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New Orleans

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September 22 - September 28, 2018 53rd Year Volume 21 www.ladatanews.com

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Fall Festival Season in New Orleans

Data News Weekly Selects Best Local Fall Festivals



New Orleans Fall festivals include: Fried Chicken Festival, Treme Fall Fest, Gentilly Fest, Westbank Heritage Fest and Praise Fest are great outings that celebrate and support local communities and businesses.

Benjamin Bates
Data News Weekly Contributor

New Orleans is a city that loves to celebrate. As anyone knows there are countless festivals for everything under the sun. As we are now entering the fall, Data News Weekly have chosen a few festivals that we think our readers would enjoy.

National Fried Chicken Festival September 22nd-23rd

In its 3rd year this festival has grown from its initial location in Lafayette Square, to Woldenberg Park on the river.

During this two-day free outdoor festival one can come and enjoy food from its more than 35 food vendors and great music on its two stages.

This is a family friendly event that features cooking demonstrations, in addition to a fried chicken tender eating contest. As all things New Orleans Chefs also compete in a best fried chicken contest judged by local and national food critics.

And while we know it is the beginning of fall, we in New Orleans know it will more than likely be two hot days. For those who want an indoor/outdoor experience there are Moët Chicken and Champagne VIP tickets for sale that include access to a private climate-controlled lounge area near main stage. Also, there is

VIP restroom access, a Moët mini bottle with an iconic chicken dish, as well as unlimited soft drinks and water. Other special experiences include the AT&T Football Fan Zone and the GoNola Misting Lounge.

National Fried Chicken Festival is Free and Open to the Public!

Treme Fall Fest October 5th-7th

As the oldest African-American neighborhood in the United States, Treme' is a place with a rich and vibrant history.

From October 5th-7th, this historic neighborhood will host its Annual Treme' Fall Festival. It is a weekend that is true to the welcoming spirit of New Or-

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DATA NEWS WEEKLY

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Please call 504-309-9913 for subscription information or to obtain a back issue of the paper ONLY.
Dated material two weeks in advance. Not responsible for publishing or return of unsolicited manuscripts or photos.

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leans, where people can come and enjoy the food and music of this true cultural treasure.

While it is a free fest, it is a donation-based event created by the Historic Faubourg Treme' Association with the goal to benefit the historic sites located in the Treme' neighborhood. The festival also supports

loved and prospered. In its rich history it has produced many greats that contributed to the rich legacy of New Orleans and the world. Today it is still a neighborhood that represents the best of African-Americans.

On October 12th-14th Gentilly

ing, storytelling and much more.

Gretchen Bradford, Chairperson and founding member of Gentilly Fest says, "The festival is unique because it is homegrown and produced by passionate volunteers who are residents in Gentilly and who care about maintaining the cul-

artist in a wide variety of Genres.

This year's festival headliners include Juvenile, Partners-n-Crime (PNC), Raheem Devaughn, Tucka, Donell Jones, DJ Captain Charles, Shamarr Allen, Denisia, just to name a few. The two-day festival will be hosted by Downtown Lesli

This event is a hand-clapping foot stomping extravaganza. The Praise Fest is an event that draws a diverse crowd that includes families, churches and community leaders.

Praise Fest is more than just music, but also feature other events inside the fest. On Oct. 19th it is



All festivals are free and open to the public will feature great food, fun and entertainment for the entire family to enjoy.

preserving its architecture, culture and history.

The Treme' Fall Festival takes place on the streets bordering the St. Augustine Catholic Church, located at the corner of Henriette Delille and Gov. Nicholls Streets. Along these streets where a unique history has taken place attendees will discover amazing music in addition to food and crafts from its many vendors.

In this the 300th year of the City, this is a festival we suggest for all to attend and witness and experience the splendor of a neighborhood that's contributed so much to New Orleans Culture and the world.

Treme' Fall Festival is Free and Open to the Public!

Gentilly Fest October 12th-14th

Pontchartrain Park in New Orleans is another historic African-American neighborhood, it is place where middle-class Blacks lived,

Fest takes place for a weekend that is chockfull of music, food and family fun. Starting in 2007, proceeds from the festival has gone to the local Police Department, Fire Department, EMS and other neighborhood organizations.

As is all festivals New Orleans, there will be food and plenty of it. There are over 20 local vendors that will be serving up a variety of dishes guaranteed to please the palate of festival goers.

The festival grounds will also feature retail booths where over 30 vendors will have for sale jewelry, art, clothing and much more.

