Showdown at the Superdome

It’s Bayou Classic Time

Page 2

Newsmaker
Madam Mayor

Page 5

State & Local
Marc Morial Celebrates 25 Years of Service

Page 7
By Eric Craig
Data News Weekly Contributor

After Grambling State University reigned as Champion of the Bayou Classic during last year’s game, Southern University is coming back with vengeance. On Saturday, Nov. 25th, the Grambling State University Tigers and the Southern University Jaguars will hold their 44th Annual match at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome at 4 p.m. Tickets can be purchased on the Bayou Classic’s official website. NBC’s sports Network will also broadcast the event.

“We are geared up to host the Grandfather of all HBCU Classics in the City of New Orleans. People come from North, South, East and West to meet at the Bayou Classic and help further the support of both Grambling State University and Southern University,” said Dottie Belletto, President and CEO of New Orleans Convention Company, Inc. (NOCCI), the Management Firm of the Bayou Classic, in an official release. “Why? Because we are one as this
year’s theme touts. When we stand together, think as one and do as one in support of HBCUs, we help to strengthen our future and the lives of the students who attend them and that’s what Bayou Classic is all about.”

This year, organizers and officials at the Bayou Classic Foundation will present the competition’s first-ever Lifetime Achievement Award to Randy Jackson, former American Idol Judge, for his “established history of distinguished service, lasting contributions to schools and society, and his positive influence on culture at the national level.” Jackson graduated Southern University in 1979.

Earlier this year, Data News Weekly held an interview with Belletto about the future of the Classic. She mentioned this year would include a ramped-up BizTech Challenge and a new program celebrating classic MVPs.

The Bayou Classic organizers started the BizTech Challenge in 2016, where students from Louisiana’s six HBCUs competed to create an app to help small businesses recover from national disasters. This competition will play a larger role in 2017 Festivities. This year over 24 teams from eight Historically Black Colleges and Universities will compete in Advanced Manufacturing, Clean Energy, and Digital Technologies categories. The winning team will win $10,000 in cash.

“We have created incubators on both campuses of their intelligence that is coming forward in technology. We are then creating something that will be continually sustainable for Grambling and Southern that will open opportunities with students,” Belletto said.

To keep up with the Bayou Classic, be sure to download the official application, which is available on the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store.

The History
The tradition of Bayou Classic began 43 years ago, as the two highest-performing football teams, Grambling State Tigers and Southern University Jaguars, faced off in the Southwestern Athletics Conference.

The Bayou Classic took off as a media phenomenon in 1990s, after being moved to the Mercedes-Benz Superdome. Since then the game has traditionally been played on the Saturday following Thanksgiving Day.

The overseeing foundation held The Classic every year at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome since 1990, except in 2005, when Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans.

The New Orleans Convention Company, Inc., took over as the official event planner for the Bayou Classic nearly five years ago. It increased attendance at the Dome from 40,000 in 2012 to nearly 60,000 on Game Day.

“We took it from the grassroots and built it up. We had to get all the way down and build the foundation,” said Belletto in a previous interview with Data News Weekly.

“We had to change the perception that Bayou Classic wasn’t dying—it was well alive.”

Impact on the City
The Bayou Classic brings over 200,000 people and over $50 million to New Orleans. While the Game Day is the flagship event of the Bayou Classic, the event has transformed into a hub for college recruitment, family-centered events, Greek Step Show, Battle of the Bands and more.

Event Calendar:

FRIDAY

Bayou Classic BizTech Challenge
Friday, November 24th
Loyola Avenue, NOLA 70113 at 1 p.m.

Greek Show & Battle of the Bands
Friday, November 24th
Mercedes Benz-Superdome, 1500 Sugarbowl Drive, NOLA 70112
Doors Open at 5 p.m.

SATURDAY

Doc Griggs 2X Around the Dome
Saturday, November 25th
Mercedes Benz-Superdome, 1500 Sugarbowl Drive, NOLA 70112
8 a.m.

Bayou Classic Parade
Saturday, November 25th
French Market to the Mercedes-Benz Superdome
Parade will begin at 9:30 a.m.

Fan Festival
Saturday, November 25th
Champions Square, LaSalle St, NOLA 70112
11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

The 44th Annual Bayou Classic
Grambling State University Tigers vs. Southern University Jaguars
Saturday, November 25th
Mercedes-Benz Superdome, 1500 Sugarbowl Drive, NOLA 70112
Kick-off at 4 p.m.

