

Lighting The Road To The Future

New Orleans

Data

News Weekly

"The People's Paper"

Sudan Celebrates 35th Anniversary

FREE COPY

Data Zone
Page 7

November 17 - November 23, 2018 53rd Year Volume 29 www.ladatanews.com

A Data News Weekly Exclusive

Ogden Museum Lets Families Take a Trip to the Past

Page 2



Newsmaker Hollywood East: The Dream Realized

Page 4

State & Local 5 Black Congressional Committee Chairs



Page 11

Ogden Museum Lets Families Take a Trip to the Past Through Photography



Young participants learn about art and photography at the Ogden Museum of Southern Art on Nov. 8, 2018.

By La'Shance Perry
Data News Weekly Contributor

Dozens of smiling faces, and eager minds filled the Ogden Museum of Southern Art to admire and educate themselves on the history of photography and paintings in the region on Nov. 8, 2018. The Ogden Museum hosts a free family event day, four times a year, and the Ogden celebrated its 10th Anniversary of fam-

ily day events this August. The family event this month showcased its newest exhibits and engaged residents with art activities through this month's event-theme: "New Southern Photography." The museum engaged both children and adults with activities for them to draw, color, and to create arts and crafts. The event also had a scavenger hunt to bring art to life.

"Free family day always has a theme connecting to something showing in the museum and one of the

things we wanted to highlight is different types of photography processes," said Ellen Balkin, the Education Manager at the Ogden. Balkin said that she wanted the families to take away a love and appreciation for art that they did not have.

The Ogden Museum of Southern Art focuses on art curated in the South and its current New Southern Photography Exhibition went on display on Oct. 6, 2018 and will remain available to the public through

Cover Story, Continued on page 3.

INSIDE DATA	
Cover Story	2
Newsmaker	4
State & Local News . . .	5
Data Zone	6
Commentary.	8
In The Spirit	9
National News	11

DATA NEWS WEEKLY

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 James A. Washington Marc H. Morial Lauren Victoria Burke Anthony Bean Kevin Johnson Courtesy of ABC Rep. Karen Bass (D-CA)	Art Direction & Production Pubinator.com Editorial Submissions datanewseditor@bellsouth.net Advertising Inquiries datanewsad@bellsouth.net Distribution On The Run Courier Services
Edwin Buggage Editor		
Cheryl Mainor Managing Editor		
Calla Victoria Executive Assistant		
June Hazeur Accounting	La'Shance Perry Calla Victoria Oba Lorrius	

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.

Cover Story, Continued from page 2.

March 10, 2019. The exhibit is comprised of photography that is being practiced in the American South today. The collection is made up of 25 photographers that use different types of photography to convey an important message. The artists on display are emerging, mid-career, and established photographers and this is the largest exhibit the Ogden has had to date in this art form.

The event also hosted live demonstrations of different types of photography such as the use of the camera obscura and tintype. Tintype photos are images created on thin metal sheets that gained popularity in the 1800s. These types of photography are historical ways to capture images and are also featured in the new exhibit.

"It gives photographs a different look. It's not like digital photography today where everything looks the same and you take hundreds of pictures and pick one. With this method you have to slow down, think about every aspect and work to get just one good picture," said Bruce Schultz, a tintype photographer that uses the chemicals and methods of the 19th Century to create his images. Schultz works closely with civil war reenactments to recreate the photography of the time. "I want to convey a timeless aesthetic, something that will make people wonder if it was made now or a hundred years ago," Schultz said.

Students from local high schools also participated in the free family day event. "Art is important because it allows us to express ourselves and come together as a community and art can tell a story as well as teach people not only about themselves but the things around them," said 16-year-old Kyrielle Grillier.

Grillier is a student at Benjamin



Top: Volunteer works with young participants on art activity. Left: A Young participant of one of the activities. Right: Volunteer shows participant demonstration of a Camera Obscura. (All photos by La'Shance Perry)

Franklin High School and is a member of the Ogden's Teen Docent Program. The program partners with public school students to increase art exposure, develop leadership and critical thinking skills,

and encourage students to share their talents. She has been a part of the program for two years and said that the program has helped her become a better artist and educated on the history of art.

