By Edwin Buggage
Data News Weekly Editor

Antoine “Fats” Domino: Rock-N-Roll Pioneer

The name Fats Domino is forever etched in the history of American popular music. His unmistakable piano playing, and distinctive voice set the world on fire as the sounds of boogie woogie and R&B would merge into what would become known the world over as rock-n-roll. His hits, written with his partner Dave Bartholomew would include, “The Fat Man” (1949), later earning national and international fame with tracks like “Ain’t That a Shame” (1955) “Blueberry Hill” (1956) Whole Lotta Loving” (1958), “I’m Ready” (1959) and “I Want to Walk You Home” (1959) and the iconic “Walking to New Orleans” (1960). In his prime recording years, he sold 65 million singles placing him second behind Elvis Presley. He has been inducted in the Rock-n-Roll Hall of Fame, and has received a National Medal of Arts from President Bill Clinton in 1995.

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WANTS DAY SALE PRICES IN EFFECT 11/8-11/12. MERCHANDISE WILL BE ON SALE AT THESE AND OTHER SALE PRICES NOW-1/2/18, UNLESS NOTED.
1998. He is a musical legend with a body of work that continues to influence generations of artists across the globe.

Only in New Orleans: Second-lining and Celebrating Life

He recently passed away peacefully at the age of 89. He is gone but not forgotten as his legend lives on. His home going was a send-off that paid homage to a man that was true to New Orleans.

Fats Domino: The Man Behind the Music

Andrews continues speaking of the relationship between Fats and his grandfather, Legendary Singer Jesse Hill, who opened for Domino and for a time and lived next door to him in the Lower Ninth Ward. “I saw him many times and use to go by his house as a kid with my grandfather. I went by his house where Katrina sat and sat and talked with him and drank a few Heinekens and talked about music. And after Katrina I went over to his house in Harvey when he moved over there and spent the day. You were able to talk about music, the City and his life. It was always great to see the “Fat man” and he had a wonderful personality; that was the way of life in New Orleans all the time it is like a second home.”

Inspiring a Generation

Data News Weekly Publisher, Terry Jones grew up in the Lower Ninth Ward and was also friends with Andre’ Domino. At the time where there was still a racial divide, but many were inspired by the success of Fats had achieved and felt they could aspire to a better life. “His legacy is that he was somebody to admire back in the 9th Ward he had the biggest house and 7 cars. They were the cream of the crop and he was an icon in Lower Ninth Ward if you aspired to be something, that was the top.”

Local legends paying tribute to Fats Domino are from left to right, Dr. John, Troy “Trombone Shorty” Andrews, Al “Carnival Time” Johnson and Charles Brimmer.

The second-line for Fats Domino was led by James Andrews, a world-renowned artist who has known Domino since he was a young boy.

An Ambassador for the City of New Orleans

Fats Domino’s name is synonymous with New Orleans. And while his fame rose, he never forgot where he came from. In fact, he celebrated it and continued to inspire us as someone who rose to a level of greatness and can continue to live in the community and inspire others. A fact not lost on James Andrews, who lists Satchmo and Fats as the biggest Ambassadors of New Orleans and its music. “The one thing I liked about Fats is that he stayed true to the City of New Orleans; he never left, and he toured the world, but he always made it back to the 9th Ward. He stayed true to New Orleans and he could have left and lived anywhere in the world, but he stayed right here and that’s special.”

For more from the Fats Domino Second Line turn to page 6.
Conference Reflects on Haiti’s Role in Shaping New Orleans Culture

By Naomi Hill
Contributing Writer

As New Orleans inches closer to marking its 300-year Anniversary, local professionals and activists continue to document and reflect on the rich history of the City. New Orleans is not just a City covered in beignet powder and parade beads, it is also influenced by many countries in its architecture, food, art, music, and dance. But without the pivotal history of Haiti, New Orleans would not be the City that’s known and beloved today.