The festival will feature three stages of live music ranging from R&B, Gospel, Jazz, Hip-Hop, Bounce and much more.

Given this is a family friendly event, there will be a Kid's stage that will feature various dance teams and local musicians. In the Kid's Village activities will also include horseback riding, rock climb-

ture and history."

"It began as a fundraiser immediately following Hurricane Katrina to support the first responders and neighborhood playgrounds. But we soon found out it was much greater than that. It's a celebration, but it is also a reunion, uniting family and friends back together. Former residents who have moved away have made Gentilly Fest a vacation destination to return home every October. It is a fun-filled weekend with delicious food and great entertainment. This year we anticipate a bigger better more exciting festival. Must haves are commemorative Poster and T-Shirt."

Gentilly Fest is Free and Open to the Public!

Westbank Heritage Festival Oct. 13th-14th

The Westbank Heritage Festival is again returning to the Alario Center on Oct. 13th-14th. The Festival includes a mix of local and national

Brown and Galen Banks.

"We are extremely excited to announce the incredibly talented and diverse group that round out this year's festival lineup," says Sharlyane Prevost, Westbank Heritage Festival organizer. "Our festival is truly unique. Not only does it provide opportunities for local Westbank businesses, but it also provides an opportunity for people to come out and see a lot of artist, who would otherwise be very expensive, free of charge. We encourage children and adults of all ages to come out, enjoy the free festival and see all of this year's exciting new additions."

Westbank Heritage Festival is Free and Open to the Public!

Praise Fest Oct. 19th-21st

For those who love Gospel Music the 10th Annual Praise Fest will take place Oct. 19th-21st on Bayou St. John.

Senior Day, on Oct. 20th there is a Health and Career Fair and closing out on Oct. 21st is the Finale Closing Celebration.

The Annual Praise Fest is an amazing event that features performances and speakers that are of local, national and international acclaim. It is truly a soul stirring experience and we suggest that you go out and support this great event.

Praise Fest Is Free and Open to the Public!

We at Data News Weekly want to encourage our readers to go out and support our local festivals and small businesses that participate as vendors. We also as the "People's Paper" ask that you do this not only on these days, but every day we should make a conscious effort to support African-American events and businesses.

Visit www.ladatanews.com for more info on these events

Urban Revitalization Is Also Social Justice

By Tyler Lewis
Data News Weekly
Contributor

Low-income neighborhoods are often the sites of dumping and waste, and experts continue to debate how communities fix this or not preserve themselves at all. Attempts at urban revitalization are often seen as an encroaching gentrification. And while the pricing out of Black residents is a very real occurrence, the need to revive Black neighborhoods is also a quality of life issue.

"Race and class are extremely reliable indicators as to where one might find the good stuff, like parks and trees, and where one might find the bad stuff, like power plants and waste facilities," said Majora Carter, an urban revitalization strategist, who addressed this issue during a lecture titled "Community as Corporation," held on Sept. 13th at the Qatar Pharmacy Auditorium on Xavier University of Louisiana's campus. Carter is a Peabody award-winning broadcaster and 2005 MacArthur Genius fellow.

Roughly 30 to 40 percent of New York City's commercial waste is dumped in the South Bronx, according to Carter. After leaving for Wesleyan University back in the early 80's, where she studied film, Carter returned to her native Hunts Point area of The Bronx to help her community have a decent quality of life. She revealed that many South Bronx natives desired coffee shops, nice parks, housing that matches their income, and people just like them within their community. They wanted to feel at home and not like they were living in a wasteland, she said. In 2001, she started a campaign that changed an illegal dumping ground to what is now known as Hunts Point Riverside Park.

"As a Black person in America, I am twice as likely as a White person to live in an area where air



Urban strategist Majora Carter is tackling reviving Black communities. (Courtesy Xavier University of Louisiana)

pollution poses the greatest risk to my health," Carter said. "I am five times more likely to live within walking distance of a power plant or chemical facility - which I do," she said.

A 2018 EPA report found that poor people were 1.35 times more likely to be exposed to particulate emissions than did the overall population. People of color had 1.28 times higher burden of being exposed and Black people, specifically, had 1.54 times higher burden of being exposed to toxic emissions than did the overall population, the study published in the American Journal of Public Health noted. These emissions could come from a landfill, a nearby industrial plant or a truck

depot, according to the Natural Resources Defense Council.

Carter said she and residents within the South Bronx community were tired of living with waste. Some grew accustomed to it and Carter wanted to fix that mindset. Aside from being an urban revitalization strategist, she is also a real estate developer. She helped open a coffee shop called The Boogie Down Grind Café. The coffee shop would segue to what Carter believes to be a good start of environmental justice. But her ideas were not always met with open arms.