The Official Bayou Classic After Party
Saturday, November 25th
Metropolitan Nightclub, 310 Andrew Higgins, NOLA 70130
Doors open at 11 p.m.
By: Glenn Jones
Data News Weekly Contributor

TRIBAL TIMELINE
1951 – 1967 Big Chief Lawrence Fletcher
1967 – 1981 Big Chief Percy “P” Lewis
1982 – 2011 Big Chief Gerard “Rardi” Lewis
2012 – present Big Chief Kendell “Suge” Williams

Big Chief Suge has a rich lineage from Big Chief Curtis “Suge” Williams, masking in the 50’s with Golden Blade Big Chief Paul Longpre, then ultimately Sr. bringing out Cheyenne Hunters in 1970. The Jr. Big Chief Suge, will be bringing out, for his first time, the Black Eagle Tribe. The Bloodline Chief is Michael Lewis, who has been masking under Big Chief Walter of the Creole Wild West. After Big Chief Suge Sr. returned to New Orleans, before he passed, he encouraged Jr. to get back to masking. But Chief became an Executive Chief, spending time in Atlanta and fighting a valiant fight against cancer. As we all know, life can throw challenges at us and knock us off of our true path; but, Chief got an extra boost of inspiration to Mask again. It was his fellow young Chiefs that grew up like him, in this culture since childhood; Big Chiefs such as Big Chiefs Bo Dollis Jr., Big Chief Demond Melancon, Derrick Hillard, Romeo Burreges and Otto (Chief Fiyi). From their words of encouragement, to the high level of artistry they displayed in their suits, Chief said “they’re bringing fire, I’ve got to get back in this.” As a Big Chief he has gone through some changes, so has the Black Eagle Tribe.

As we have been on this journey of the active 42 Tribes Big Chief of the Week, we have touched upon, as well as many chiefs have spoken on, Caucasians Masking in the Black Masking Culture. Well this is the tribe that presently has a Caucasian Queen coming from their deceased second Chief Flynn. He is Chief Flynn, Chief Suge says “he paid his dues” through being assaulted physically by other Indians; to reports of even being hospitalized as a result. And to Flynn’s queen, he extends that respect. As he says the gang has gone through many transitions and she has kept the Black Eagles Tribe’s name on the streets.

As Mardi Gras became more commercialized after the Civil Rights Movement and integration of all Mardi Gras Krewes, the new civil right laws that applied to governmentally registered organizations (all Mardi Gras Krewes and social aid and pleasure clubs) opened their enrollment to all ethnicities. Although Black Masking Culture is not a registered governmentally, it operated under government officials and only received the title “Mardi Gras Indian” during the 80’s for tourism purposes, there are some that want this culture to assimilate to the government restriction to control the economics of the culture. Due to this title or misnomer, many insist, push, economically persuade and orchestrate either the infiltration or ethnic replacement of this culture to secure the monetary revenue of tourism and festivals.

In regards to second Chief Flynn, Chief Suge says he “paid his dues” through being assaulted physically by other Indians; to reports of even being hospitalized as a result. And to Flynn’s queen, he extends that respect. As he says the gang has gone through many transitions and she has kept the Black Eagles Tribe’s name on the streets.

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Q) Are you familiar with the process of buying suits from Indians?
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Q) What is a Big Chief to you?
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A) Well let’s be clear brother, I’m not a Mardi Gras Indian, and I’m not Masking. I’m an Indian. I’m not a Mardi Gras Indian, that’s a term that I would say not even Second-Liners, but some of the patrons that don’t even know too much about this culture gave us those labels. We have a tendency to run with certain with labels that people give us. Terms and handles, that’s society we live in.

Q) What are your thoughts on the term Mardi Gras Indian or Black Masking Indians?
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Q) Three-hundred years from now, what do you hope your legacy has created?
A) I want my legacy not only to be my suits, my personality, my love and whatever gifts I can bring to the culture. I hope it will be imitated like my dad. Like Tootie, Rudy, Keitho, Rardi, Lil Walter. I hope that my contribution will be as big as some of theirs.
New Orleans Elections Makes History
Re-Shaping of the Future of New Orleans

By Edwin Buggage
Data News Weekly
Contributor

Historic Night in
New Orleans
New Orleans voters went to the polls and history was made as the City elected its first woman Mayor, LaToya Cantrell and the first Asian-American elected to the City Council Cyndi Nguyen, in District E.