Another student, Isaiah Carter, who, like Grillier, participates in the Teen Docent Program, also attended the event, and said he benefited from the learning through art. "It's not always easy for children to grasp the importance of the piece they're looking at, so I think being able to draw a connection for them between the activities and the art here gives a way to completely understand what goes into art and what makes art special and significant," said Carter, 16, who also attends Ben Franklin High School. Carter, who said he has been interested in art since he was three, found that working with the Ogden has helped him to develop a hands-on understanding of creating art.

The Ogden is anticipating a lot of different events including another family day on Martin Luther King Day in January 2019 to showcase new exhibits coming to the museum. The Ogden is located at 925 Camp St. welcomes all ages to view the art and new opportunities to introduce young people to art in the community.

Participating in these events allows the students to learn more about art history and share their knowledge with kids younger than them. Each event teaches the students and locals different reasons to appreciate art. "What makes art special and significant is the people's voices, specifically the voice of the artist behind the piece being able to recognize that voice and what they are trying to convey and why they think it is important – is special," Carter said.

Southern University, Grambling bands to Perform at Saints-Falcons Thanksgiving Game

You'll be sorry if you head to the kitchen to make that leftover turkey sandwich during halftime of the New Orleans Saints vs. Atlanta Falcons game on Thanksgiving Day.

The halftime show could be almost as exciting as the much-hyped game with performances by Southern University's Human Jukebox and Dancing Dolls, along with Grambling State University's "World Famed" marching band.

The bands will not be performing together, said Southern University's Janene Tate. Both, however, are high-energy units that dazzle with their music, marching and showmanship.

The performances will just whet the appetite of fans.

On Nov. 23, the two bands will face off in the Bayou Classic Battle of the Bands, and then on Nov. 24 both will again perform at halftime of the Bayou Classic game, also in the Mercedes-Benz Superdome.

While the performances at the nationally-broadcast Saints-Falcons game will put the attention on the bands, it's almost business as usual for these two storied programs, both of which have performed at Super Bowls among many other prestigious events.



Hollywood East

The Dream Realized

Walking in the footsteps of Tyler Perry



An inside view of the beautiful Lucky Johnson Studios and Theater for The Performing Arts at 8801 Chef Hwy in New Orleans East. The studio, becomes the first African-American owned movie studio in New Orleans, and the second in the nation. (photo by Kevin Johnson)

By Calla Victoria
Data News Weekly
Contributor

Enter Lucky Johnson, native New Orleanian, accomplished actor, writer, and movie producer; with a degree in Performing Arts and Media in Theater and Film. Lucky Johnson and first cousin Tyler Perry were bitten with the acting bug at a very young age, in fact, he and Tyler were the family's entertainment at every opportunity. They would perform elaborate full-length plays. Lucky Johnson's mother Mrs. Jerry Banks was Tyler's inspiration for his signature Madea character.

Inspired by his uber successful cousin Tyler, Lucky Johnson has spread his wings and opened The Lucky Johnson Studios and Theater for The Performing Arts at 8801 Chef Hwy in New Orleans East. With this bold move Lucky Johnson has made history as The Lucky Johnson Studios and Theater for The Performing Arts becomes the first African-American owned movie studio in New Orleans, and the second in the nation only eclipsed by his cousin Tyler and The Tyler Perry Studios in Georgia.

The Lucky Johnson Studios and Theater for The Performing Arts is a sprawling campus that sets on roughly a half acre of land and consists of 6 buildings including the four-story Education Building. On the top floor of the Education Building are classrooms where acting and film production classes are held. Adjacent



Lucky Johnson's (pictured above) vision for his campus is to take advantage of the bustling movie industry in Louisiana, and to generate funding, but also to provide training, life-choice alternatives, and mentoring opportunities for young African-American men. (photo by Calla Victoria)

to the classroom is the internet radio station which is worldwide. On the basement level of the Education Building is the Gym/Game Room where young men can hangout, decompress and relax in a safe space. Lucky Johnson's vision for his campus is to take advantage of the bustling movie industry in Louisiana, and to generate funding, but also to provide training, life-choice alternatives, and mentoring opportunities for

young African-American men.

