A Data News Weekly Exclusive

Data News Weekly

Endorsements

Vote YES on LA Amendment 2

Cedric Richmond  Chelsey Richard Napoleon  Timothy David Ray

National News

Record Voter Turnout Expected

State & Local

Louisiana Students Take FLY Tour
New Orleans gets ready to get out and vote on Election Day November 6, 2018. Data News Weekly, in its role as “The People’s Paper encourages all citizens to get out and vote. These are very important times for our City, our nation and our world; and we must do our civic duty and cast our ballots. It is in these times that the future of our Democracy is at stake and we cannot sit idly by. Today we must make a stand against those who are trying to set back the hands of time on our historic gains. So, we at Data News cannot stress enough...Get Out and Vote.

U.S. Representative Louisiana Second Congressional District: Cedric Richmond

Cedric Richmond is the incumbent and has been at the forefront of many of the important issues that affect people not just in his district, but throughout the country. He has risen to become...

Cover Story, Continued on page 3.
a voice to be reckoned with as the Chairman of the Black Congressional Caucus and championing many causes especially around issues of Criminal Justice Reform.

In a statement on his website he says, “I am committed to reforming our broken prison system to save taxpayers money and give individuals who have paid their debt to society a second chance. Outside of his work on Criminal Justice Reform he’s focused on legislation that invests in education, economic growth and jobs.

Over the years as an elected official at the state and national level Richmond has proven to be an effective and courageous leader for the people of Louisiana Congressional District 2 and for this reason Data News Weekly strongly endorse him and ask that when you cast your ballot vote for Cedric Richmond, a proven leader we can trust.

Clerk of Civil District Court: Chelsey Richard Napoleon

Chelsey Napoleon is someone who has a proven record that she is the best qualified to be the Clerk of Court of the City of New Orleans. An office she’s been working at since 2002 balancing her work there with earning her law degree from Loyola University, College of Law.

Presently, she is serving as the interim Clerk of Court and doing a great job filling the position after longtime Clerk of Court Dale Atkins ran for another position. Napoleon has served as the Chief Deputy Clerk for over 11 years and has been responsible for supervising an average of 175 employees.

She has been responsible for many facets of the office including: daily operations, staffing, finance, human resources, payroll and expense control. In this race there is no doubt that she is the most qualified and competent person to fill this office. Because of her experience from day one she can go in and do the job of Clerk, servicing the people of New Orleans.

Clerk of First City Court: Timothy David Ray

Timothy David Ray is a breath of fresh air and part of a new breed of leadership that the city needs at this crucial time for our city. Ray has the right mix of skills, intelligence and vision to serve as the Clerk of First City Court.

Presently, he is already serving as the Interim Clerk and is receiving high marks for his tireless work ethic and working with the staff and citizens that come into the Clerk’s office. More than simply a public servant Ray, who is an attorney by training, gives back providing pro bono services to citizens of the city and has worked on issues including homelessness and education. In addition, he is involved in helping the next generation achieve greatness as an Adjunct Professor of Political Science at the University of New Orleans and is also a mentor to young people around the city.

We at Data News Weekly believe that Timothy David Ray is more than capable to fill the job of Clerk of First City Court and serve with honor, dignity and integrity. We believe it is important that we support some of our young people running for office that can bring fresh ideas to the table and a different style of leadership that can lead us into the future. For these reasons, we ask our readers to support Timothy David Ray for Clerk of First City Court.

LA Amendment 2

Unanimous Jury for Non-Capital Felonies: Yes

This is the time to change a Jim Crow Era Law that’s placed many Blacks in jail. The infamous less than unanimous jury votes in felony trials. An archaic law that only Louisiana and Oregon have on the books that allow in the case of serious felonies a non-unanimous verdict.

In Louisiana, a jury can find a defendant guilty of murder by a 10/2 verdict. This rule has been on the books since 1898 and been part of the reason that Louisiana has been for many years the world’s prison capital. These laws have affected many people and their families in our community. It is time to finally abolish this unfair law in our state.

We at Data News Weekly think this is a very important issue and advise all our people to get out and vote YES on this amendment.

Get Out and Let Your Voice Be Heard…Get Out and Vote!
Trump Supporter and Attempted Bombing Suspect
Targeted Five Prominent Black Democrats

By Lauren Victoria Burke
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Less than two weeks before Election Day from October 22 to 26, 2018, Trump supporter and attempted bombing suspect, Cesar Sayoc, allegedly sent 14 packages armed with explosives to several prominent Democrats.