Mayor-Elect
LaToya Cantrell
During her campaign party held at the New Orleans Jazz Mart in Central City, the mayor-elect was surrounded by her family and supporters stating this is not just a win for herself and her family, but for the City of New Orleans as cheers filled the room. This sentiment is based on the grassroots approach she took while campaigning going into communities and meeting citizens to understand their needs and concerns. This bottom-up approach is one of the factors that led to her victory on Election Night.

Sheppard, Banks and
Nguyen Victorious
in Races for Judge and City Council
In two other races that were on the ballot, Attorney D. Nicole Sheppard won the contest for Civil District Court Division J over Attorney Omar Mason. In one of the closer races this evening in a nail biter decided by 131 votes Jay Banks, Director of Dryades YMCA defeated former School Board Member Seth Bloom in the City Council Race for District B. And in a surprising upset Cyndi Nguyen won a seat in District E, an area that includes New Orleans East and the Lower 9th Ward against incumbent James Gray to become the first Vietnamese-American to serve on the New Orleans City Council.

New Orleans: A City and Its Future
These are historic times for our City as we are on the eve of our 300th Anniversary. And as we look at our electing LaToya Cantrell as our first woman mayor, what is also of note is the composition of our new City Council. One that will be more diverse and younger than any time in our recent history; it is in these times that hopefully the Mayor’s Office and the City Council can work together to create public policies that are progressive and empower more of the citizens of New Orleans. It is important that their visions and actions lead to solutions to the many problems that plague our City.

Community Chain of Accountability
But without us engaging help to guide this process this desirable state will not happen. Again, we experienced low voter turnout. But for our City to turn around we must become more involved with not just voting in higher numbers, but in civic engagement more generally. It is in this that first, individuals must become more accountable for their actions. Secondly, families must invest more time raising their children planting the seeds for greatness in young people. Our community leaders whether they come from the church or grassroots must take up the task of bringing issues that affect our communities to elected officials who in turn create public policy that works for more people of our City. It is in this model that we all become stakeholders in our future. And in the words, that sum this spirit up best came from Desiree Charbonnet who in her concession speech said if LaToya Cantrell does well as Mayor we all do well. But adding to that sentiment I say if ‘we’ all do well our City is better for all of ‘us’ and ‘we’ all must do our part.
Performance Art Takes Audience Through Mourning, Grieving in Loss

By Naomi Hill
Data News Weekly Contributor

Kaneza Schaal, a New York City-based Artist, is forever channeling her creative energy into performance art; a live modernistic approach to visual art. On Nov. 3rd she ventured to Xavier University to share that energy with students and local peers in a public discussion. Xavier’s Performance Studies Laboratory hosted Schaal on campus to explore the thinking process that contributed to her latest project, known as “Go Forth.”

Schaal was born in California and later moved to the Big Apple where she began her career working with theater companies such as The Wooster Group and Elevator Repair Service, which both greatly contributed to Schaal’s involvement in the experimental theater community.

“I was drawn to their work for its innovation in terms of how different media can get integrated on stage,” Schaal said.

During the artist talk, Schaal shared the meaning of the art performance “Go Forth,” inspired from the “Egyptian Book of the Dead.” The performance utilizes analog projection, sound, and dance to bring to life the process of ancient burial traditions. “I think of the project as a translation of the text [Egyptian Book of the Dead]. It’s this ancient funeral text that is a blueprint to the afterlife,” Schaal said. “So, I think of the work we’re doing as bringing this ancient performance to life.”

The project intends for the audience themselves to dissect the subject of death including the mourning and grieving process. “One of the most beautiful things Schaal had was basically plywood, pieced together on the wall with some sort of metallic or reflective coating,” said Lisa Flanagan, a Communications Studies Professor at Xavier.

Schaal’s troupe rehearses the performance “Go Forth,” inspired from the “Egyptian Book of the Dead.”

“Schaal spoke about the importance of that shine, and how if you were in the belly of a tomb these reflective surfaces would cause you to think about the reflective process we go through when we grieve or think about dying or death. It all kind of came together, it was so simple.”

Piece by piece, the performance caused the audience to draw their own moral conclusions about death and its tribulations without the performers having to explain anything. Nevertheless, Schaal also includes aspects of hope within the performance to signal the chance of afterlife for all people.

The young artist is extremely resourceful when it comes to her work. She takes to her advantage all human experiences in order to create performances that really leave an impression on her audience.

Performance Art, Continued on page 10.