The campus also houses the bright and spacious Little Angels Daycare Center building catering to ages newborn to 4 years old. There is also a Banquet Hall/Restaurant providing catering and repass services. Another building on the campus houses The Dance Studio which offers ballet, tap, choreography, jazz, modern dance, and fitness classes. There is also an Aftercare Facility for

youth ages 4 and up, as well as corporate and staff meeting rooms.

Embarking on such a massive endeavor as this one has to assemble a strong core team. To that end Lucky Johnson has aligned himself with two dynamic African-American women as his right and left hands. Ms. Helena Nealy, who is also a community activist and founder of The Mother's Circle, she is Lucky Johnson's Director of Public Relations/Marketing. While Charlain Hubbard is Lucky's Executive Assistant/Chief Cook and bottle washer and Maven of the Dance Studio.

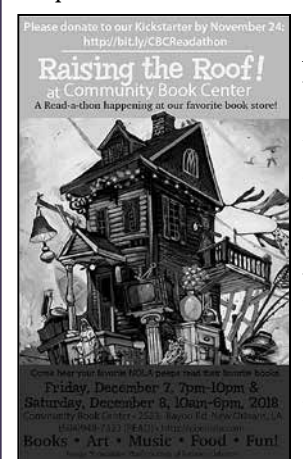
The crown jewel of The Lucky Johnson Studios and Theater for The Performing Arts complex is an elegant, split-level, 500 seat capacity Performing Arts Theater. Both the lobby and plush theater are adorned with massive crystal chandeliers that add the feel of opulence. This venue is available for stage plays, comedy shows, variety shows, weddings, seminars, funerals, and memorials.

This facility will be an anchor for the New Orleans East Community offering ongoing activities to revitalize the area. Upcoming events include a 9,000-toy giveaway around December 20, it will also be a part of the Festival of Lights on Chef, where visitors can drive through or walk through the campus that will be ablaze with Christmas lights.

The Lucky Johnson Studios and Theater for The Performing Arts is brand new and has only just opened a few months. For more information on this facility go to Luckyjohnsoncampus.com.

Community Book Center Read-a-thon Kickstarter Celebrates Readers and Writers

The Community Book Center has been an enduring institution in New Orleans cultural landscape for decades. As part of



its 35th Anniversary Celebration, they're collaborating with local artists, educators, and

community groups to produce a Read-a-thon on December 7th and 8th. This family-friendly event will celebrate readers and writers, highlighting the importance of literacy, and support for the Community Book Center's ongoing outreach and education efforts. Donate to our Read-a-thon Kickstarter and you could enjoy great rewards like:

Coffee and a mentoring session with Photographer Gason Ayisyin

- A music arranging lesson with Kent Jordan or a violin lesson with Rachel Jordan
- A new game by Congo Square author Freddi Evans
- A private Google Hangout session with the author of "Freedom's Dance" Karen Celestan
- A lunch/consultation with writer Kelly Harris-DeBerry
- A limited-edition print from artist and activist Brandon "Bmike" Odums

And New Orleanian are really starting to come through with donations to the Read-a-thon Kickstarter Campaign. The Community Book Center has raised \$4004 to date with 13 days left in the campaign. They are calling on the community to donate to help them get to goal?

An important note; Kickstarter Campaigns are all or nothing, so the Community Book Center must make its \$12,000 goal to receive any funding at all.

You can donate today and share the Kickstarter link with your friends! To donate, visit <https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/1325470204/community-book-center-read-a-thon>.

