

Lighting The Road To The Future

New Orleans

Data

News Weekly

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A Data News Weekly Exclusive

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New Orleans Gets Prepared for Hurricane Season

Special - What to do, and Where to Go Edition



Data Staff Edited Report

Each year, hurricane season lasts from June 1st to November 30th. As witnessed during Hurricane Katrina, there are dangers from these storms that include high winds, heavy rain, tornados, flooding and power outages. Some of which, can cause loss of property and lives. Depending on a storm's severity, the City of New Orleans may issue a mandatory evacuation order.

If the City issues a mandatory evacuation, all residents and visitors must leave. If an evacuation is not ordered, it's up to you to decide to evacuate or shelter in place.

With the recent weather events that have caused major street flooding and the scare of Tropical Storm Alberto preceding the hurricane season, New Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrell is urging residents to have supplies and a plan in place for the upcoming season, including preparing for the possibility of

a mandatory citywide evacuation. Hurricane season begins June 1st.

On May 17th, Cantrell held her first hurricane prep briefing with reporters at Jackson Barracks, located in the Lower 9th Ward Headquarters of the Louisiana National Guard. Mayor Cantrell met City and National Guard officials for a planning session. Cantrell asked citizens to be proactive in preparing for the potential of a hurricane hitting the City.

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

Terry B. Jones CEO/Publisher	Contributors Edwin Buggage	Art Direction & Production MainorMedia.com
Edwin Buggage Editor	Delaney George	Editorial Submissions datanewseditor@bellsouth.net
Cheryl Mainor Managing Editor	Effram Hill	Advertising Inquiries datanewsad@bellsouth.net
Calla Victoria Executive Assistant	Lauren Victoria Burke	Distribution On The Run
June Hazeur Accounting	Freddie Allen/AMG/NNPA	Courier Services
	Dr. Elizabeth Primas	
	Jeffrey L. Boney	

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“We have to take action, and the level of preparedness and the action starts today,” Cantrell said. “It starts now.”

During her briefing, Mayor Cantrell spoke of plans for using the National Guard’s help supporting the City should a mandatory evacuation be necessary. She also emphasized New Orleans, as was the policy of the last administration, does not have a shelter of last resort for those who remain.

Under the Cantrell Administration, the City of New Orleans will continue to provide City-assisted evacuation to those who cannot evacuate on their own. Volunteers will be staged at 17 points across the City to register evacuees and provide with tickets and wristbands for transport. RTA buses will then transfer people to the Union Passenger Terminal downtown where busses will take people to shelters outside of the City and return them to the terminal when the storm is over. More information is available on the City’s NOLA Ready website.

In preparation for the 2018 Hurricane season, we at Data News Weekly, as a service to our readers, would like to give a guide that helps empower and inform you on what to do in case a hurricane threatens the City of New Orleans.

Prepare for a Storm

Preparing your home and neighborhood before a storm can help reduce potential damage.

Understand your flood risk:

Certain parts of the City are more likely to flood than others. You can learn more about your flood risk here: FEMA Flood Map Service Center or LSU Ag Center’s Louisiana Flood Map Tool.

Insure Your Property

Floods are the most common and costly natural disaster, so it’s important to have the right coverage. Homeowners and renters’ insurance usually doesn’t cover flood damage. Flood insurance takes 30 days to be in effect, so now is the time to buy. Protect your home or business with flood insurance. Call 1-800-427-4661 to find an agent.

Check your homeowner’s policy to ensure it covers wind damage too? Are you a renter? Protect your belongings with contents coverage.



2018 HURRICANE NAMES

ALBERTO	HELENE	OSCAR
BERYL	ISAAC	PATTY
CHRIS	JOYCE	RAFAEL
DEBBY	KIRK	SARA
ERNESTO	LESLIE	TONY
FLORENCE	MICHAEL	VALERIE
GORDON	NADINE	WILLIAM

All homeowners and renters help with the following in advance of a storm:

Clean your property and street

- Remove debris from gutters and downspouts
- Clear debris from catch basins. Report clogged catch basins to 311
- Prune trees and shrubs
- Bring outdoor furniture and decorations inside
- Secure or bring garbage bins inside
- Move possessions to your highest floor
- Photograph your property for insurance purposes.