Artist Creates Tiny House, Helps Public See What’s Essential in Life

By Naomi Hill
Data News Weekly Contributor

A house on wheels that travels across the country, while reinventing the idea of a home, stops to pay a visit in New Orleans. Assemblage Artist, Dominique Moody, created a miniature house on wheels made up of salvaged materials, and known as the “NOMAD.” On Nov. 15th, Xavier University’s Art Department hosted Moody to present an “Artist Talk” as well as to give a public tour of the Tiny House Exhibition located in Xavier’s Art Village Gallery. The event also featured Xavier’s digital photography students’ work on “New Orleans: Architecture, Spaces, & Places,” an art exhibition coordinated by Instructor Edna Lanieri, that complimented Moody’s exhibit with photos of New Orleans’ nature, landscapes, and local street scenes.

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Through Mourning, Grieving in Loss

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Moody explained to her curious audience what exactly began her nomadic journey, after giving up studio, said Moody, who is based in Los Angeles but whose life’s journey spans the globe. “And if that much is going in to just the housing of it, it meant that it blocked me from doing some of the other moving forward that I needed to do, creatively.”

The ability to let go of what’s holding you back became Moody’s new life motto. From the act of leaving behind her beloved studio she emerged on her nomadic journey, a path of creative exploration and freedom.

“The idea of the house itself is really cool,” said Bria Black, a sophomore at Xavier “You wouldn’t think that it’s possible to have a full restroom, somewhere to cook and sleep... all in a 146-square-feet house, it’s impressive and extremely humbling.”

The NOMAD is constructed with objects for a different intention. “There’s one thing about having the object and finding the object, but finding the story behind the object is even more important,” Moody said. “So, using these salvaged materials allows me to tap into a story and unearth that story and that makes your work much sweeter.” While building the NOMAD the artist assembled industrial items such as washing machine doors for windows and old crates for organizing her belongings, while still creating an aesthetically pleasing home that radiates life.

Moody currently refers to the tiny house as “NOMAD46” because New Orleans marks the tiny house’s 46th destination. During the artist talk Moody stressed the freedom she gained as she began traveling with only the tiny house, and specifically how excessive personal belongings can become a burden or mental weight holding you back from possibilities.

“I could definitely do a tiny house. What I like about it is you only have what you need,” said Joan Ulmer, with Xavier’s Art Department. “The bigger the house the more we store and keep. So, if you have a small space you’re not going to keep stuff that you don’t really need.”

Upon entering the tiny house, local visitors shared with each other about letting go of materialistic items that tend to validate self-worth or status. Moody suggested that by living a more simplistic life people perhaps could help free themselves mentally from the popular consumer-based mindset. “I think unfortunately we get very encumbered by our things,” Moody said. “And then we are exhausted by them because they demand so much of our time.”

Moody will continue to travel in her tiny house and share her free-form way of thinking. The nomadic way of life embraces mobility and allows the artist to diversify where she creates and with what she chooses to create with. “Open up the space of what you can do if you’re not just trying to pay for rent and if you’re not always seeking the new thing,” Moody said. “What it usually leaves, is this space where you can dwell deep into what your happiness is, what your work is, what drives you and then how to assist others.”
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Historical Election Evening

Effram Hill
Data News Weekly Contributor

Friends and supporters gathered on Saturday, November 18, 2017 to celebrate the election of New Orleans’ First Woman Mayor, LaToya Cantrell. It was a great night to be a New Orleanian, and of course, whenever there is history being made, Data will be there. Congratulations Madam Mayor-Elect.
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Marc H. Morial
Celebrating 25 Years of Public Service
Short film, A Legacy of Change, Profiles His Story

The constant symbolism of the stage, the music, body movements, and the dance, all together, is like a mystery,” said Indigo Gill, a Senior at Xavier. “Because you know in some way it all comes together to weave a story,” Gill said.

In 2016, Schaal was granted the Creative Capital Award to aid in developing her next project “Jack and Jill,” a Multimedia Comedy that examines social codes in terms of human undergoing prison re-entry to experiencing debutante balls. Guests at the event spoke on each phase of his career, including Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Bernette J. Johnson; Diana Bajoie, former President Pro Tempore of the Louisiana Senate; former New Orleans City Councilman Oliver Thomas; Esther Bush President and CEO of the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh; and Winston Burns, the CEO of Newburns Management Group.

A panel discussion followed the screening of A Legacy of Change.

Performance Art, Continued from page 6.