From Nov. 1st-3rd, over 200 visitors attended the Haitian Studies Association’s 2017 Conference in New Orleans, hosted by Xavier University and Tulane University. The conference’s key plenary on Nov. 3rd, titled “Haiti and New Orleans: Making Cultural Connections in the Local Community,” sought to look at those historic and present-day connections between these two places. The panel reflected on recent examples by groups within the City to reconnect to Haiti.

Freddi Williams Evans, who has written about the History of Congo Square chaired the panel that included Marky Jean-Pierre, a Tulane visiting Professor in Haitian Studies; Monique Moss of Third Eye Theatre Interdisciplinary and Improvisational Performance; Freelance Journalist Laine Kaplan-Levenson who has produced the Tripod New Orleans Tricentennial Series; and Shaka Zulu of New Orleans Voices of Congo Square and Golden Feather Mardi Gras Indians. The panelists spoke about Haiti’s cultural influence on New Orleans, starting from the early arrival of Haitian settlers in the late 1700s, as being fundamental to truly comprehending New Orleans’ culture and people today.

“As I began studying history, I realized parts of Louisiana History that people loved so much, originated before Louisiana was a part of America,” said Chief Shaka Zulu. “So, I began wondering where did that history come from? Where did gumbo come from? Where did the word gumbo come from? So, I continued to study New Orleans... and there was a missing link.”

Zulu said he found those links in simple traditions that have been passed down. The sewing style of the Mardi Gras Indians in New Orleans, Zulu said, could be traced back to similar sewing styles that originated in Haiti.

Other New Orleans’ traditions and customs also can be traced back to the Haitian people, the panelists shared. Some of the crops used in Haiti formed the ingredients needed in well-known New Orleans Creole dishes and delicacies. The sounds of second-line music can also be traced back to Haiti’s rare street parades, Evans said.

“One of my professors alluded to Haiti being extremely relevant to the History of New Orleans,” said Monique Moss, who teaches dance at Tulane. “Then the question becomes for me,” Moss said, “in an event such as the Haitian Revolution, which shifted political dissections, why do we not learn about Haiti?”

The panelists bemoaned the fact that Haitian History is still mostly excluded from U.S. textbooks. The lack of education, they said, is one reason why New Orleanians often don’t recognize their own blood ties to the Caribbean country.

“I did not learn about Haiti in college... until I began taking courses that had to do with that specific subject because one of my professors alluded to Haiti being extremely relevant to the History of New Orleans,” said Monique Moss, who teaches dance at Tulane.

“Then the question becomes for me,” Moss said, “in an event such as the Haitian Revolution, which shifted political dissections, why do we not learn about Haiti?”
The Black Men of Labor held its 24th Annual Living Culture Parade on Sunday, October 22, 2017. The Black Men of Labor hold as their mission to educate, preserve, and perpetuate our rich African & African-American Culture by creating sustainable economic opportunities that break the cycle of generational poverty in New Orleans. Of course, Data was there!

Visit www.ladatanews.com for more photos from these events
Celebrating Fats Domino
New Orleans Style

Photos by Eric M Craig
Data News Weekly
Contributor

On Wednesday November 1, 2017, Traffic came to a standstill as hundreds filled the streets to celebrate the life and music of Antoine Domino Jr., whose boogie-style, rhythm and blues piano was famous around the world. New Orleans will never forget the man, Fats Domino or his legacy. Rest in Peace Fats.

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Trump Makes George W. Bush Look Like the 2nd Best U.S. President

I never thought I would miss President George W. Bush, our 43rd president, and I’ve never much thought of him as a great, or even a good speaker; but the speech he gave at a conference convened by the George W. Bush Institute was simply eloquent, excellent, thoughtful, and compelling. After keeping a low profile for the past eight years, he spoke up to decry the fact that “bigotry seems emboldened.”

Bush said that, “Bullying and prejudice in our public life sets a tone, provides permission for cruelty and bigotry, and compromises the moral education of children.”

Why did George W. Bush choose to speak so forcefully, in a speech that did not mention “45,” but was at least partly directed at him? Perhaps, it was the violent protests in Charlottesville; he and his father, President George Herbert Walker Bush, issued a joint statement denouncing White supremacists, something that it took “45” forever to do. The younger Bush was blunt when he said, “Bigotry or White supremacy in any form is blasphemy against the American creed.”