Secure Your Home

- Check your roof and siding for any loose pieces
- Cover your windows with ply-

wood or storm shutters

- Secure boats and recreational vehicles.
- Trailers or Mobile Homes
- If you live in a trailer or mobile home, evacuate for any storm. Before you leave, do all the above and:
- Shut off all fuel lines but do not disconnect them
- Turn off water where it enters your home
- Use both “over-the-top” and “frame” ties to secure your home

Shelter In-Place

If a mandatory evacuation is not ordered, decide whether-or-not to evacuate or to shelter in-place. If you stay, you will need to gather what you’ll need to shelter in place:

- Non-perishable food for at least 3 days
- 3 gallons of water per person
- Manual can opener

- Flashlight & extra batteries
- Matches or lighter
- First Aid kit
- Week’s supply of prescription medications
- Radio (battery operated or hand crank)
- Books and games

Prepare for Power and Water Outages

- Sign up for the special needs registry if you need power for medical equipment
- Fill your bathtub with water to clean and flush toilets
- Turn your fridge to the lowest temperature
- Charge electronic devices
- Preserve cell phone battery life
- Stay away from low-hanging or downed power lines.
- Stay Safe and Informed
- Bring Pets inside
- Lock doors and windows

- Close curtains and blinds
- Stay inside until officials say otherwise
- Call 911 in an emergency. Call 311 for information or to report non-emergency service requests like downed trees
- Storms can be scary for children. Talk to your family about what’s happening and keep games and toys on hand to entertain.

Evacuate

If the City orders a mandatory evacuation, all residents and visitors must leave

- Gather what you’ll need to leave:
- Clothes
- Soap, toothbrush and toothpaste
- Bedding
- Identification
- Cash
- List of emergency contacts
- Medications copy of medical records and prescriptions
- Birth and marriage certificates
- Documents that prove where you live
- Insurance policies
- Pet supplies
- Leave as Early as Possible
- Evacuate by car

During a mandatory evacuation, all lanes on major highways will go out of the City. This is called contra-flow. Plan your route ahead of time. Estimate that it will take 4 times longer than usual to get to your destination. Leave with a full tank of gas.

Leave by Airplane

Fly out of Louis Armstrong International Airport

Take the Bus

Take a bus from the New Orleans Bus Station.

Take the Train:

Take a Train from the Union Passenger Terminal

City-Assisted Evacuation

If you can’t evacuate on your own during a mandatory evacuation, the City of New Orleans can help. City-assisted evacuation provides free transportation out of harms’ way.

How it works:

There are 17 pickup locations across the City, called Evacuspots. 5 are specifically for seniors. If you can’t get to an Evacuspots because of medical needs, you might be eligible to be picked up from your home. Sign up for the special needs registry.

During a mandatory evacuation, go to your closes Evacuspots. A bus will pick you up and bring you to Union Passenger Terminal. There, you’ll board a bus to a state or fed-

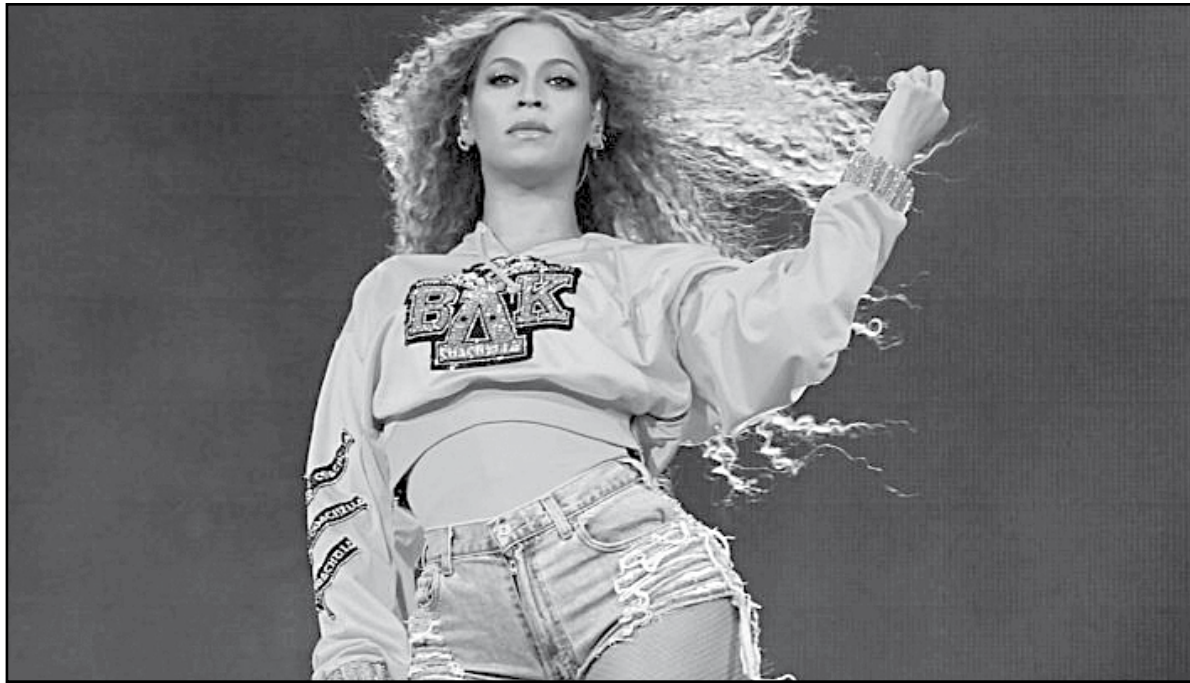
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XULA Named Recipient of the Beyoncé Homecoming Scholars Award Program