"We like to see the work that we do as self-gentrification - 'Local sell out, Majora Carter,'" is what Carter found on a sticker and in many different parts of her neighborhood.

Carter believes that everyone who is against her simply misunderstands her motives and philosophy. She wants to build affordable housing and help create self-owned Black business. "My motto is for us and by us," Carter said.

The residents of the South Bronx assumed that building things that Black people consider 'White' will uproot them out of their homes and businesses. Gentrification is a huge scare to people in low-income neighborhoods, she said, whether it's New York or New Orleans.

"Prior to Katrina, the South Bronx and New Orleans' Ninth Ward had a lot in common. Both were largely populated by poor people of color, both hotbeds of cultural innovation: think hip-hop and

jazz. Both are waterfront communities that host both industries and residents in close proximity of one another," Carter said.

The only way to help be a part of rebuilding Black communities, Carter explained, is using whatever power and resources we have as individuals. By helping the community help themselves, Black people can become one step closer to environmental justice and bringing life back to our communities.

These should be programs that are led by locals, from the ground up, experts said.

"For New Orleans, many outsiders have come in and have dictated what they want to see in our communities and locals have felt and been excluded," said Tyra Gross, an Assistant Professor of Public Health at Xavier. "It's important for the City to allow its own residents the opportunity to voice what they want."

Neighborhoods should find ways to harness the expertise and entrepreneurs already there to find ways to revive communities "It's also important to train and retain local talent so that the idea of 'making it' doesn't mean leaving the city or state for better opportunities," Gross said. "We can have those opportunities right here in the Crescent City," she said.

That was the message translated to the next generation.

"Her goal to make low-income communities flourish is inspiring because many choose to focus on profiting off of poor people. She's motivated me to invest in my community to make it a better place," said Brooke Kelly, a Xavier student who attended the lecture. His or not preserve themselves at all. Attempts at urban revitalization are often seen as an encroaching gentrification. And while the pricing out of Black residents is a very real occurrence, the need to revive Black neighborhoods is also a quality of life issue.

Mayor Cantrell Launches CleanUpNOLA Initiative, a Comprehensive Response to Litter, Blight Issues in New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS — Mayor LaToya Cantrell today announced the launch of CleanUpNOLA, a city-wide, fully coordinated initiative that will unite the efforts of multiple civil departments and the community behind a single goal for a cleaner, healthier and more welcoming city.

“CleanUpNOLA is something that is very near and dear to me because it speaks to so much of what I believe in – as a community organizer, as a City Council member, and now as Mayor of the City of New Orleans. This initiative is about more than trash, graffiti, tall weeds and unkempt properties. These issues have a negative impact on our economic development, safety, and the quality of life of every New Orleanian. Working with all of these participating departments as well as the community, CleanUpNOLA will confront and transform the culture of littering in our city,” said Mayor Cantrell.

The initiative also will leverage the resources of several City departments, including Sanitation, Public Works, Health, Safety & Permits, Code Enforcement, Neighborhood Engagement, Park & Parkways, and



A man walks past an abandoned building in the Upper Ninth Ward neighborhood of New Orleans. REUTERS/Jonathan Bachman

Mosquito, Termite & Rodent Control. These City departments will work together to reduce and deter litter and blight, promote a healthier environment, improve access to City services and expand community education and engagement.

CleanUpNOLA will target 12 major corridors across the city. Part of the work will concentrate on the enhancement of current daily operations. Key leaders within CleanUp NOLA, also known as the Tiger Team, work together to increase the efficiency of City Services. This Tiger Team has been and will be walking corridors to identify violations and to educate residents and businesses in regard to how to respond to violations, repair or replace street signs, address graffiti in public spaces, clean up catch basins, and more.


CleanUpNOLA represents an enduring partnership with residents to create a more sustainable strategy for the city, as opposed to a one-time initiative.

To learn more about CleanUpNOLA, visit <https://nola.gov/CleanUpNOLA/>




“Auntie” Maxine Waters’ CBC Kick-Off Party




Last week Congresswoman Maxine Waters (D-CA) held her “Kick-Off” party at the Congressional Black Caucus in Washington. Here she is photographed with Data News Weekly publisher, Terry Jones and Rev. Jesse L. Jackson. (Photo by Roy Lewis)



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NNPA Leadership Awards Honors Legendary Poll Worker and Esteemed Legislators

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) 2018 National Leadership Awards Reception provided what one might expect when California Democratic Rep. Maxine Waters, Texas Democratic Rep. Al Green, and South Carolina's Jim Clyburn make up one-third of the recipients.