Five of Sayoc’s targets, many of whom Donald Trump has repeatedly attacked verbally, are African American.

Sayoc allegedly mailed a pipe bomb to the Washington DC residence of former President Barack Obama, two pipe bombs mailed to Rep. Maxine Waters (D-CA) along with one each mailed to Sens. Cory Booker (D-NJ) and Kamala Harris (D-CA) and former Attorney General Eric Holder.

Though none of the explosives reached their intended targets, the first one discovered arrived at the home of billionaire philanthropist George Soros in Bedford, New York. The home of former President Bill Clinton and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton was also targeted along with the home of former Vice President Joe Biden.

Sayoc also allegedly sent pipe bombs to former CIA Director John Brennan, former Director of National Intelligence James Clapper, billionaire Tom Steyer and actor Robert DeNiro. All have been consistently critical of President Trump. Steyer has called for his impeachment and funded many progressive Democrats running for office.

Though no one was injured in the attempted attacks and many of the pipe bombs were intercepted by law enforcement in transit, the story of attempted murder and domestic terrorism sent a chill through the political world that was followed by calls to bring down the temperature of political discourse.

The unexpected and potentially violent October surprise hit the news only two weeks before Election Day. Sayoc, who has a criminal record, was caught in Florida after the FBI traced a fingerprint on a pipe bomb he allegedly sent to Rep. Waters.

“I am appreciative of the law enforcement entities who intercepted the package and are investigating this matter. Thus far, they have shown commendable work,” Waters wrote in a statement on October 24.

The week of fear became a moment of clarity for some in and out of the media as calls for Trump to dial down his rhetoric at political rallies grew louder. Trump has a long history of inflammatory statements that court violence and reaffirm fear of immigrants and minorities.”

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Why Should You Vote?

Mia X
Music Legend, Author, Cancer Survivor and Community Advocate

This is Mama Mia X here to tell you that voting is very important to me, our parents and grandparents sacrificed so we could have this right. It is a privilege and an honor to go and put my two-cents in by voting.

If not now, then when – If not you, then who?
Sponsored by Data News Weekly and Cumulus Radio

“Why should you vote? It’s a privilege and an honor to go and put my two-cents in by voting. If not now, then when – If not you, then who?"
The New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation — the non-profit that owns the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival presented by Shell — has announced the recipients of its 2018-2019 Community Partnership Grants.

Of 309 applications received in four grant categories, 273, or 88 percent, were awarded funding. The total amount awarded was $887,359, up from $800,980 awarded last year and from $709,475 awarded in 2017. Checks for grant awards in two categories: Partnership Grants, were awarded funding; list of recipients.

Essentially, the number funded this year was 309, down from 325, received this was 309, down from 325, last year. The number funded this year was 273, down from 285 last year.

In the category for in-school arts instruction programs, the number of applicants rose by more than 40 percent, from 52 in 2017 to 74 this year. The increase is likely due to making applications available much earlier — in February; applications for the other three categories were made available in April. One hundred percent of applicants in the two education categories received funding this year.

The total budget for Community Partnership Grants this year was $800,000, the same amount as last year, and up from $700,000 in 2016 and $600,000 in 2015. (The amount awarded was actually over budget by $7,000.) The budget for the program has increased steadily each year since 2011-2012, when it was $265,000. Prior to Hurricane Katrina, grants were awarded every other year, and the budget for each cycle was only $125,000.

For more detailed grant statistics, see here.

“Every year we wrestle with the question of whether to give fewer grants in larger amounts, or to give the largest number of grants possible even if it means the individual grant sizes may be small,” said Don Marshall, Executive Director of the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation. “We have found over the years that even though some of the grants may be small, they still have a big impact on the grass-roots organizations receiving them.”

The largest grants given this year were $2,957.33, up from $2,810 last year.

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The smallest was $200. The average grant award was $2,957.33, up from $2,810 last year.

All grant awards must be matched by an equal amount of funds the applicants raise from other sources.

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Black Men of Labor 25th Anniversary Gala

On Friday, October 26th, Black Men of Labor celebrated its 25th Anniversary of serving the community at the Sheraton Hotel. The event honored members of the New Orleans Black Press including Data News Weekly, The Louisiana Weekly and the New Orleans Tribune. The event also honored Leah Chase, Deacon John, Val Amelée, Dr. Michael White and Detroit Brooks, Charbonnet-Labat-Glapion and The Rhodes Family Funeral Homes and many others. Mayor LaToya Cantrell received the award for Public Service and for becoming New Orleans First African American Female Mayor. Congratulations to Black Men of Labor on 25 years of serving the community.