Beyoncé, through her Bey-GOOD Initiative, announced the four schools to receive the newly established Homecoming Scholars Award Program for the 2018-2019 Academic Year. The Universities, Xavier, Wilberforce, Tuskegee and Bethune-Cookman, are all Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). HBCUs are institutions of higher education in the United States that were established before the Civil Rights Act of 1964 with the intention of primarily serving the African-American community.

On Saturday, April 14th, Beyoncé made history at the 2018 Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival by becoming the first Black woman to headline in the Festival's 19-year run.

The jubilant set, housed on a pyramid stage with 150-plus cast mem-



Beyoncé's Homecoming Scholars Award Program for 2018-2019 will expand to all qualifying students at the four universities, regardless of gender. The star is pictured here during her "Homecoming" performance as the headliner at the 2018 Coachella Music Festival where she announced the scholarship program.

Universities," states Ivy McGregor, Director of Philanthropy and Corporate Relations at Parkwood Entertainment which houses Bey-GOOD. "We honor all institutions of higher learning for maintaining culture and creating environments for optimal learning which expands dreams and the seas of possibilities for students."

One winner from each school will receive \$25K for the 2018-2019 Academic Year for study in various fields. This is the second year for a scholar's program created by Beyoncé.

The Formation Scholars Awards Program, a merit scholarship program was established in April 2017 in celebration of the one-year anniversary of LEMONADE, Beyoncé's critically-acclaimed and globally-lauded 2016 Visual Album. The Formation Scholars Awards encouraged and supported young women who are bold, creative, conscious, confident and unafraid to think outside of the box.

The Homecoming Scholars Award Program for 2018-2019 will expand to all qualifying students at the four universities, regardless of gender. The disciplines will include literature, creative arts, African-American studies, science, education, business, communications, social sciences, computer science and engineering. All applicants must maintain a 3.5 GPA or above. All finalists and winners will be selected by the universities. Winners will be announced this summer.

bers, dutifully in-sync, was the first time the icon returned to her home, the stage, in over one-year.

The show, with its homage to excellence in education, was a celebration of the homecoming weekend experience, the highest display of college pride. The energy-filled production put the spotlight on art and culture, mixing the ancient and the modern, which resonated masterfully through the marching band, performance art, choir and dance. It was the impetus to mark her second scholarship program.

"We salute the rich legacy of Historically Black Colleges and

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Mayor Cantrell Addresses City Services and Social Issues with First Executive Orders

NEW ORLEANS — Mayor LaToya Cantrell signed her first four executive orders, closing out her third week in office with a series of moves designed to improve the function of the City of New Orleans while working to ensure safety.

“With these executive orders I am reaffirming my commitment to work tirelessly to improve the welfare of the people of New Orleans, whether in addressing critical social issues or in ensuring efficient and effective delivery of City services,” said Mayor Cantrell.

Executive Order LC 18-01 creates a Procurement Office inside the Department of Finance to ensure more efficient, inclusive and transparent pro-



Mayor LaToya Cantrell (pictured above) signed her first four executive orders last week one of them establishing a gun violence advisory council aimed at identifying innovative ways to reduce gun violence in the city.

cedures for City contracting.

Executive Order LC 18-02 establishes the Office of Youth and Families, to address persistent issues related to health care, education and inclusion, and to strengthen the well-being of New Orleans’ youth – 37% of whom live in poverty.

Executive Order LC 18-03 establishes a Gun Violence Reduction Council that will serve as an advisory committee for the Mayor to develop innovative approaches to reduce gun violence, which accounts for 90% of murders each year in New Orleans.

Executive Order LC 18-04 establishes a Mayor’s Office of Utilities, which will monitor, regulate and enforce utility franchise agreements.

Cover Story, Continued from page 3.

eral shelter. Once it’s safe to return to New Orleans, the City will bring you back, either to your home or to a local shelter.