"We are here to recognize our brothers and sisters who are truly national leaders and who stand for freedom, justice and equality not when it's popular, but when it's not so popular to be freedom fighters," said NNPA President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr.

Awardees included: California Democratic Rep. Maxine Waters, Texas Democratic Rep. Al Green, and South Carolina's Jim Clyburn, National Teacher of the Year Jahana Hayes, Capstone Development Founder Norman K. Jenkins, E-Commerce Leader Arsha Jones, Dr. Wally Smith, Television Personality Kellee Edwards and legendary poll worker Laura Wooten.

At 97, Wooten is the longest continuously serving poll worker in America. Immediately upon graduating from Princeton High School in 1939, Wooten was recruited to work the polls by her great uncle, Anderson Mitnaul, who was running for Justice of the Peace. More than seven decades later, Wooten is still working the polls and her 79-year streak remains intact.

"Voting is important," Wooten told the audience who saluted her with a prolong standing ovation. "We need to engage young people to get out to vote. I hope we can do better this year. On November 6, get out and vote," she said.



Rep. James Cleburne (D-SC)



Teacher of the Year and Congressional Candidate Jahana Hayes



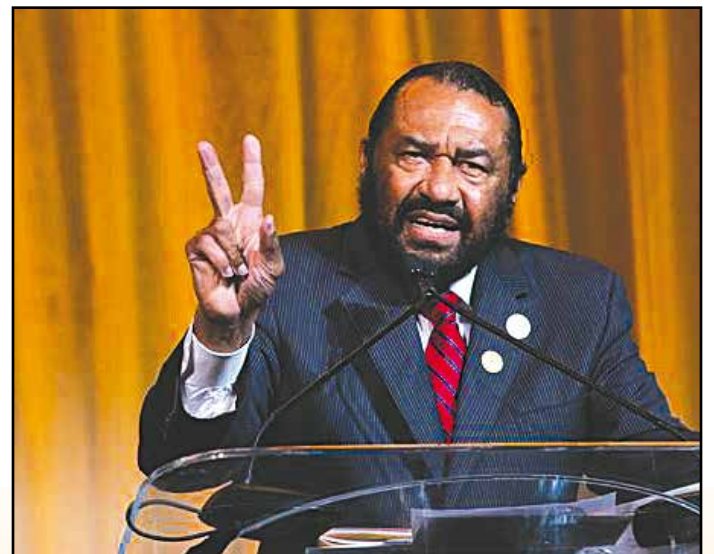
Capstone Development Founder Norman Jenkins



Rep. Al Green (D-TX)



TV Host Kellee Edwards



Rep. Al Green (D-TX)



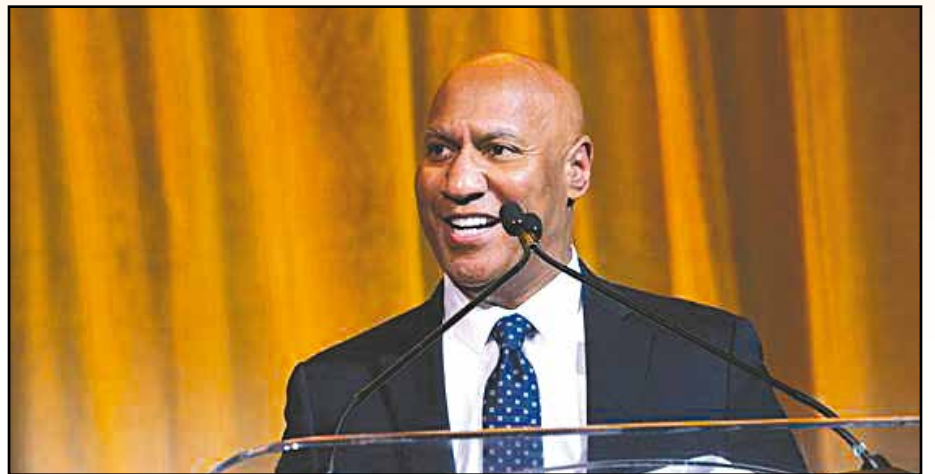
Legendary poll worker Laura Wooten



Rep. Shiela Jackson Lee (D-TX)



E-Commerce leader Arsha Jones



Dr. Wally Smith



Rep. Maxine Waters (D-CA)