I knew that I would miss President Barack Obama (44). Like his predecessor, he has kept a low profile since leaving office, stepping out very briefly to campaign for Virginia gubernatorial candidate Ralph Northam and to reflect on the challenges we face in our democracy. Like President Bush, President Obama did not refer to “45” by name, but his speech in Virginia was a repudiation of virtually everything that our precocious current president stands for.

“Some of the politics we see now, we thought we put that to bed,” said Obama. “That has folks looking 50 years back. It’s the 21st century, not the 19th century. Come on!”

Seemingly scolding the current administration, Obama said, “Instead of looking for ways to work together to get things done in a practical way, we’ve got folks who are deliberately trying to make folks angry, to demonize people who have different ideas, to get the base all riled up, because it provides a short-term tactical advantage.”

Watching Presidents Bush and Obama reminded me of how far the quality of our nation’s leadership has fallen. I saw two men who, with absolute class, reminded us of our nation’s values and everything that is repugnant about the current administration. The contrast is the persistent crassness of “45,” an ill-spoken, bumbling, coarse, and classless individual. He never met a fight he could not pick and escalate, never met an opposing viewpoint he could not demonize. He has belittled everyone he has disagreed with, from his own inner circle to football players he does not even know, calling them “sons of bitches.”

In his entire eight years of service, President Obama never disparaged his predecessor, President George W. Bush, even as he cleansed up some of his messes. In his several months of leadership, “45” has missed no opportunity to criticize President Obama. If I had a dollar for every time President Obama criticized President Bush, I’d barely have enough money for a fast-food meal. If I had a dollar for every time “45” disparaged President Obama, I could dine at the nation’s best restaurants for a full week!

Class is visiting Walter Reed Army Medical Center to look in on wounded soldiers, or hosting White House lunches for Gold Star families. Class is calling widow Myesha Johnson, never mentioning her deceased husband, Sgt. La David Johnson, by name, and telling her “he knew what he signed up for.” Class is refusing to disparage either predecessor or successor. Class is trivializing anyone and everyone, including his predecessor. Class is disagreeing with dignity and civility. Class is name-calling, challenging people to IQ tests, making fun of ill and disabled people, making fun of war hero and veteran Senator John McCain (R-Ariz.), for being shot down and captured during the Vietnam War.

To be sure, I don’t think that “45” maliciously called Myesha Johnson in an attempt to cause her pain. I think he simply does not know how to talk to people, and we have plenty of evidence. The recent book, “The Dangerous Case of Donald Trump: 27 Psychiatrists and Mental Health Experts Assess a President” (Macmillan, 2017) explains that the sociopathic narcissist we elected is so fundamentally flawed that he could easily imperil our very survival by pushing us into war.

“45” told Myesha Johnson “he knew what he signed up for.” So did the nearly half of our nation’s voters when they chose crass over class.

To All You Scared Republicans, Shut Up, This is All Your Fault

Okay, at the time of this writing, the indictments came down, and I was offering dirt on Secretary Clinton. But, this is all current events just to catch you up.

I want to write about the political background on some of this in the sense that some Republicans are losing a little nerve on President Trump. How? Well two GOP Senators are resigning their positions, Jeff Flake and Bob Corker. I think they have been getting way too much love from the pristine mainstream media. The Devil take them both and President George W. Bush as well. I’ll get to him later. Just because they all said a few anti-Trump words, or wrote a book filled with what’s wrong with the Republican Party does not impress me at all. They all supported Trump and voted for him and the two senators still voted for the GOP agenda on the Obamacare repeal and now they’re both poised to vote on a ridiculous tax cut for the rich.