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In 2016, Schaal was granted the Creative Capital Award to aid in developing her next project “Jack and Jill,” a Multimedia Comedy that examines social codes in terms of human undergoing prison re-entry to experiencing debutante balls. Schaal is continuously working, whether it is advocating for the arts in education or complying with her team of artists, on performances. “The challenge is to keep making and CEO of the National Urban League in 2003, ushering in an era of digital revolution, fundraising expansion and a deepening mission.

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Performance artist and creator Kansza Schaal
the work something that is valuable for all the artists involved,” Schaal said. “I make sure that when people invest in this work I am also investing in their work, so there’s a real exchange there.”
Carnegie Grant Fuels Tulane Efforts to Send More NOLA Public School Grads to College

Keith Brannon
kbrannon@tulane.edu

The Cowen Institute will use a $500,000 grant from philanthropic foundation Carnegie Corporation of New York to launch a new research initiative aimed at helping more New Orleans public school graduates — especially socioeconomically disadvantaged youth — enter and complete college.

During the next 15 months, the Cowen Institute will conduct research, draft policy recommendations and engage national experts in creating a unified plan of action for post-secondary success in New Orleans.

“We are so grateful for Carnegie Corporation of New York’s support,” said Amanda Kruger Hill, Cowen Institute executive director. “With this funding, the Cowen Institute will research and implement solutions to this complex challenge facing young people in New Orleans and across the country. Our goal is to create a vision for high-quality pathways to post-secondary opportunities that not only works for youth in New Orleans but that could also be a model for communities nationwide.”

Only 9 percent of youth in New Orleans’ bottom income quartile earn a bachelor’s degree within six years of high school graduation compared to 80 percent of their peers in the top quartile. Previous Cowen Institute research found that more than 14 percent of 16- to 24-year-olds in New Orleans are disconnected from both employment and education.

The Cowen Institute will create a detailed report on the current state of youth in New Orleans and how disadvantaged youth fare in the city after high school. The report will include baseline data for specific age groups to determine who is employed, who is enrolled in degree programs and who is neither in school nor employed.

“The research will provide a clear picture of where young people are and what specific obstacles they face, as well as assess the best ways to ensure students enroll and graduate from post-secondary institutions,” Hill said.

“We are pleased to support this work by the Cowen Institute, which will greatly expand our understanding of how New Orleans and other communities can support all young people in achieving their goals for the future,” said Vartan Gregorian, president of Carnegie Corporation of New York.

The Institute will release the baseline report next year at an event that will bring together local and national experts who will focus on ways to increase college and career readiness and persistence for New Orleans youth.

All Louisiana Medicare Beneficiaries Urged to Update Their Plans Before December 7, 2017

Volunteers In The Field Now Across Louisiana To Make Sure Medicare Beneficiaries Are Getting The Right Coverage

Data News Staff Edited Report

The Louisiana Senior Rx/Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC), a free counseling service offered in coordination with the Governor’s Office of Elderly Affairs, is encouraging all Medicare beneficiaries to update their Medicare card, proof of income, list of prescriptions with dosages, and a statement of what you spent on drugs during the last year, according to GOEA.

Your needs change as you age. Why shouldn’t your Medicare coverage change? Let us make sure you are enrolled in the right program that meets your care and prescription needs, and that you are getting all the benefits for which you are eligible,” said GOEA Program Manager Michelle Guillory.

Medicare enrollees should contact the Aging and Disability Resource Center in their area to get free money-saving advice and review the three best coverage plans for their needs. To make that possible, coordinators will need your Medicare card, proof of income, list of prescriptions with dosages, and a statement of what you spent on drugs during the last year, according to GOEA.

The Aging and Disability Resource Center will review your deductibles, premiums, coverage and extra help that may be available and recommend to each beneficiary the top three options for their health needs, and choose the best plan.

“Louisiana Aging and Disability Resource Centers and their partners are in the field now,” said Ms. Guillory. “To get the extra help, let us help you apply.”

Participating ADRCs can be found at www.Louisianaanswers.com or by calling these areas:

- Caddo (800) 256-3003
- Cajun (800) 738-2256
- Calcasieu (800) 223-5872
- Capital (800) 280-0908
- CENLA (800) 454-9573
- Jefferson (800) 652-1437
- Orleans (888) 922-8522
- Terrebonne (888) 353-3265
- Statewide (877) 340-9100

Facing young people in New Orleans and across the country. Our goal is to create a vision for high-quality pathways to post-secondary opportunities that not only works for youth in New Orleans but that could also be a model for communities nationwide.”