Rep. Maxine Waters (D-CA)

Visit www.ladatanews.com for more photos from these events

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The Miseducation of “Betsy DeVoid”



Julianne Malveaux
NNPA Columnist

Even her boss, the 45th President of the United States, is derisive of Education Secretary Betsy DeVoid, the Devos woman who is devoid, absent, of good sense. She may have even been placed in her position as payback for whatever support her wealthy family provided to the certified public liar of a leader. Education Secretary Betsy DeVoid has used her position to elevate her family's economic advan-

tage, and she has used her position to punish students whose interests are contrary to her own. She is a prime example of miseducation, and her tenure has been an attack on students. Let me count the ways:

DeVoid has lifted the for-profit college protections that President Barack Obama attempted to regulate. She chose to minimize the regulations that curtailed for-profit college exploitation. While the Obama administration attempted to make students, who attended for-profit colleges whole, DeVoid has erred in favored of the rip-off schools. Many for-profit colleges only exist because students take out federal loans. When these schools fail, so do the students. Why shouldn't the federal government pick up the slack from schools that falsely market themselves as a bridge from poverty to opportunity?

Blessedly, a federal judge just ruled that DeVoid's attempts to delay Obama-era regulations to provide students with relief was wrong. The Borrower Defense rule, which allows students who borrowed to attend shady schools to apply for relief, had been delayed by the Department of Education, but US District Judge Randolph Moss ruled that the Department's actions are “procedurally incorrect.” The lawsuit against DeVoid and the Department of Education was brought by 19 states and the District of Columbia. Will DeVos learn her lesson? Probably not. This is part of her miseducation.

DeVoid has weakened regulations around sexual harassment and sexual abuse of students. She feels that those who are accused of harassment should have more rights than they are already of-

fered, and that the arc of justice should bend away from the young women who have been raped and abused. DeVoid is devoid of compassion when she raises the bar for those who accuse fellow students and colleagues of sexual assault or harassment. Is there room for adjudication? Probably. Should those who have to encounter their rapists or harassers on campus be protected? Absolutely.

DeVoid has stacked her staff with proponents of charter schools and for-profit education, which is the equivalent of having the fox guard the henhouse. She has done this boldly, unapologetically, and with the blessing of her boss, the 45th President, who has also been woefully miseducated. It is likely that the trustees of the University of Pennsylvania cringe every time he says that he went to the Whar-

ton School of Business.

DeVoid has proposed rolling back rules on accrediting colleges and schools, raising concerns that she plans to water down the quality of education nationally. This is consistent with her family's involvement in for-profit education. To be sure, many Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) have run afoul of the accrediting agencies, such as SACS (the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools), which seem to be stricter on HBCUs than on other schools, but none in the HBCU community support the DeVoid method of changing accreditation rules. DeVoid is using the Department of Education as a playground for her family's monied interests.

Under Betsy DeVoid, the staff

Commentary, Continued on page 9.

The Sin, Hypocrisy and Racism of White Privilege



Austin R. Cooper, Jr.
NNPA Newswire Contributor

The U.S. Constitution gives three eligibility requirements to be president: one must be 35 years of age, a resident within the United States for fourteen years and a natural born citizen. The term “natural born citizen” is not defined.

Based on these criteria, I cannot argue that President Donald Trump does not meet the basic criteria to hold office. At least on paper.

However, here is what I know: If former President Barack Obama had not been elected in 2008, America would have never sunk as low as she did in 2016 and elected someone of such low character, humanity and intelligence, to the highest office in the land, as the current occupant.

Had Senator Hillary Clinton won in 2008 and served two terms, the GOP would have nominated,

and possibly elected, former Governor Jeb Bush or Governor John Kasich or even Senator Ted Cruz in 2016. But not Donald Trump. He would have been laughed off the stage as an illiterate, racist and unqualified joke.

Even the most faithful and uneducated white viewers of The Apprentice, residing in the poorest areas of the country, would have said, “Oh hell no” to a Trump candidacy. And rightfully so.

Are a majority of the president's supporters racist? After all, the president won because he did a much more effective job of appealing to the economic concerns of struggling low and middle-income Americans. Nor can anyone argue that Russians prevented Secretary Clinton from campaigning in Wisconsin or too few Democrats from going to the polls and voting in key battleground states.

Regardless, there is evidence that far too many supporters of President Trump are, indeed, hypocritical racists. How else can one explain his popularity in the GOP and simultaneous appeal to white supremacists? Why are racists not openly comfortable in the Democratic Party? Not that my party is perfect. Far from it.