Who’s zooming who? If they’re both leaning, why not caucus with Democrats and try to stop or slow the Trump agenda? How about teaching the Republican Party that they can’t pass an agenda to support a racist President who spewed bigotry as a campaign promise? Why are neither of them thinking about how to short circuit this President? They’re leaving because they’re embarrassed. President Trump has exposed the GOP as the racist, sexist, religiously intolerant and dangerous to human life on this planet, party it really is. The Commie Libs tried to warn us. Racist Corker and Flake see the horror, now. They’re running in panic like the people in a Japanese monster movie screaming with their hands in the air like they just don’t care. Now even Democrats are clapping like silly fools at George W. Bush, who is still the stupidest President in modern history just because he hollered about how awful Trump is on an open mike. Really? Here’s a refreshing folks. Bush is the man who installed the Civil Rights bill in 1990 and also put John Roberts as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court right after his hanging of Katrina. This is the same John Roberts who hated the Voting Rights Act while in the Reagan Justice Department and who got to gut it on the high court.

Let’s not forget George H. W. Bush, who was the first Republican President in history to veto a Civil Rights bill in 1990 and also put Clarence Thomas on the Supreme Court and that worked out for Black America just fine. So, I say the Devil take them all. The two absurd and cowardly Senators, the Bush father and still idiot son too. I have no interest in their all of a sudden bleating about “Oh my God Trump is terrible and he’s killing us.” It’s what they deserve as every one of them helped set the stage over the past fifty years for the rise of President Trump. I don’t care what they say, and neither should you.

To subscribe to the show, visit www.julianemalveaux.com. Follow Dr. Malveaux on Twitter @djastword.
Read it and Sweep

Nuggets Blast DU, Set State Record

Xavier University of Louisiana defeated Dillard to set a state volleyball record for success in conference play. The Gold Nuggets (21-2, 12-0 Gulf Coast Athletic Conference) became the first Louisiana team to win every set against regular-season conference opponents in one year. They finished 36-0 in GCAC sets. The previous state best was by LSU, which won 24-of-25 sets in the SEC in 1989 and 1990. XULA’s previous best was 36-2 in 2013.

Tiffany Phillips served seven aces — the most in a match by a XULA player in three seasons — and had 12 assists and 11 digs in her ninth double-double of the year. “I just tried to serve tough and find the seams,” Phillips said. “That’s the way coach (Pat Kendrick) has been telling us to do it all season.”

The victory was the 11th in a row for XULA, which will have a first-round bye in next week’s GCAC Tournament at SUNO’s The Castle. The Gold Nuggets will play SUNO or Edward Waters in the semifinals at 3 p.m. Nov. 10. The championship match will start at 11 a.m. Nov. 11.

Kayla Black had eight kills for the Gold Nuggets, and Juliana Tomasoni had seven kills, 10 digs, two assists, two blocks and an ace. Hasani Salaam had a career-high tying five blocks, and Vivica Price-Spragins and Lauryn Taylor had three apiece. Eva Le Guillou had 13 assists and two aces, and Anna Dalla Vecchia had a match-high 15 digs. Shelby Stewart had nine kills and two blocks for Dillard (19-16, 9-3), and she was the only Lady Bleu Devil with more kills than attack errors. Tristan Cjoe had five blocks, and Alexis Barnett had 11 digs.

XULA opened by allowing its fewest points ever in a set to Dillard, and the Gold Nuggets outhit the Lady Bleu Devils .600 to minus-.214 in that first set. For the match XULA outhit Dillard .272 to minus-.094. XULA’s 33 kills were its second-fewest in a match this season, but the Gold Nuggets compensated with 11 aces and nine blocks.
Will Stacey Abrams Be America’s First Black Female Governor in U.S. History?

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

The GOP has held a tight grip on the governor’s mansion in Georgia since 2002, when Sonny Perdue, promising to restore the Confederate battle cross to the state flag, defeated Democratic incumbent Roy Barnes to become the first Republican to hold the position in the Peach State since Reconstruction.

But, a motivated Democrat is looking to change that and shatter a glass ceiling that has never been broken in the United States.

Stacey Abrams, the Georgia state house minority leader, who holds degrees from Spelman College and the Yale School of Law, is seeking to become America’s first Black female governor.

“It’s a very humbling experience to know that, if I win this election, I would have achieved something to know that, if I win this election, I would have achieved something,” Abrams said in an interview with the NNPA Newswire. “Physically claiming that mantle of leadership and holding it signals that anything is possible and we can redefine what leadership looks like and who we can lift up.”