During the next 15 months, the Cowen Institute will conduct research, draft policy recommendations and engage national experts in creating a unified plan of action for post-secondary success in New Orleans.
You Better Watch Your Mouth

Dental Care in the Black Community

Julianne Malveaux
NNPA Newswire Columnist

From the time I was a little girl, just to a day or so ago, someone has always told me to watch my mouth. Why? My mouth runs and sometimes it runs unpluged. I’ve been known to flim flam folks with flattery or eviscerate them with evil, sometimes moving from one to the other with just a shrug of my shoulders. But my “mouth-watching” is not the kind of mouth-watching I’m writing about in this column. I’m writing about the healthy mouth-watching that is critical to our health.

Nearly a hundred folks gathered at the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) headquarters at 633 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, D.C., to hear two dynamic women talk about dental health. Dr. Diane Earle, the managing dental director at Kool Smiles, in Lancaster, Texas, talked about dental health and its importance. Your mouth, she said, is the gate-way to your body, so it is important for you to take care of it by getting regular checkups, taking care of your mouth and, especially, ensuring that children have early dental care as soon as they have even a single tooth. She was joined by healthy living expert Debra Peak Haynes, who is passionate about the way we eat and how what we eat can transform our lives.

These two women held an audi-ence for an hour, focusing on the many ways we can improve our lives so that we can better resist these oppressive political times. There was talk of the ways we can eat better, exercise better, and live better, with both Dr. Earle and Mrs. Haynes presenting as great examples of healthy living. Dr. Earle, for example, said she had never had a cavity in her life. Deb Haynes (whose husband, the Rev. Frederick Douglass Haynes, III, has ex-pertly pastored Friendship West Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas) shared the ways she used healthy eating to turn her health around after a diagnosis of infertility. I was thrilled to bring the women togeth-er and to moderate a discussion that had significant meaning for our community.

NCNW, under the transforma-tive leadership of Attorney Janice Mathis (who led Rainbow PUSH’s Atlanta office until she came to Washington), is the only space owned by Black people on Pennsyl- vania Avenue. It is close enough to the “People’s House” at 1600 Penn-sylvania Avenue that one might walk there, which perhaps means that it is close to the devil. That proximity offers an opportunity for resistance, and while much of our resistance must be political, some of it hinges on our personal com-mitment to a physical excellence that prepares us to have resilience for the struggle.

Even as we met, the devil was busy. The House of Representa-tive passed the new “tax overhaul” package that they say will create jobs, but we know will create wealth for billionaires; to benefit the top one percent, the bottom 80 percent will be hit hard, but Con-gress doesn’t seem to care. The Senate has a version of the leg-islation, and the two houses will have to come up with compromise legislation, but both the House and the Senate agree that corpora-tions should pay less tax.

At NCNW, we talked about Con-gresswoman Robin Kelly (D-III) and her Action for Dental Health Act (HR 2422). The bipartisan legislation, co-sponsored with Repub-lican Indiana dentist and Con-gressman Mike Simpson, would make dental care more accessible, but with issues like these having low priority in this ideologically di-vided Congress, it is not likely to even make it to the floor for a vote. Instead, the new tax law would weaken, not strengthen, healthcare access.

Dental care and nutrition issues don’t get as much visibility as Rus-sia, or sexual harassment, or living Jeff Sessions. But they are also im-portant issues. So when we “watch our mouth” by watching what we eat and how we manage our den-tal care, we are strengthening our-selves for the inevitable struggle against the inequality that is part of the status quo.

Julianne Malveaux is an econo-mist, author, and founder of Eco-nomic Education. Her latest book “Are We Better Off: Race, Obama and Public Policy” is available via amazon.com. For booking, wholesale inquiries, or for more info, visit www.juliannlmalleaux.com. Follow Dr. Malveaux on Twitter @drjlastword.

Ask Alma

I Hooked My Friend Up with a Job and They Complained About It on Facebook

Alma Gill
NNPA Newswire Columnist

Dear Alma:

I have a friend that shares every-thing in their life on Facebook. This friend’s car has broken down on sev-eral occasions, with the latest repair costing $2,700; this friend also seems to have many issues with landlords and significant others. Despite my friend’s personal trials, they have risen to become an expert in their field.