What to Bring:

Each person can bring 1 carry-on sized bag with supplies for a go bag. Pets should have an ID collar, leash, medications and a carrier. Your pet will be taken to an animal shelter near where you’re sheltered.

Help Us Plan

Tell us if you’ll use City-assisted evacuation

Return to New Orleans

After a mandatory evacuation, businesses are permitted to return to the City before residents. That’s to ensure that essential services like power and grocery stores are running.

Re-Entry Placards

To re-enter New Orleans before the general-public you must have a valid re-entry placard. Each year, businesses need to register for a re-entry assignment. You’ll be assigned to a tier and you’ll receive your corresponding placard(s). For questions or to make an appointment to pick up your placards, call Carolos Muniz at (504) 658-8700.



Register for Re-Entry

- Grocery stores
- Healthcare facilities
- Pharmacies
- Security companies
- Administrative and payroll employees

Tier 1: Response Support

Businesses and agencies that provide critical support to response efforts. Additionally, core damage assessment teams of major employer with more than 100 employees.

- Examples include:
- Debris Removal Companies
 - Critical delivery services
 - Hospitals
 - Lodging providers for first responders
 - Engineers & damage assessment teams for hotels and motels

Tier 2: Recovery Support

- Businesses and agencies that help recovery and economic vitality. Additionally, core assessment teams of employers with more than 50 employees. Examples include:
- Insurance companies
 - Banks
 - Gas stations

Tier 3: Repopulation Support

- Retail businesses needed for the return of residents. Examples include:
- Neighborhood grocery stores
 - Retail shops
 - Restaurants
 - Fast food outlets

We at Data News Weekly would like all to take this information and use it to help guide you through the Hurricane Season

For more information visit www.readynola.gov/plan/hurricane



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Data Strut Award Winner Sasha Newman



Delaney George
Columnist

With every passion comes dedication and skill. Those who have multiple passions are great, but it takes someone phenomenal to master it all. Recent Dillard University graduate and California native, Sasha Newman does just that. Newman is Data's most recent Data Strut Award Winner, and is involved in everything from modeling, sports, dancing, singing, and leading multiple clubs and organization.

At Dillard's Spring Fashion Show, Newman wowed the crowd with her amazing walk, and runway presence. "I was so shocked when I won, this was really one of my most amazing modeling experiences for me thus far" said Newman.

Although Newman has not been modeling for long, she took a keen interest in runway modeling and the physique of models. With a confident mind, and support from family and Dillard runway coaches, Newman has worked diligently to perfect her craft in runway and print modeling.

"I love to see how other people model, and exam how this industry uses clothing to inspire people. I bring my personality out through the runway. You will never succeed trying to imitate someone else, so you have to be one-hundred percent yourself



Sasha Newman, student by day, leader and fashionista by night.

on the runway and that's what makes it your walk" said Newman.

When Newman is not on the runway she is invested into her faith, family, future and education. Newman is pursuing a master's degree in Criminal Justice and has hopes to be a firefighter, or a fire arson investigator in the future. Aside from being a full-time student, Newman



Sasha Newman poses and laughs with excitement.

is 1 of 20 students in the country leading a major student athlete organization alongside several other organizations. Newman plans to keep her eyes out for any opportunities that may fall in the path of her many passions: such as Digital Corresponding and Modeling.

In the near future Newman plans to book more modeling projects and run-



Sasha Newman strikes a fierce model pose.

way shows while perusing her master's degree. Newman went on to say "don't let the fear of striking out keep you from playing the game" in relation to her growing modeling career and words of encouragement to upcoming models.

For more information on Newman email Deinkey@yahoo.com.

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Defining the Sound of a Generation

Data News Weekly Interviews Jane Eugene of Loose Ends

By Edwin Buggage
Data News Weekly Editor
Photos by Effram Hill

Music for the Soul

Loose Ends Music was an integral part of the soundtrack of the 1980's; bringing back memories of going to nightclubs such as Nexus, The Touch of Class, Secrets, the Famous or listening to FM 98 or WAIL 105 taping the live set of DJ Slick Leo or cruising on the lakefront on a Sunday. Hailing from the U.K. with their brand of sophisticated soul they had a string of hits such as the dancefloor classic as *Slow Down* and the sultry, sexy *Sweetest Pain* and many others.

On this warm day in Armstrong Park the grown and sexy are dressed down with folding portable chairs in tow ready to enjoy the amazing sounds of Loose Ends and Michael Franks who was also on the bill as part of the Crab Festival and Jazz in the Park Series where Data News Weekly was one of the sponsors.