Photos by Glenn Summers
Data News Weekly Contributor

Data Zone, Continued on page 7.

GRAND OPENING

The AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Community Wellness Center is open:

Monday from 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Third Saturday of each month, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

For more information, visit www.amerihealthcaritasla.com or call 1-888-756-0004, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Community Wellness Center
Gentilly Shopping Center
3155 Gentilly Boulevard
New Orleans, LA 70122

Open house from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Stop by your new local wellness center on November 17. There will be:

• Health screenings.
• Refreshments.
• Safety awareness.
• Door prizes.
• Activities for the kids.
• And more!

This event is available at no cost. All are welcome.

COMMUNITY WELLNESS CENTER

Please join us for the grand opening of our new Community Wellness Center in New Orleans.

Saturday, November 17, 2018
ENTER THE HBCU
LEVEL UP CHALLENGE
FOR A CHANCE TO WIN $5000

Post a video on Instagram, Facebook or Twitter and show us how you level up at www.globalgrind.com/hbculevelup

Use #dreaminblack & #hbculevelup
Contest runs 10/17 - 11/9

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Politically Correct, or Perfectly Civil

At this writing, Megyn Kelly is off the air at NBC. After her horridly vapid statement saying she didn’t see anything wrong with blackface, she apologized the next day and even invited journalist Roland Martin on to take her to school. Roland did a brilliant job in explaining the history of blackface and the way it demeaned African American people, and it was great that he had the opportunity to educate, not only his odious host but also the millions who watch Megyn Kelly daily. So, Kelly tearfully apologized, and she listened to Roland and television commentator Amy Holmes as they talked about race. But does Kelly “get” why her remarks were so objectionable? Roland says she does, but I’m not so sure.

She prefaced her apology by saying that she was not a “pc kind of person.” I’m not sure what that means, and what is wrong with being politically correct? If it means being perfectly civil, informed, and mindful of others. If African American people say that blackface is offensive, it’s not a big deal, Megyn. It’s offensive. Whether you know the history or not, if members of a group say something is wrong, why not accept it?… Or does your white skin privilege allow you to determine what is offensive and what is not?

This is not the first time Ms. Kelly has put her foot into racial quicksand. Confident in her Aryan-ness, she proclaimed that Santa Clause is white, and so is Jesus. To declare Jesus white, given his geographical roots on the African continent or in the Middle East, is to embrace a special kind of both spatial and historical ignorance. But if you are vested in the world being a narrow white occasion, then you are free to spew racist myths, or shall we say, “fake news.”

On the Santa tip, since Santa is a figment of someone’s imagination, Santa’s race is subject to the imagination. Kelly seemed to have a problem with a Black Santa. Why? Does a Black Santa offend her lily-white sensibilities? Is she so steeped in whiteness that she can’t think outside the box? And did NBC throw the talented Tamron Hall under the bus for that? Speaks to their own racial bias and sense of white superiority!

It is tragic to consider that Megyn Kelly has three young children who are undoubtedly being influenced by her warped racial views. But NBC may, perhaps, be reconsidering their relationship with Kelly. It would be a great loss if she were bounced off the air, though there are some who think she has learned her lesson sufficiently to continue her career. What if, instead of losing her job, she was involved in a “Black immersion” experience? What if she had to spend a month in a dormitory at Bennett or Spellman College, spending time with the young Black women she seems not to have taken into consideration heretofore? What if her conversation with Roland Martin could be the first of many, and she was directed to spend time with Essence Editor Emerita Susan Taylor, with NNPA Chair Dorothy Leavell, with Jada Pinkett Smith, with Rev. Jesse Jackson, and with others. Might that make a difference for the ill-educated Megyn Kelly? Or maybe she should just read a book or two.

Fifty years after the Kerner Commission report, it is clear that there are still two Americas, one Black, and one white. Two Americans, with two different realities and few bridges to understanding. This is why, even in all-white communities, Black history must be taught. This is why our textbooks ought to speak realistically about enslavement, Reconstruction, Jim Crow, and lynching. This is why we need to bust the myth that lynchings were only white – Black men lusting after Black women’s property. After white vandals destroyed the Greenwood section of Tulsa, Oklahoma, one report actually described the cause of the devastation as “Too Many N—rs Having Too Much Money.”