Recently, I had the chance to reccomend this friend for a freelance assignment, that perfectly fit their expertise. The friend did not thank me directly, but I saw a Facebook post about the job, so I assumed the friend was happy to get it. A week or so later, I saw two more posts about the job; one post said that the job was “difficult,” and another that described the job as “boring.”

I was a little offended. I wouldn’t have cared if this “friend” complained privately about the assignment; jour-naList’s complain all the time about a range of things and for different reasons. But putting it out on Face-book seemed a little ungrateful. What should I say to them?

Signed,
Just Trying to Help

Dear Trying to Help,

What should you say to your friend? Nothing, nada, zilch. Don’t be offended. Honey chil’, you can lead a horse to water, but it ain’t your place to tell it how to drink. I know. You had good intentions and you held this friend in regard, but, be that as it may, your friend still lacks basic courtesy and common correctness. You should have received at the very least a “thank you” text. I’m not sur-prised, though; God doesn’t give us everything. I have found that many people, who swim in a well of book knowledge, lack the fund-amental nitty-gritties of niceties. Some people feel the need to share everything on social media. What is that about? I think that people who feel compelled to share every “mood cough” and “mind hiccup” on Facebook, are surely exhibit-ing some sign of mental deficiency. The “cuckoo for cocoa puffs” con-stant displays of desperation can be mindboggling.

If you don’t mind me saying, I think you’re a bit disappointed. This friend, as you say “repeatedly runs into personal difficulties.” Um, back in the day, we’d call someone like that a leech. Today, you get to view their shenanigans online, up close and personal. You’ve placed this person higher on your “ladder of success” than they should have been. Don’t fret. It happens.

I say, scratch ‘em off your Christ-mas list and keep it moving. You did a nice thing and Ms. Karma will make sure you’re blessed for it. Continue to follow your friend on Facebook, but keep your comments and suggestions to a minimum. Here’s the bottom line: that nickel had poor home training, which, un-fortunately, lasts much longer than any lessons learned in a classroom. Like my mama used to say, “if good manners and common sense were free, some folks still couldn’t afford to buy them.” LOL.

Alma Gill’s newsgroup experi-ence spans more than 25 years, includ-ing various roles at USA Today, Newsday and The Washington Post. Email questions to: alwaysas-alma@gmail.com. Follow her on Facebook at “Ask Alma” and Twit-ter @almaaskalma.
Rev. Jesse Jackson Announces Parkinson’s Diagnosis

Friends, Medical Community Weigh-In on Rev. Jesse Jackson's Parkinson’s Diagnosis

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Reverend Jesse Jackson's Parkinson's disease diagnosis caught many by surprise, but those who know him said they're confident that he'll overcome the life-threatening challenge before him.

"He's in the rumble of his life, but he's rumbled some big foes before," said Vincent Hughes, a Democratic state senator from Pennsylvania who campaigned for Jackson in 1984 and again in 1988. Hughes said that Jackson's campaigns were birthed in the Black empowerment movement that followed the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s. "I'm one of those African Americans, who took office and was a part of that issue of 'protest to power' and Rev. Jackson was, in many respects, our leader and he still is."

More than anyone else, Jackson opened the door for the election of Barack Obama, the first African American President of the United States, said Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., the president and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA). Chavis was one of Jackson's contemporaries during the Civil Rights Movement. "Rev. Jesse L. Jackson Sr. is a living, global civil rights icon. As a colleague in the Civil Rights Movement dating back to the 1960s and under the leadership of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., I have personally witnessed the selfless sacrifice and dedication of Rev. Jackson."

Chavis continued: "For all who have cried out for freedom justice and equality, the news of his Parkinson's disease diagnosis caught many by surprise, but those who knew him said they're confident that he'll overcome the life-threatening challenge before him.

"From that experience, I lost my fear of being jailed for a righteous cause. I went on to meet Dr. King and dedicate my heart and soul to the fight for justice, equality, and equal access," said Jackson, whose 1984 presidential campaign.

He said that he remembers the arrest as if it happened yesterday and it was a day that forever changed his life.

"From that experience, I lost my fear of being jailed for a righteous cause. I went on to meet Dr. King and dedicate my heart and soul to the fight for justice, equality, and equal access," said Jackson, whose 1984 presidential campaign.
The Black Press Says Its Farewell to a New York Beacon

NNPA Newswire

The Black Press lost one of its most devoted freedom warriors, last week. Walter “Ball” Smith, Publisher of the New York Beacon and the Philadelphia Observer died on Friday, November 10th. He was 83 years old.