Jane Eugene Dazzles

Data News Weekly had the opportunity to speak with Jane Eugene, one of the members of the original group that also included Keyboard Player, Founder and Writer Steve Nichol, Guitarist and Vocalist Carl McIntosh. On this day though it is Eugene alone who holds it down onstage to the receptive crowd cranking out the hits with her band as she effortlessly sings the classics and updates a few making them fresh and new.

As she leaves the stage she is surrounded by her fans who want to take selfies and just say hello to this great legend in music. Afterwards, her Manager New Orleanian David Lombard, leads me to Jane Eugene who looks every bit as beautiful as she did in the 1980's. Today she resembles African Royalty dressed casual and chic in white with a yellow top and a red jeweled headpiece with stunning dangling earrings and necklace that compliments it perfectly against her beautiful and flawless chocolate skin.

New Orleans Loves Loose Ends

As we sit she laughs and smiles pleasantly, when asked about her fans from New Orleans whose outpouring of love and support is undeniable, "We love to come to New Orleans because the people are so warm, they are so receptive and I look out in the audience



Jane Eugene of Loose Ends dazzles crowd with amazing performance.



and they are singing along the lyrics to all the songs even the ones that are not singles," says Eugene in her accent that is a blend of her native U.K. and American since she now calls Los Angeles her home.



Jane Eugene of Loose Ends and Data News Weekly Editor, Edwin Buggage.

Reflections on Loose Ends and How they Revolutionized Music and Fashion

Jane and the band left the stage with people wanting more and after over three decades of performing I asked her what are her favorite songs to per-

form she says, "You Can't Stop the Rain" "Slow Down" "Hanging on a String," and "I'm Gonna Make You Mine" in that order."

It was not just their music that was part of their cache, but their fashion sense inspired a generation of men and women who copied their style. "I went to the London College of Fashion and I always thought that people first judged you on how you looked, so coming from the fashion world I knew we had to dress how people wanted to look on a regular type basis and not the spandex that was popular at the time. It's just the way I think about clothes and we made a mark on the times and I think that was great, we inspired and were trendsetters in fashion."

Their music catalog is chockfull of classics that's stood the test of time. She says pondering on how some songs today mean something different for her than when she first sang them, "It was just what we wrote and believed in to be quite honest with you. But I did not quite understand "You Can't Stop the Rain" until my mother died and then it represented for me that you can't stop certain things from happening. Before I thought it was just a nice hook, a balladry type thing. But as you grow, and experience life songs come to mean different things. I think this may be true of the people who listen to the songs as well."

For those who were excited to see Jane many wondered will there ever be a reunion of the three original members? Jane does not rule it out but says it is not likely at the present time. "Sometimes I work with Steve Nichol; Carl we haven't spoken in minute. I don't know if a reunion is going to happen, but I love both of them and we couldn't have done it without the three of us."

Music Industry and the Future

This great singer's taste in music is very eclectic and surprisingly she says today her music of choice is hip-hop especially Kendrick Lamar and the newest R&B Sensation SZA. But her views of the current state of the music industry is mixed. "It is hard for people to make it. When we had record companies you kind of knew if you could get to Virgin Records and get this guy to listen to my demo then there's a possibility of us making it. Today it is harder because you have to come up with the marketing money; you have to come up with all that yourself and push yourself and

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Want to Turn Your State Blue? Don't Ignore Black Voters



Jeffrey L. Boney
NNPA Newswire Columnist

the House in 2018. Things are a lot closer in the U.S. Senate; Democrats only have to successfully flip two Senate seats to take the Senate back.

Every major election cycle there are always discussions about turning battleground states that have traditionally been “red states” into “blue states.”

Here in the U.S., a state is referred to as a “red state” or “blue state” depending on the party that those voters in that state traditionally choose during elections. If the majority of voters consistently choose the Republican Party, then that state is deemed a “red state,” whereas if the majority of voters consistently choose the Democratic Party, it is considered a “blue state.”

In order for Democrats to turn traditional “red states” into “blue states” in November, they will need increased voter registration and strong voter turnout in the Black community to make that happen. Focusing on these two important

factors could effectively flip battleground states like Texas, Nevada, Tennessee, Utah, Arizona, Mississippi, and others from ‘red states’ to ‘blue states’. More importantly, there are 39 gubernatorial elections and many other local, county and statewide races that will also be impacted by this 2018 election.

While there are many U.S. House and Senate races that already have a clear cut favorite before the race even begins, there are many other races in battleground states that could significantly change the overall look of Congress.

Take the state of Texas for example.