It's Flu Season

The New Orleans Health Department Encourages You to Get Vaccinated

Flu Season

The New Orleans Health Department encourages all residents and visitors of New Orleans to protect themselves and others by following these guidelines during flu season.

During the 2017-2018 flu season, 171 children died across the country because of flu, and 8 out of every 10 of those children were not vaccinated. Every year influenza causes between 12,000 and 49,000 deaths in the United States. The influenza vaccine is safe and recommended for anyone over the age of 6 months.

"Getting the flu vaccine is the best way to protect yourself and your loved ones from influenza. We are still at the beginning of flu season, so now is the time to get the vaccine," said Dr. Jennifer Avegno, New Orleans Health Department Director.

Dr. Joseph Kanter, Louisiana Office of Public Health Medical Director, said, "Do not underestimate the flu. Last year over 15,000 Louisianians were hospitalized, and approximately 1,600 individuals across the state lost their lives. The flu vaccine is a safe and effective means of protecting yourself and your family.

When does flu season start? Flu season usually starts in October and ends in May each year, but it can change depending on the virus. January and February are the months the most people get the flu.

Know the symptoms. Influenza is a virus that infects the nose, throat, and lungs. It can cause a fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy



Mayor LaToya Cantrell led the way by receiving her flu shot for this upcoming flu season.

nose, muscle or body aches, headaches, and make you very tired. If you think you may have the flu, talk to your doctor right away.

Everyone Over 6 Months Should Get Vaccinated Every Year

Everyone over 6 months should get vaccinated every year. Flu vaccines are not effective from year to year. You must be vaccinated with the vaccination developed for the upcoming seasons flu strains. This year the CDC recommends using the nasal spray vaccine in children 2-8 years old. Everyone else should talk to their healthcare providers

about whether or not to get the nasal spray or shot. The flu vaccine is safe for anyone over the age of 6 months and does not cause the flu. Children under 8 years who get the flu shot for the first time need to get two doses.

To slow the spread of the Flu virus, doctors recommend several actions you can take to help.

Cover your mouth with your arm or tissue when you cough

Wash your hands often

If you are sick, stay home so you do not spread the flu

If your child is sick keep him/her at home until s/he does not have a fever for at least 24 hours

For questions and a list of places you and your family can be vaccinated, please email healthdepartment@nola.gov or visit www.nola.gov/health/emergency-preparedness/flu-season/

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

DoIHHavePrediabetes.org



LIONMAN Foundation, Inc.
in Partnership with
BLUE LION Karate Academy International
Presents
The Legend Of LIONMAN
1000 Beams of Light

LIONMAN FOUNDATION
DISCIPLINE ▲ EDUCATION ▲ FITNESS

GrandMaster Eric O'Neal, Sr.
SPECIAL EDUCATION

BLUE LION KARATE ACADEMY

Helping Kids To Be Strong! Confident! Successful!

GrandMaster Eric O'Neal, Sr.
LIONMAN Foundation, Inc.
BLUE LION Karate Academy
9954 Lake Forest Blvd., Suite 5
New Orleans, LA 70127
818-252-9707
504-244-8395

GEO@LIONMANFoundation.org
info@BLUELIONKarate.com

www.LIONMANWorld.com
www.TheLegendOfLIONMAN.com
www.BLUELIONKarate.com

SUNO's Annual Kwanza Celebration Highlights

Anthony Bean Theater Awarded August Wilson Award

Photos by Anthony Bean
Community Theatre

The Annual Kwanza Celebration at SUNO was again a wonderful event. The event featured the stage play, *El Hajj Malik, The Life and Times of Malcolm X*, and The Anthony Bean Community Theatre will also be receiving the prestigious "August Wilson American Century Cycle Award". The award honors theater companies that have completed Wilson's epic 10-play cycle and was sponsored by the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette and co-sponsored by the August Wilson House, his childhood home. Congratulations to the Anthony Bean Community Theatre on your honor.