“The Black Press has lost a true giant in Black America,” Said Dorothy R. Leavell, Chairman of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA). “Walter Smith made a difference in so many lives of Black readers and Black publishers in the Northeast and America in general.”

As CEO of the Smith Haj Group, Smith published Newark’s Beacon and the Philadelphia Observer. Like Black newspapers across the country, both publications catered to a loyal Black readership that made Smith a prominent figure in the Black community. For 26 years, he led the Beacon. “The NNPA mourns profoundly the passing of beloved publisher Walter Smith,” said Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., the President and CEO of the NNPA. “At a time that we are celebrating the 190th year of the Black Press, we pause to salute the outstanding contributions of Walter Smith to the Black Press.” Smith is survived by his wife, Miatta, their children and grandchildren.


health status with a nutritious diet, physical therapy and safe, effective daily exercise programs, as well as emotional and social support from family, and professional care partners-givers,” Chambers said, adding that the association extends heartfelt wishes to Jackson. Dorothy Leavell, the chairman of the NNPA and the publisher of the Crusader Newspaper Group said that even though Jackson is in for the fight of his life, she warned that Parkinson’s disease had met its match.

“This is a major blow, but it’s not the death knell,” said Leavell. “We will keep working and encourage Jesse with all he’s done for us and continues to do.”

Data News Weekly, "The People’s Paper, is looking for freelance writers to join our team print and digital team. We want to hear from you if you are a working journalist, or an aspiring journalist who has 5 years or more of newspaper or PR writing experience. We need writers who can cover New Orleans news stories, ranging from local high school sports, community events, City Hall and entertainment. Experience in print is necessary, experience in digital and social media are encouraged.

Compensation is competitive and great story ideas will be appreciated.

If you are interested, please email a resume and 3 writing samples to: terryjones@bellsouth.net and datanewseditor@bellsouth.net.

We can’t wait to hear from you!

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This is what High Blood Pressure looks like.

You might not see its symptoms, but the results - heart attack, stroke - can be irreversible or fatal. If you've come off your medication plan, get back in it or talk with your doctor to create a new exercise, diet and medication plan. It won't be easy, but it will be worth it.
Delaney’s Armoire’s Top XULA Homecoming Looks 2017

This year’s Homecoming at HBCU Xavier University was one to remember. Students brought their A-Game on the courts and in fashion. Throughout the many events of homecoming week, students made sure they stepped out in their best gear and here are some of my favorites:

Every Color of the Rainbow: For last week’s XU homecoming many students anticipated the concert, which H.E.R was the headliner. Students came in a large range of styles like club wear, chill and even dressy. But one student stood out amongst the others for me. The young lady dressed in a multi-colored V-neck jumper. The jumper was tight fitting, sexy, and demanding attention with its loud colors and vibrancy. This outfit was sure to catch the eye of anyway who saw it.

Darkness meets Light: The XU boat ride was flooded with hundreds of fashionista students ready to party on the water, but one couple caught my eye with their silver and black contrast. The beautiful young lady wore an all-black dress and heels paired with a fabulous black fur coat. The gentlemen wore all-black pants and a stunning silver button down shirt that shined like the stars. These two were surely my favorite couple of the night, complementing each other’s styles so well.

Jungle Fever: Nothing is better than red, and cheetah and one XU boat ride attendee hit the combo right on the nose. The attendee wore an all-black velvet dress, diamond tight, knee-high red boots and a red bag to match. To complete her look, she topped it off with a classic cheetah fur coat. The contrast between velvet dresses, fur bags, fur coats, and diamonds made for a show stopping ensemble.

Jaguars and Tigers celebrate tradition. Every Saturday after Thanksgiving, the Southern University Jaguars and Grambling State University Tigers prepare for the epic showdown of the year. While most of America is still carving up turkey, more than 200,000 alumni, fans, and spectators descend upon the Crescent City for a three-day weekend filled with unmatched entertainment, iconic marching bands, and football. The battle has been neck and neck over the past decade but, for some, the score is beside the point. The Bayou Classic is about more than the victory. It’s about celebrating the rich history of two historically black colleges.

Attend the 2017 Bayou Classic on Saturday, November 25th and share your story with #OneTimeInNOLA.
1 Enclave based on MSRP of $52,650. Encore based on MSRP of $26,065. Take delivery by 11/30/17. Not available with special financing, lease and some other offers. See participating dealer for details. ©2017 General Motors. All rights reserved. Buick® Enclave® Encore®