But, how else to explain the president's policy of separating immigrant children from their mothers? Or calling African-American NFL players “sons of bitches” for choosing to protest police brutality by kneeling during the National Anthem?

Name one white athlete who has been the subject to such abuse? Does anyone believe that had Charlie McAvoy or Blake Wheeler chosen to kneel at professional hockey games to protest the president's tax cuts for the rich, that the president would have publicly insulted them, as well as their mothers, in such an offensive manner?

Many of us have heard John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon cursing in private on released White House tapes. Yet, America now has a president who shamelessly curses at rallies in front of children.

How low class for any president!

Some might very well ask, “What does any of this have to do with white privilege? If you are white and asked that question, you are a benefactor of white privilege.

I ask, would you have:

Been offended had President Obama seen “good on both sides” of an anti-white rally in Charlottesville?

Considered it un-American had President Obama cozied up to President Vladimir Putin?

Remained supportive of President Obama had any of his inner circle consistently referred to him as an “idiot” and “mentally unstable?”

Continued supporting the 44th president, despite an inability to remain on point and coherent when speaking, with no apparent grasp any complex policy issues?

Been silent while close to 3,000 white American citizens in Alabama died after a hurricane due to a slow and poorly coordinated response from Washington?

Approved of President Obama calling Fox News “enemies of the people,” in a democracy?

Even considered voting for Senator Obama had he launched his campaign by stating, “Whites are bringing their drugs, crime and rapists into our communities?”

If President Obama had committed even one of the above actions, he would correctly been labeled an incompetent racist and traitor. And, Impeachment pro-

ceedings would have promptly begun against him, former First Lady Michelle Obama, Sasha and Malia.

The hypocrisy and double standard for this particular presidency should be shameful for all Americans!

I agreed with President Obama when he said, “Sometimes the backlash comes from people who are genuinely, if wrongfully, fearful of change. More often, it's manufactured by the powerful and the privileged to keep us divided and keep us angry and keep us cynical, because that helps them maintain the status quo. It did not start with Donald Trump. He is a symptom, not the cause.”

President Trump has single-handedly undignified the office of the presidency. In November, Democrats have the opportunity to begin righting this ship by voting in historic numbers. If we do not, it will not be the president's fault. Just ours.

White privilege and its cousins, sin, hypocrisy and racism, must be permanently eliminated, for the good of the country.

Austin R. Cooper, Jr. is the president of Cooper Strategic Affairs, Inc.

Spiritually Speaking

Life's Bad Deal is the Lord's Winning Hand



James A. Washington
NNPA News Wire
Columnist

It's been some time ago, but I again heard one of the most powerful sayings a friend of mine once said, right before he was about to be installed as the new pastor of his very own church.

"When Satan knocks at the door, let Jesus answer it."

Maybe you had to be there, but I found the thought behind this saying, still absolutely awesome.

I try to imagine actually being able to do this. Can you imagine if you really could? I mean what if you

knew for a fact, every time the devil was responsible for the temptation, the trial, the sinful suggestions and the weaknesses of flesh and spirit?

The reality would be that you would see the devil coming from miles away and no matter how slick or innocent the approach, you could never be fooled again.

Would you really do as Jesus did in the desert? Would you renounce the promises of riches, fame, and power? For you, would it be as easy as "Away from me Satan!" Matthew 4:10.

According to scripture, after being tempted three times, the devil left and the angels came to attend to Jesus and soon thereafter, He began to preach.

In today's world, I am simply asking if you knew where damnation was coming from, would you still live a damned life?

In more plain words, "Do you know Jesus well enough to ask Him to answer your front door?"

When life and the devil deal you a bad hand, can you get the Lord to sit at the table and play it for you?

Is your relationship to the Almighty current enough, casual



enough, familiar and habitual enough, to take His presence in your life for granted?

In times of great anxiety, do you need to whisper to God to take over or are you screaming at the top of your lungs, hoping He'll hear your plight?

I don't get the impression that Jesus was screaming at the devil in the desert, trying to keep His

courage up in the face of temptation—the likes of which most of us will never see, let alone experience first hand.

At every turn, it was the devil who was way out of his league, because when he came calling, Jesus merely let His father answer the door.

"Man does not live by bread alone, but on every word that

comes from the mouth of the Lord...Do not put the Lord your God to the test...Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only." Matthew 4:4-11.

I can only imagine, because I'm not there yet (I'm working on it) what it's like to be able to call upon Jesus so regularly, that His presence in my daily life is second nature.