U.S. Congressman Beto O'Rourke (D-Texas) has become a formidable opponent in his extremely competitive race to unseat Republican incumbent U.S. Senator Ted Cruz in November. According to a recent Quinnipiac University poll that was conducted in mid-April, the Senate race shows O'Rourke trailing Cruz by only

three percentage points, which is well within the margin of error. O'Rourke is also beating Cruz on the fundraising end, hauling in a reported \$6.7 million in the first quarter of 2018 alone.

A win by O'Rourke would completely change the political dynamics in the state of Texas, and would energize the Democratic Party in other states across the nation.

Currently, Republicans have control of both the House and Senate in the Texas state legislature, as well as control of all the statewide offices, making Texas one of the most influential and consistently dominating ‘red states’ in the U.S.

The last time voters in the state of Texas got behind a Democratic candidate for president was back in 1976 when Jimmy Carter defeated Republican Gerald Ford. Since that time, Texas voters have overwhelmingly supported the Republican candidate for president.

The same thing has happened relative to the governorship in

Texas and all other statewide races; Democratic Governor Ann Richards lost her bid for re-election against Republican George W. Bush in 1994. Prior to her loss, Democrats had controlled the governorship for all but eight out of 120 of the prior years. No Democrat has won the governorship since, and the other statewide races have experienced the same results.

The only way to change these outcomes in Texas and other battleground states is to properly engage and mobilize Black voters. The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), which is a trade group that represents over 200 Black-owned media companies across the U.S., recently launched an initiative to register 5 million new, Black voters before the midterm elections, with the hopes of turning many of these traditionally “red states” into “blue states” in November.

**Commentary, Continued
on page 10.**

OP-ED: School Choice Not the Right Choice for All Students



Dr. Elizabeth Primas
Program Manager, NNPA/ESSA
Public Awareness Campaign

public education funds to follow students to the schools or services that best fit their needs—whether that's to a public school, private school, charter school, home school.”

In April 2018, the Department of Education (ED) hosted the “Honoring Martin Luther King Jr.’s Drum Major Legacy: Innovative Pathways to Success” celebration; the event was sponsored by the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for African Americans in collaboration with the Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships.

The Education Department’s MLK Legacy event honored individuals who perform extraordinary acts of service in their communities, specifically those individuals who support high-quality education for children of color. Many of the awardees work with parents or community groups that provide primary care for children; some even

provide educational support services outside of the traditional public school model.

School choice became a hot topic during the event, as several attendees were visibly disgruntled at the mention of the controversial approach.

The Trump Administration has proposed to decrease funding to authorized investments for public schools while increasing funding opportunities for school choice programs and private school vouchers. Ninety percent of children in America attend public schools. Increased funding to school choice programs, while reducing funding to public schools is a strategy that leaves behind our most vulnerable students.

Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos has repeatedly said that she’s committed to uphold the intentions of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the education law signed

by President Barack Obama. However, the prioritization of school choice programs in the proposed FY2019 budget contradicts one of the original intentions of the law: to promote equity and increase access to high-quality education for all students. Furthermore, prioritization of school choice isolates homeless children, migrant children, youth in foster care and children from military families. In fact, ESSA requires that school districts report student outcomes for these groups for the very first time.

The 2018 Teacher of the Year awardees echoed similar concerns during their annual White House visit in April. The top teachers in the country reported that they did not approve of funding private schools at the expense of their most vulnerable, at-risk students.

Every child should be entitled to high-quality education in the United

States of America. Every neighborhood school should be equipped to provide high-quality courses and curriculum. Every student should have highly-qualified teachers and a menu of extra-curricular activities to choose from. Until the administration prioritizes the equitable improvement of all schools, their verbal commitment to uphold the original intent of ESSA is just another “alternative fact.”

Learn more about the Every Student Succeeds Act at nnpa.org/essa.

Dr. Elizabeth Primas was the 2000 Teacher of the Year Award recipient for Washington, D.C. Dr. Elizabeth Primas is an educator, who spent more than 40 years working towards improving education for children of diverse ethnicities and backgrounds. Dr. Primas is the Program Manager for the NNPA’s Every Student Succeeds Act Public Awareness Campaign. Follow Dr. Primas on Twitter @ElizabethPrimas3.

When the best educators in America traveled to Washington, D.C. for a series of events celebrating innovation in the classroom and to share best practices in K-12 education, they let officials at the Department of Education and the White House know exactly how they felt about the Trump Administration’s current push for school choice programs.

According to edchoice.org, school choice programs allow, “pub-

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try to make it happen for yourself. Then you have to sell records then you may get a distribution deal and possibly everybody's going to hear you. With us it was much easier to have a hit I believe."