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

Connect to the Source

Data News Weekly, your one stop for what's happening in New Orleans.



ladatanews.com



WBOK 1230AM

A BAKEWELL MEDIA COMPANY

Real Talk for Real Times...

1639 Gentilly Blvd. New Orleans, LA 70119 (504)942-0106

www.wbok1230am.com

Sudan Celebrates 35th Anniversary

Photos by Oba
Lorrius
Data News Weekly
Contributor

Jerome Smith watched as Sudan Social Aid and Pleasure Club came out of the Treme Community Center as they celebrated their 35th Anniversary on Sunday, November 11th. The members of Sudan, are men that began their service as members of the famed "Tamborine and Fan". The event marked the kick-off of the "Second Line Season". Congratulations to the men of Sudan on 35 years of service to the community, and of course, Data was there!



*"Paying less for
my Medicare?
I'm open to that."*

An Important Message from Medicare

MEDICARE
OPEN
ENROLLMENT
OCT. 15 – DEC. 7

This is your time to see if you can find lower premiums and extra benefits. Look at all your Medicare health plan choices for 2019—including prescription drug plans and Medicare Advantage Plans from private insurers. Plans change every year—maybe your healthcare needs have changed, too.

Open to something better?
Start today.

Find health and drug plans
at [medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov), or call
1-800-MEDICARE
(TTY 1-877-486-2048) for help.

Limited resources? You may qualify
for **Extra Help** to pay prescription
drug costs. Go to [ssa.gov/benefits/
medicare/prescriptionhelp/](https://ssa.gov/benefits/medicare/prescriptionhelp/)
to find out more.

👍 Like Medicare? 'Like' us on Facebook.

Paid for by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services



Our Vote

More Than A Desire for History, The Very Strides to Make It



By Rep Karen Bass (D-CA)
United States House
of Representatives

The midterm election was nothing short of historic and yet again, our community is leading the United States of America towards progress.

According to a CNN exit poll, 90% of African-Americans voted for a Democrat in Congressional races across the country last Tuesday, propelling the Democratic party to our first majority in the House of Representatives since 2009. In Georgia, 97% of Black women who voted, voted for Stacey Abrams to become the state's first Black female governor.

It wasn't just our desire to make history in Georgia that drew us to Stacey's campaign. It was our col-

lective understanding that a vote for Stacey Abrams was a vote to raise the voices of Georgians that have been suppressed for far too long. It was a vote for a new Georgia, and in turn, a new America.

But all progress is fought for. Like Stacey said on election night, there are people that tried very hard to keep certain voices quiet. I firmly believe that if this election had happened in a country with a developing democracy and there existed a similar scenario – one in which one of the candidates was in charge of overseeing the very election he was running in – the United States would rush to monitor the election to shine a light on this obvious conflict of interest. Such a contradiction by itself is worthy of scrutiny, especially if that scenario is playing out in a country, or a state, with a rich history of voter suppression on the basis of race.

But what happened in Georgia wasn't just about job titles. This was about the misinformation that Stacey's opponent peddled throughout the campaign and how he took advantage of his taxpayer-funded posi-

tion to help run his campaign.

On the Sunday before the election, Stacey's opponent, equipped with no evidence at all, announced that Democrats were under investigation for attempting to hack Georgia's voter registration files.

Just over a week ago, a federal judge ruled that Georgia would be forced to change parts of its "exact match" protocol, a voting requirement that came under scrutiny leading up to the election when it was revealed that more than 65 percent of the voter registrants whose applications were rendered "pending" as a result of the law were African-American.

This coupled with remarks from Trump threatening that any "illegal voting" would be met with "maximum criminal penalties" less than 24 hours before the first polls opened only further revealed a coherent strategy of voter intimidation.

But what's redeeming about the democratic process is that voices will be heard one way or another. Once again, our community led the way towards progressive change

in Florida and Louisiana, rebuking Jim Crow-era laws designed to strip our constitutional right to vote.