I must admit, there are times when I recognize that the turmoil in my life has been or is being manufactured by pure evil. That recognition allows me the privilege to simply tell the devil to back up, because I don't really have time.

If you get my perspective, it's okay to ask Jesus to handle the situation, because your time is better spent trying to do the work He would be proud of.

When you're that busy, I truly believe Jesus doesn't mind getting the door.

May God bless and keep you always.

James Washington is a father, husband, Christian and writer. James is also the owner and publisher of the multimedia company The Dallas Weekly. You can follow James on Twitter at @JAWS_215.

Commentary, Continued from page 8.

of the Department of Education is down 13 percent. Some may see this as a good thing, and every federal agency can probably stand to be streamlined some. But if the staff reduction means less enforcement of important regulations, then DeVoid will have accomplished her purpose, which seems to be to turn education into an unregulated free for all, and a profit opportunity for her family and others who see education as a commodity, not a service.

I feel that DeVoid has been miseducated, but perhaps she has been

all too well educated in the ways of 45, who promised to disrupt government as we know it. With his horrid approach to governing, and his flippant disregard for the lives of US citizens (witness his crude and inaccurate comments about deaths in Puerto Rico), 45 has certainly been disruptive. And the minion he has described as "ditsy" has been equally destructive to students and schools at the Department of Education.

Julianne Malveaux is an author and economist. Her latest book "Are We Better Off? Race, Obama and Public Policy" is available via www.amazon.com for booking, wholesale inquiries or for more info visit www.juliannemalveaux.com



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Dillard University Student Selected for the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities

NEW ORLEANS – The White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities recently named their 2018 HBCU Competitiveness Scholars – the Initiative’s highest student recognition. Chevel Powell, ‘19, is among the 63 students selected from 54 HBCUs. Later this month, the Powell and other high achievers will assemble in the nation’s capital. She is only one of two scholars selected from New Orleans and the fifth Dillard student selected since 2014.

The Competitiveness Scholars are comprised of undergraduate, graduate, and professional students, who are recognized for successfully preparing to compete for top opportunities that improve long-term outcomes. Each were nominated and endorsed by their institution’s president, which itself



Dillard Senior, Chevel Powell is among the 63 students selected for the 2018 HBCU Competitiveness Scholars – the Initiative’s highest student recognition.

is an honorable mention. They were selected from among several highly distinguished HBCU students based on their academic achievement, campus and civic involvement and entrepreneurial

ethos or “go-getter” spirit.

“Chevel, while quiet and reserved, has had a stellar career at Dillard,” said Walter M. Kimbrough Ph.D.. “From serving as a resident assistant to being a mem-

ber of our nationally ranked mock trial team, she has been consistently excellent.”

In the course of their year long term, Competitiveness Scholars will learn and share proven and promising practices that support individual and HBCU competitiveness, with the goal of strengthening prospects for career and life success.

“I felt honored to be selected by Dr. [Walter]. Kimbrough,” said Powell, a political science major from Westmoreland, Jamaica. “I was pleasantly surprised and humbled by his endorsement.”

Competitiveness Scholars will assemble September 16-18, at the 2018 National HBCU Week Conference held at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, in Washington, D.C. The theme of the national convening is HBCU Competitiveness: Aligning Institutional Missions with America’s Priorities, and the students will participate in workshops designed to improve leadership, encourage ongoing personal and professional development and discover areas of innovation and entrepreneurship. As the embodiment of unique competitive advantages HBCUs provide students, Competitiveness Scholars are afforded opportunities to highlight their exceptional contributions to institutions, ignite new passions and explore ideas critical to lifelong growth and development.

Powell describes herself as someone who prides themselves on academics. Competitiveness

Scholars are recognized for the 2018-2019 academic school year. Throughout this period, the Initiative will provide outreach and engagement activities, as well as information and resources that can be disseminated to fellow students. They are expected to take full advantage of the opportunities provided, engage with one another and showcase individual and collective talents across the HBCU spectrum.

Competitiveness Scholars will receive their recognition during the conference on the evening of September 17, at the Initiative’s Excellence in Innovation and Competitiveness Awards. “I hope that this experience will enhance my leadership skills and allow me to make connections that will not only be personally beneficial but beneficial for Dillard as well,” Powell said.

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EXCLUSIVE: Camille Cosby Appears at Judicial Conduct Review Board

One week before iconic Comedian Bill Cosby faces sentencing in his assault case and just a week after defense attorneys led a motion asking for Judge Steven T. O'Neill to recuse himself, Camille Cosby arrived in Harrisburg, PA, seeking relief.

By Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Camille Cosby has filed an official complaint about her husband's judge to the Judicial Conduct Review Board of Pennsylvania.

One week before iconic comedian Bill Cosby faces sentencing in his assault case and just a week after defense attorneys filed a motion asking for Judge Steven T. O'Neill to recuse himself, Camille Cosby arrived in Harrisburg, Pa., seeking relief.

"The public, and Mr. Cosby, were entitled to know about Judge O'Neill's bias before the judge made these rulings," Camille Cosby said.

"That this judge would hide his bias and decide that his rival, the former D.A., could not be trusted to give truthful testimony, shows that the judge let his own personal feelings override Mr. Cosby's right to a fair trial. If a judge would do this in a case as high-profile as this one, then he cannot be trusted to be a fair judge for anyone else either."

The former D.A. Bruce Castor told NNPA Newswire that he was "disgusted" by the prosecution of Cosby after himself promising the legend years ago that if he sat for a deposition and waived his right to remain silent, his words could never be used against him by any future D.A.

The current D.A., Kevin Steele, ran an election campaign on the grounds that he was going to "get Cosby," and received the support of Cosby accuser Andrea Constand in his campaign bid.

"What is happening to Cosby, as bad a man as he undoubtedly is,



Camille Cosby enters Montgomery County Courthouse with Bill Cosby during his assault trial in April. (Photo courtesy of PA News Media Association)

should never happen to anyone in America," Castor said.

"I'm 36 years in the justice system, much of it at a pretty high level and I'm disgusted that any citizen entitled to the presumption of innocence has been treated this way," Castor said.

Legal experts also have expressed concern that O'Neill refused to rule on whether the 12-year statute of limitations in the case expired, thus avoiding any prosecution of Cosby. Instead, he sent the matter to jurors, who didn't appear to consider it.

Last week, Cosby's attorney Joseph Green filed a motion aimed at getting O'Neill to recuse himself and appoint another judge to consider the case. Green argued that the case has to go back to when it started in early 2016 when Cosby repeatedly sought to get the charges thrown out and the judge to step down. O'Neill repeatedly denied his motions.

Green said recently uncovered facts suggest O'Neill was biased against Cosby from the beginning due to a long-standing political feud with Castor that the judge failed to disclose after he was assigned the case.

The feud stems from a late-1990s political campaign between Castor and O'Neill in which Castor supposedly engineered a campaign dirty trick that damaged O'Neill's professional reputation,

Cosby's motion asserts.

This colored O'Neill's rulings against Cosby's motions, Green argued because Castor was an important witness who testified about why he decided not to prosecute Cosby on the Constand accusations in 2006.

"During the hearing, Judge O'Neill actually took over the direct examination of Mr. Castor, questioning him at some length before issuing a ruling that rejected Mr. Castor's sworn testimony and wrongfully allowed the case to proceed," the Cosby lawyers said in a statement.

"There is no way to view the judge's conduct in this case as being consistent with the constitutional right to a fair trial," the statement said.

"Judge O'Neill must fully disclose the facts of that feud now. There is no other way to correct the injustice that has been done."

A number of legal experts from Philadelphia, Delaware, Washington and as far away as Sacramento, San Francisco and Winnipeg, Canada, said O'Neill should recuse himself or at least postpone the Sept. 24th and Sept. 25th sentencing hearings he's scheduled.

Camille Cosby's appearance at the Judicial Conduct Review Board isn't insignificant.

According to Pennsylvania rules, When the Board receives a complaint, the Board's staff makes

a preliminary inquiry. During this stage, you and other witnesses may be interviewed, and documents other than those provided with your complaint may be reviewed. Once there is sufficient information to conclude the preliminary inquiry, the full Board will review the complaint.

At this stage, the Board generally chooses to:

Dismiss the complaint because it is clear that the allegations do not warrant disciplinary action against the accused judge; or

Authorize a full investigation to determine if there is "clear and convincing evidence" of misconduct that warrants disciplinary action against the accused judge

After a full investigation has been conducted, the Board makes another choice:

Dismiss the complaint because there is not "clear and convincing evidence" of judicial misconduct; or if the Board believes that there is "clear and convincing evidence" of judicial misconduct, it may file formal charges against the accused judge with the Court of Judicial Discipline.

When asked today why she's filing the complaint, Cosby said she's filing it not only on behalf of Bill Cosby, "but for all citizens who may one day find themselves in O'Neill's corrupt courtroom. This judge must be held accountable for his unethical behavior."

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