New Orleans its People and their Influence and Inspiration on the World

While the people of New Orleans loves Loose Ends and Jane, the love, admiration and respect goes both ways. "Obviously I love the food," she says laughing. "I love the mixture of different kind of people, also they are so warm and caring," she says of the things she loves about the Crescent City.

Speaking of their resilience she says recounting coming to New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. "We came not long after Katrina happened, and I saw how people kept going and they were strong; think about what happened to you'll here," she says touching my arm as I nod. "How you had to recover, some people just came from nothing to something, you just have to keep going and who does that. New Orleans who else does that."

Continuing heaping her praise for the



Crowd enjoying the music of Loose Ends at Crab Fest in Armstrong Park, Data News Weekly was one of the event sponsors.

people of New Orleans she says, "The people of this City are so resilient because they went through something very traumatic that the rest of the country did not go through. So, I think when people come out they come to enjoy themselves they know what it really means to be here present to have fun because they lost a lot of people and may have lost someone."

As we conclude onlookers are off in the distance trying to get a glimpse of this magnificent singer whose heart and soul shines as bright as the yellow sun colored top she is wearing. She smiles and waves as fans yell her name saying how much they love her and the music of Loose Ends.

Looking into the crowd I see and remember some of the faces from those days when we were all a bit younger in the 80's. It is a moment that is bittersweet; reminiscing about when life in New Orleans was very different and, on this day, we were all taken back by the sounds of Loose Ends, Michael Franks and Slick Leo, who was the DJ. We were as our ancestors were carrying on a tradition in Armstrong Park and Congo Square celebrating life, living and what it means to be from New Orleans.

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The City of Love Ministries Partners with NOPD for Local All-Star Basketball

Event will honor New Orleans Community Leaders and Youth

New Orleans, LA- The City of Love ministries (TCOL), a faith-based organization based in New Orleans, has partnered with the New Orleans Police Department to host the inaugural "Love and Law All-Star Basketball Jam" to highlight the positive response to community policing in the city, by honoring various unsung community youth leaders and programs. A percentage of the proceeds will benefit community groups committed to empowering youth to embrace education and individuality through dynamic mentorship.

The competitive basketball game between members of NOPD and TCOL will offer a fun, family-centered event for youth between the ages of 8-17, with local food, entertainment, and resources to healthy lifestyle choices for families on Saturday, June 2nd, 2018 at McDonogh 35 College Preparatory in New Orleans, Louisiana from 2PM-5PM.



The goal of "Love and Law All-Star Basketball Jam" is to start city-wide conversations and platforms centered around the development and safety of New Orleans youth. Community leaders involved are hopeful the personable engagement with members of each police district will expand the perspectives of city youth and offer more families with access to positive relationships with NOPD.

The City of Love's mission is to give a source of innovation to ministry, community empowerment, and resources to all people. The devoted members serve the community as humanitarians through various outreach programs and events, such as feeding the homeless every Tuesday and Thursday (Love 365 Foundation), providing students with STEM resources, entrepreneurs with small business development, health and wellness resources.

Commentary, Continued from page 8.

However, the Democratic Party has to engage and motivate this

strong and loyal voting bloc of Black voters in order to make this a reality as well.

According to the Pew Research Center, 87 percent of Black voters

identify with the Democratic Party or lean Democratic, with Black women being the driving force behind this high percentage of Black registered voters.

In Texas, many statewide Democratic candidates failed to invest significant financial resources during the March Democratic Primary or the May run-off election with Black media outlets, such as newspapers, radio or cable stations such as BET, OWN or TV ONE, in order to introduce themselves to these committed Black voters and share their policy positions and commitments. Failing to invest in Black voter outreach could end up costing some Democratic candidates the election.

The Beto O'Rourke campaign did, however, just make a major commitment to Black media outlets in Harris County to do Black voter outreach across Harris County starting in mid-May and continuing through November. The campaign stated that they plan to invest more in Black media and expressly stated that they know they cannot win in Texas without the Black vote.

According to Carroll G. Robinson, an associate professor at Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs at Texas Southern University and the former General Counsel of the Texas Democratic Party, in order to generate strong Black voter turnout

and to increase awareness about the midterm elections in November, the Democratic Party and candidates like Beto O'Rourke are going to have to make a significant investment with Black media outlets to get their message out.

"Black voters, like many other voters, are going to need more than just being against Trump to turnout in record numbers in November," Robinson said. "Black voters must know that their issues and concerns are being addressed and that they, their communities and the candidates of their choice are being respected, included and invested in."