In Florida, we voted to restore the voting eligibility of millions of Floridians with past felony convictions. As a result, more than 1.4 million Floridians who were not allowed to vote in this past election will be able to in the next one. As of 2016, there were more than 400,000 Black people unable to vote due to felonies. Imagine the impact these voters will have in 2020.

In Louisiana, we passed a proposition eliminating another Jim Crow-era law that allowed juries to convict someone without a unanimous decision. Researchers claim this is a back door created to make it easier to put Black folks in jail in the South.

That law is no more. This is the change we bring when we vote.

Taking back control of the House of Representatives is one thing but making history while doing it is another. The United States House of Representatives will have more than 100 women Members of Congress for the first time ever.

It will have two Latina Congresswomen from Texas for the first time ever.

It will have an African-American Congresswoman from Massachusetts and Connecticut for the first time ever.

It will have two Native American Congresswomen for the first time ever.

It will also have two Muslim Congresswomen for the first time ever.

This will also be the first time that there will be a check on this President and his administration.

This is the change we bring when we vote.

We now have a House of Representatives that will focus on restoring our voting rights and putting justice back into the criminal justice system.

It's time to make the history we've always desired. We now have a House of Representatives that will fight for the people.

Karen Bass is a community organizer from South Los Angeles who became the first ever African-American woman to serve as Speaker of any state assembly in 2008. She was recently re-elected to a fifth term in Congress.

Deep South States Take a Long-Overdue Step Out of the Jim Crow Past



Marc Morial
President and CEO
National Urban League

The Urban League Movement congratulates two states in the Deep South that took a step out of the dark Jim Crow past by passing major criminal justice reforms on Election Day.

In Louisiana, voters overwhelmingly approved an amendment to the state constitution that will require unanimous jury verdicts to convict on felony charges. Until now, Louisiana was one of only two states, along with Oregon, that allowed non-unanimous jury verdicts for felonies, and only Louisiana al-

“Today it is perfectly legal to discriminate against criminals in nearly all the ways that it was once legal to discriminate against African Americans. Once you're labeled a felon, the old forms of discrimination—employment discrimination, housing discrimination, denial of the right to vote, denial of educational opportunity, denial of food stamps and other public benefits, and exclusion from jury service—are suddenly legal. As a criminal, you have scarcely more rights, and arguably less respect, than a black man living in Alabama at the height of Jim Crow. We have not ended racial caste in America; we have merely redesigned it.” Michelle Alexander, *The New Jim Crow* ++++++

lowed them for murder.

And more than a million previously incarcerated Floridians have had their voting rights restored. Florida was one of 13 states that bar those convicted of felonies from

voting even after their sentences have been served.

Both laws had their roots in the post-Reconstruction-era crackdown on civil rights for Black Americans, more than 150 years in the past.

They have rightly been consigned to the ash heap of history.

Drafters of the 1898 Louisiana state constitution aimed to “perpetuate the supremacy of the Anglo-Saxon race in Louisiana,” scrubbing from the rolls nearly all 130,000 Black registered voters. By law, they couldn't simply ban Black people from voting or serving on juries, so they devised a system that would invalidate the votes of the few African Americans who might make it on to a jury – the votes of only nine of 12 jurors would be counted.

In its 1972 *Apodaca v. Oregon* ruling, the U.S. Supreme Court validated non-unanimous verdicts in state courts – but not federal ones. At a Constitutional convention the next year Louisiana lawmakers changed the number of jurors required for a verdict from nine to 10.

The law's racist intent carried into the present day. Roughly a third of Louisianans are Black, but

two-thirds of state prisoners and three-fourths of inmates serving life without parole are Black.

An analysis of convictions by The Advocate newspaper found that 40% of all convictions in Louisiana came over the objections of one or two holdouts. When the defendant was Black, the proportion went up to 43%, versus 33% for white defendants. In three-quarters cases analyzed, the defendant was Black.