Megyn Kelly is not the only white person who is ignorant of American history (because the history of Black people really is American history). White ignorance is one of the reasons I look askance at some aspects of the #MeToo movement. White ignorance is a choice, especially among adults who can educate themselves and expose themselves to the totality of history. Megyn Kelly chose to expose herself to Roland Martin and Amy Holmes. Too bad she shot off her unformed mouth before she got educated! Perhaps she will now remove the term “p.c.” from her vocabulary unless she happens to mean perfectly civil.

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
All Colored Girls will Remember You

Author Ntozake Shange Dies at 70

Data Staff Report

The pioneering poet and playwright Ntozake Shange died on the morning of October 27 at an assisted living facility in Bowie, Maryland. She was best known for her much celebrated Obie Award-winning play, “For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/When the Rainbow is Enuf.”

“To our extended family and friends, it is with sorrow that we inform you that our loved one, Ntozake Shange, passed away peacefully in her sleep in the early morning of October 27, 2018. Memorial information / details will follow at a later date,” her Twitter account announced.

Shange, who turned 70 on October 18, had suffered multiple strokes over the last few years. She died in her sleep.

“I write for young girls of color, for girls who don’t even exist yet, so that there is something there for them when they arrive,” Shange once said.

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“Zake was a woman of extravagance and flourish, and she left quickly without suffering,” said her sister Ifa Bayez, who was also a writer. “It’s a huge loss for the world. I don’t think there’s a day on the planet when there’s not a young woman who discovers herself through the words of my sister,” she added.

“Her death is a “a major shift in the world. She invited us to practice the ritual of loving ourselves.”

“R.I.P. Ntozake Shange (#ForColoredGirls) YouAreBroadwayBlack you will forever be remembered and eternally etched in our minds as The Lady in Orange, a prolific poet, an amazing playwright, and the Black feminist we all aspire to be. Well done,” a tweet from the Broadway in Black twitter account read.

Shange was also the author of the novels Sassafrass, Cypress & Indigo, Liliane, and Betsey Brown, a novel about a Black girl who runs away from home. Shange was also awarded a Guggenheim Foundation fellowship in April 2016, Barnard College announced the acquisition of Shange’s papers.

But her most celebrated and famous work, was the 20-part poem depicting the lives of women of color. The poem was made into the stage play and a published book in 1977. In 2010, Tyler Perry made her work into a film entitled “For Colored Girls.”

The recent book by Donna Brazile, Yolanda Caraway, Leah Daughtry, Minyon Moore, and Veronica Chambers, entitled “For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Politics,” was a play on the famous work by Shange.

86 MILLION AMERICANS
MAYBE EVEN YOU,
HAVE PRE-DIABETES.
PERSON-ABOUT-TO-
FACT-CHECK-THIS-FACT.

DoIHavPrediabetes.org
LOSAF’s Financial Literacy for You (FLY) Tour stopped this week at Southern University on Wednesday.

On Thursday, students also took a tour of LSU.

LOSAF’s Financial Literacy for You Tour is a dynamic theatrical presentation that uses poetry, music and drama to communicate the importance of financial literacy and fiscal responsibility. Acts featured in the FLY Tour help students learn about financial aid for college, money management, on-campus support services for students and more.

Students attending also received the additional benefit of being exposed to a college campus since all FLY Tours are presented at post-secondary institutions. Some of the post-secondary institutions may offer various benefits to attendees such as campus tours, meal opportunities, fun and engaging games, student support services and recruiters and instant admission opportunities.

HousingNOLA has a clear, but ambitious objective: end housing insecurity in the City of New Orleans by making sure that there are Affordable Housing opportunities for all. Over the past year, we have seen tremendous and sometimes unexpected success paired with crushing disappointment and swinging back to victory. The Louisiana Legislature passed reform of security deposits while simultaneously voting to restrict the right for local municipalities to fix their housing mix.

Thanks to Governor Edwards, the state pre-emption bill that would have prevented our Smart Housing Mix was vetoed, but we’re stumped on local implementation. As a result of this inconsistency and the fact that New Orleans lost more Affordable Housing opportunities than we created, our community earned a “D” for its efforts in HousingNOLA’s 2018 Report Card.

We must make meaningful progress soon or we will find ourselves living in a drastically different New Orleans. We have the examples of the post-recession cities like Detroit to show us the worst-case scenario, but we don’t have to look to other communities to know how bad it can get. We can look to New Orleans’ not so distant past, the first year immediately following Hurricane Katrina. The storm and the subsequent levee breaches devastated the city, but it also illuminated the gross inequities the city struggled with to this day. Failing to end the current affordability crisis will guarantee another disaster and this one will be entirely man made.