Jeffrey L. Boney serves as Associate Editor and is an Award-Winning Journalist for the Houston Forward Times newspaper. Jeffrey has been a frequent contributor on "The Nancy Grace Show" and "Crime & Justice with Ashleigh Banfield." Jeffrey is a radio personality and a dynamic, international speaker, experienced entrepreneur, business development strategist and Founder/CEO of the Texas Business Alliance. If you would like to request Jeffrey as a speaker, you can reach him at jboney1@forwardtimes.com. Follow Jeffrey on Twitter @real-talkjunkies.



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Is the NFL's New National Anthem Policy Legal?

By Lauren Victoria Burke
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Protesters held a rally in front of the National Football League's New York City headquarters on May 25 after the league announced new rules that punish players who don't stand for the national anthem.

Tamika Mallory said that the NFL owners were acting as a "proxy for a fascist president" and that the new policy was an attempt to "resurrect slavery in the 21st Century" and punish Black players. The kneeling protests started when former San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick began sitting during the anthem and then kneeling as a protest against police brutality.

"What is being said is that the n-gas don't have basic rights," Mallory said. "And I want to say today that Ida B. Wells, Dr. Martin Luther King, Marcus Garvey, the four little girls in Birmingham are turning over in their graves right now about the disrespect, the disgrace, that is happening in this country."

Mallory continued: "If we, as Black people, lay down and allow this system to continue to oppress us, we are the ones to be held responsible."

Civil rights activist and author of "The Revolt of the Black Athlete" Harry Edwards told USA TODAY that the NFL's new national anthem policy was "the dumbest move possible."

"They put the protest movement on blast," Edwards said. "They just created a bigger stage than ever."

In a recent commentary for Vox.com, Harvard Law School labor professor Benjamin wrote: "This new league policy is meant to enforce a particular vision of patriotism, one that involves compliance rather than freedom of expression."

Sachs wrote that the new anthem policy was illegal—for a host of reasons.

"The clearest illegality derives



Civil Rights Activist Tamika Mallory says that the new NFL National Anthem Policy was an attempt to "resurrect slavery in the 21st Century." Mallory returned to NFL headquarters on May 25th to speak about the new policy. In this photo, Mallory speaks during a 2017 protest at NFL headquarters. (Freddie Allen/AMG/NNPA)



Two men sit on the plaza steps leading to the building that houses the NFL headquarters, during a protest in support of former NFL quarterback Colin Kaepernick in New York City in 2017. (Freddie Allen/AMG/NNPA)

from the fact that the league adopted its new policy without bargaining with the players union," Sachs wrote. "When employees, including football players, are represented by a union, the employer—including a football league—can't change the terms of employment without discussing the change with the union. Doing so is a flagrant violation of the employer's duty to bargain in good faith."

ESPN.com reported that President Donald Trump supported the NFL's policy that requires players to stand for the national anthem or remain in the locker room, during

an interview with Fox News.

"I think that's good," Trump said. "I don't think people should be staying in locker rooms, but still I think it's good. You have to stand proudly for the national anthem or you shouldn't be playing, you shouldn't be there. Maybe you shouldn't be in the country."

Many players have already indicated that they are not happy with the new rule.

In a statement released on Twitter, Philadelphia Eagles safety Malcolm Jenkins wrote: "While I disagree with this decision, I will not let it silence me or stop me from

fighting. The national conversation around race in America that NFL players forced over the past 2 years will persist as we continue to use our voices, our time and our money to create a more fair and just criminal justice system, end police brutality and foster better educational and economic opportunities for communities of color and those struggling in this country."

In an interview with ESPN, Seattle Seahawks wide receiver Doug Baldwin called the president "an idiot...plain and simple."

"I respect the man because he's a human being, first and foremost. But he's just being more divisive, which is not surprising. It is what it is," Baldwin said. "For him to say that anyone who doesn't follow his viewpoints or his constituents' viewpoints should be kicked out of the country, it's not very empathetic, it's not very American-like, actually to me. It's not very patriotic. It's not what this country was founded upon."

Baldwin continued: "It's kind of ironic to me that the president of the United States is contradicting what our country is really built on."

In his Vox.com commentary about the NFL's new national anthem policy, Sachs wrote that now that the owners have made it a workplace rule to stand during the anthem or stay in the locker room, any player who takes the field and takes a knee is protesting an employer rule.

That protest, Sachs said, "is unquestionably protected by federal labor law."

The NFL pre-season begins in August.

This article was originally published at BlackPressUSA.com.

Freddie Allen contributed additional reporting for this story. Lauren Victoria Burke is an independent journalist, political analyst and contributor to the NNPA Newswire and BlackPressUSA.com. You can reach Lauren by email at LBurke007@gmail.com and on Twitter at [@LVBurke](https://twitter.com/LVBurke).

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