history, uncovering familial secrets."

Ford, a company who has deep roots in the community, was thrilled at the opportunity to join forces on the series.

"We are so excited to help play a role in bringing the second season of this program to life," said Shawn Thompson, Ford manager, multicultural marketing. "The role that Professor Gates is undertak-

ing to show how all Americans are connected is something that we as a company can stand by and are pleased to support."

Each hour long episode will highlight three celebrity guests bound together by an intimate, sometimes hidden link. With the help of a team of genealogists, Gates travels thousands of years into the past to discover the origins of today's game changers.

In addition, each episode will also feature a thirty-second spot that looks back at the history of Henry Ford and his visionary, family-owned company. For Gates, one of Ford's lasting contributions was his willingness to pay a fair wage to black workers in his factories, which led Southern sharecroppers to Detroit as part of the early 20th century's Great Migration.

The series kicks off on Tuesday, September 24 at 8:00PM EST as Gates discovers the secrets of Stephen King, Nasir "Nas" Jones, Gloria Reuben and Courtney B. Vance.

To find out when your favorite celebrity will be a guest on the show, visit <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/finding-your-roots/>.

Be sure to share your favorite celebrity stories, along with your own roots on Twitter using the hashtags #MyFordRoots and #FindingYourRoots.

## Dillard's 2014 Brain Food Lecture Series is a 'Feast for All'

First lecture with Michael Steele set for Sept. 18 in Georges Auditorium

On Thursday, Sept. 18, 2014, Michael Steele, first African American Chairman of the Republican National Committee, will deliver the first lecture in Georges Auditorium at 7 p.m. on Dillard's campus. The event is free and open to the public.

Steele is recognized as an African American conservative Republican and has achieved unprecedented success in the political arena. He made history in 2003 when he was elected Lieutenant Governor of Maryland and again in 2009 as Chairman of the Republican National Committee (RNC), a position he held until 2011. During his tenure as lieutenant governor, Steele worked to reform the state's Minority Business Enterprise Program and chaired the Governor's Commission on Quality Education.

As RNC Chairman, he led the party in record-setting fundraising and won more seats at the federal, state, and local levels since 1928. He is president and CEO of The Steele Group and co-founder of Purple Nation Solutions, a D.C.-based strategic communications and public affairs firm. Among other positions, Steele has served as Chairman of GOPAC, held posts on the National Federal Election Reform Commission and the NAACP Blue Ribbon

Commission on Election Reform.

Steele is a Political Analyst for MSNBC and has appeared as a contributor on a number of national broadcast media including Fox News and the Salem Radio Network's Morning in America Show. He has also been a guest on cable talk shows such as HBO's Real Time with Bill Maher and Comedy Central's The Colbert Report.

Upcoming lectures:

Oct. 14 – Maggie Anderson,

Author of Our Black Year and Founder of the Empowerment Experiment

Nov. 11 – Misty Copeland

Phenomenal ballet soloist with the American Ballet Theater

Author of Life in Motion

Dec. 2 – Revius Ortique Lecture on Law and Society – Benjamin Crump

Noted civil rights attorney; represented Trayvon Martin's family and currently representing family of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri

Jan. 26, 2015 – Jason L. Riley

Author of Please Stop Helping Us: How Liberals Make it Harder for Blacks to Succeed

Seats are on a first come basis. For more information go to @BrainFood, visit [www.dillard.edu](http://www.dillard.edu) or call 504.816.4800.

### 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.

This space can be

yours for only \$80

Call Now!

504-821-7421

## Medical Grants Available for Children in Louisiana

The UnitedHealthcare Children's Foundation (UHCCF) is seeking grant applications from families in need of financial assistance to help pay for their child's health care treatments, services or equipment not covered, or not fully covered, by their commercial health insurance plan.

Qualifying families can receive up to \$5,000 per grant with a lifetime maximum of \$10,000 per child to help pay for medical services and equipment such as physical, occupational and speech therapy, counseling services,

surgeries, prescriptions, wheelchairs, orthotics, eyeglasses and hearing aids.

To be eligible for a grant, children must be 16 years of age or younger. Families must meet economic guidelines, reside in the United States and have a commercial health insurance plan. Grants are available for medical expenses families have incurred 60 days prior to the date of application as well as for ongoing and future medical needs. Parents or legal guardians may apply for grants at [www.UHCCF.org](http://www.UHCCF.org), and

there is no application deadline.

In 2013, UHCCF awarded more than 1,700 medical grants, worth \$5.6 million, to children and their families across the United States for treatments associated with medical conditions such as cancer, spina bifida, muscular dystrophy, diabetes, hearing loss, autism, cystic fibrosis, Down syndrome, ADHD and cerebral palsy.

UHCCF was founded in 1999. Since 2011, UHCCF has awarded more than 7,500 medical grants, totaling more than \$45,000 to children and their families in Louisiana.

"Thousands of children struggle every day for something many of us take for granted – our health. That reality is the driving force behind UnitedHealthcare Children's Foundation's mission to help families in need access medical care that will improve their child's health. Our medical grants have already helped thousands of children in need, and we are looking to help thousands' more children in the future," said Glen J. Golemi, president and CEO, UnitedHealthcare-Gulf States Region.



*Driving to get her  
daily DQ® fix, though  
you're lactose intolerant.*

*Hearing her giggle when  
you say: Play episode  
"Natural Hair for Newbies."*

*Having all your  
daughter's radio  
stations programmed.*

*Loving your baby girl's  
music and hating  
yourself for it.*



**It might be your Fusion, but it's on your daughter's schedule.**

**2015 FUSION + HYBRID with MyFord Touch® powered by SYNC® \***



**Go Further**

\* Available feature. DQ is a trademark of Am. D.Q. Corp. and used with permission.  
©2014 Ford Motor Company.