Abrams, 43, said she’s undaunted by the stranglehold the GOP has had on the governor’s mansion for the past 15 years.

She said Georgia will likely be a majority-minority state in the coming years which provides Democrats more of an opportunity to claim the seat next year.

Abrams noted that Democrats have gained steam, citing the 2006 race where the party lost by nearly 400,000 votes but significantly closed the gap during the last election in 2014, coming within less than 200,000 votes of victory.

Four Republicans—Lieutenant Governor Casey Cagle; Secretary of State Brian Kemp; State Senator Hunter Hill; and State Senator Michael Williams and two Democrats—Abrams and State Representative Stacey Evans—have declared their candidacy for the post.

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The New Georgia Project, a nonpartisan voter registration group, that Abrams launched three years ago, may also help her candidacy.

“It’s the single largest voter registration effort in recent memory in Georgia and we have been able to register more than 200,000 people of color in Georgia to vote,” Abrams said. “I just don’t talk, I have a record that we need to talk about.”

The Guardian reported that Abrams is “One of six children born to Methodist ministers in Mississippi who later followed their work to Georgia. Abrams family struggled to fight off poverty, relying at times on government assistance.”

As a student at Avondale High School, Abrams was hired as a typist for a congressional campaign in high school, where her tweaks to a campaign speech she was typing up were deemed so good she ended up being hired as a speechwriter at 17, The Guardian reported.

And, as she seeks to become the first female Black governor in history, Abrams has already accomplished a series of firsts including being the first person in her immediate family to buy a house and the first to become a lawyer. She also earned the distinction of being the youngest deputy city attorney in Atlanta’s history.

When she ascended to the position of house minority leader, it was the first time that a person of color or a woman had held that job in more than 200 years, according to The Guardian.

Incidentally, her sister, Leslie Abrams, is the first Black woman to become a federal judge in Georgia.

“Georgia is a fast-changing state with demographic parity,” Abrams said. “But, I’m running to be the governor of all Georgians, because all Americans deserve leaders who care about them and who don’t work only for the privileged, but for justice.”

That’s important, because “Poor doesn’t care what color you are,” Abrams said.

With vast experience in the public, private and nonprofit sector, Abrams said she’s poised to lead her state. Abrams said that she has created several small businesses, published eight novels and, one of her latest ventures, was to make sure Black-owned small businesses had access to capital.

Her campaign is based, in part, on a vision that every Georgia resident deserves the freedom and opportunity to thrive, but Abrams said that too many people are being left behind or left out.

Abrams has also pledged to expand pre-kindergarten programs and make technical college education free.

Her vision for Georgia is one she said fosters prosperity where everyone has the opportunity to succeed, not just survive.

“We have the ability to build a stronger, brighter Georgia,” Abrams said. “It is time for transformative leadership, powered by all of us.”
Give Thanks for Fall Colors

Thanksgiving is right around the corner and this fall you can jazz up your holiday outfits festively! This fall you can dress the part by wearing Thanksgiving inspired colors. Refer to your dinner table on Thanksgiving Day. There is fashion in everything and you are sure to find something green, something tan, and sometimes even a navy blue on the dinner table Thanksgiving Day. Navy Blue, Green, and all things tan are the colors of the season and here is how you can dress them up or down.

Navy Blue: This color is great on almost every fashion article: dresses, bags, hats, and sweaters. Darker colors like navy blue also warm you up as fall approaches winter. Navy blue is a classical fashion statement that can be a chic fancy style or a subtle accessory statement.

Tans: Tans and browns are your holiday go-to color every season and is no stranger to the fashion world. Tan can go on any ensemble from boots to scarves. To play it fashionably safe this season, consider wearing all tan, and you’re sure to never go wrong.

Hunter Green: By far the darkest and most daring green of fashion, hunter green is always fashion forward in any season or weather. This fall you can contrast the leaves on the trees and the hottest magazine ensembles by throwing on some hunter green. Hunter green can be worn as a dress, skirt, shirt, or almost any part of fashion.

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