Last year, we realized that in order to address this problem, we needed to take a different tack and launched the Put Housing First Campaign. This campaign will engage voters around the HousingNOLA Plan and it also holds our elected officials and decision makers accountable. We can no longer simply document our failures, we must identify the cause and ensure that those responsible answer to the people of New Orleans. Right now, 50% of the people of New Orleans are living in housing that they cannot afford.

This is the biggest problem this city is facing and solving means allowing the people of New Orleans to secure lasting and equitable opportunities to economic empowerment and housing security for many of our citizens. Lack of Affordable Housing is a detriment to an individual’s progression and the scope of the crisis New Orleans faces means that it is imperative that we correct this. The good news is we have a plan and it will work, but not until we find the will to Put Housing First.
Early Voting Numbers Signal Big Turnout for Mid-terms as Voter Suppression Looms

According to the New York Times, “vote totals have increased almost 200 percent at the same point since the last gubernatorial election.” Typically high turnout favors the Democratic Party.

By Lauren Victoria Burke
NNPA Newswire Correspondent

In Georgia, close to three times the number of people who voted early during the last midterm election have voted early. The numbers went up over the first week of early voting in a state featuring one of the biggest races for governor in the U.S: Democrat Stacey Abrams vs. Republican Brian Kemp.

Abrams would be the first African American female governor elected in history if she wins. (Photo: staceyabrams.com / Flickr)

“vote totals have increased almost 200 percent at the same point since the last gubernatorial election.” Typically high turnout favors the Democratic Party.

The news regarding record turnout predictions have collided with the news of voter suppression. Election officials in Kansas closed the only polling place in Dodge City. Latinos currently make up 60 percent of Dodge City’s population. Dodge City has only one polling site for 27,000 residents.

An October 9th Associated Press report found around 33,000 people — nearly 70% of them African-Americans — had their registrations placed in limbo because of some kind of mismatch with driver’s license or social security information.

Tellingly, Abrams is running against an opponent who has had a hand in the details in making voting more difficult in the state. Greg Palast, a voter suppression expert who runs the Palast Investigative Fund, asserts that Kemp is responsible for removing over 300,000 voters from Georgia’s voter rolls over two years. Palast’s team of experts includes statisticians and lawyers analyzing changes and removals from voter rolls across America.

“What’s happening #GaGovRace right now might be a defining moment in the brief history of our Democracy – it will be the 1st publicized, well understood and quantifiable rigged and stolen election in the deluge. They will point here and say this was the moment and it happened with little fanfare,” tweeted pollster Cornell Belcher about the Georgia race.

A coalition of advocacy groups has launched a lawsuit to block Georgia from enforcing the “exact match” requirement that could block over 50,000 votes in the state.

The Campaign Legal Center and Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law argued in the suit, which was filed in a federal district court on Thursday, that the state’s “exact match” requirement violates the Voting Rights Act and the First and Fourteenth Amendments.

The question a little over two weeks from Election Day is: Will high turnout be able to erase attempts at voter suppression.
ELECTION DAY: November 6, 2018

While each Clerk’s Office has its own set of responsibilities, it takes experience on the job and training as a lawyer to be Clerk of Civil District Court. I know because I am a lawyer and I have practiced in Civil District Court. Chelsey Richard Napoleon is also a lawyer. I know that she has the education, experience, integrity and compassion to continue to run the Clerk’s Office in a manner that empowers employees and provides access to justice for all in our community.

- Clerk of Criminal Court Arthur Morrell

Chelsey understands that our residents need swift access to justice. She is sympathetic to the needs of this community. The Clerk’s office handles all of your most important documents. Chelsey has the education, training and innovative ideas to move this office forward. Let’s keep Chelsey Clerk.

- Former Councilmember Cynthia Willard Lewis

We need a strong leader with the legal experience to keep the Clerk’s office running smoothly. Chelsey has been serving our community at the Clerk’s Office for over 16 years in various capacities. It is vitally important to our citizens that this office keep running in an efficient manner and I trust that Chelsey will continue to get the job done. The clerk we need is the one we have.

- State Representative Joe Bouie

The Clerk’s Office is responsible for all of the civil records and all of the land records for Orleans Parish. This office is too important to individuals, business, and the legal system. Chelsey has spent the last 11 years helping former Clerk Dale Atkins run the Clerk’s Office in a professional and efficient manner and will continue to do so.

- Former Councilmember and Former State Senator Diana Bajoie

www.KeepChelseyClerk.com

@ClerkChelsey | KeepChelseyClerk@gmail.com | (504) 356-2081

ENDORSED BY

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT CHELSEY RICHARD NAPOLEON