Those convicted of felonies have been banned from voting in Florida since the ratification of a new state constitution in 1872. According to Florida lore, lawmaker WJ Purman reportedly boasted he had prevented the state from being “n***erized”. At the time, so-called “black codes” – laws that restricted Black people's right to own property, conduct business, buy and lease land, and move freely through public spaces – criminalized a stagger-

**Commentary, Continued
on page 9.**

Spiritually Speaking

Do You Love You?



James A. Washington
NNPA News Wire
Columnist

The road to spiritual salvation is sometimes so obvious, so apparent that we just miss it. Like most of Jesus' message, it doesn't seem possible that by simply changing ones' outlook, the Kingdom of Heaven is yours. "Teacher, which is greatest commandment of the law?" Jesus replied, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is just like it;

"Love your neighbor as yourself. All the law and the prophets hang on these two commandments." Matthew 22:36-40. It is not always through guile and deceit that the devil works his evil. He can accomplish his goals if he can convince you that what is very important is of little matter and no consequence.

This love thing is pretty well documented throughout the Bible and Christ certainly clarifies its importance in the above passage. Remember this is the Son of God talking. The single most important thing I can do to abide in God's will is to possess love in my heart for God and my fellow man. Is that it? Yeah. That's it! If that's as close to a guarantee as we can get, why are many of us hell bent on doing the things that will insure our place at the table in Hell's Kitchen?

I personally think the concept of

loving God is pretty easy to comprehend. Most of us, dare I say, are arguably trying to accomplish this in one way or another. It's the loving your neighbor as yourself that's causing the problem. The devil is having a field day with this one. Count how many people you can't stand at this very moment. Take your shoes off and add to your list those people, who if they died tomorrow, you would be among those who would say 'good riddance.' The devil has us so confused and dumbfounded on this issue that we can't see that the hatred we harbor for others, the contempt we feel for people we don't even know, masks an underlying reality that won't allow us to love our neighbor. In actuality, we hate ourselves. You see the devil has tricked us into hating the mirror image of who we really are. Deep down inside we hate in others

that which we might become, because we really don't like what we have become. Hello, somebody!

The devil knows man is not perfect, so he entices us into hating the imperfection of others; their flaws and faults, their weaknesses and shortcomings. All the while, being imperfect ourselves.

Isn't it interesting that most people, who claim being saved, tell you they first had to realize that God through Jesus' sacrifice loved them warts and all? The stories come from former drug addicts, adulterers, petty gossipers, murderers and greedy self-absorbed takers in life, who wished they knew how to have a healthy respectful loving relationship with another human being. One by one, they, we, line up and confess that once we accepted that God indeed loves us, then and only then, are we able to love

ourselves and subsequently love others just like they are; all imperfect, all flawed children of God, all welcomed at his eternal table. At this point, one sees God in every man, every woman and every child, because once you accept that God resides in your own sinful soul, you can see God in others.

God knew you before you knew you and he loved you anyway in spite of what He knew you were going to do or become. As incredible as that sounds, it's true. It's called love. God's point is so simple. If He's got it for you, the least you can do is have it for others. Step back, Satan. I love me and I ain't got nothing, but love for you too.

May God bless and keep you always.

James A. Washington is President and Publisher of the Dallas Weekly Newspaper. He can be reached at jaws@dallasweekly.com

Commentary, Continued from page 8.

ing proportion of the African American population.

Within a few years of the end of Reconstruction, an estimated 95% of convicts in the south were Black. A century and a half later felony, disenfranchisement has left more than one in five Black Floridians unable to vote.

Voters in Louisiana and Florida recognized not only the racism, but anti-American spirit inherent in non-unanimous jury verdicts and felony disenfranchisement, and were eager to bring their states' laws into line with most of the rest of the country. We call on other states with similar laws remaining on the books to follow their example.

Marc H. Morial is President and CEO of the National Urban League and former Mayor of the City of New Orleans. For more information on the National Urban League and its programs, visit www.nul.org.

Learn more about your breast health at KnowYourGirls.org

Ad Council susan g. komen

ladatanews.com



CUMULUS
THE POWER OF RADIO

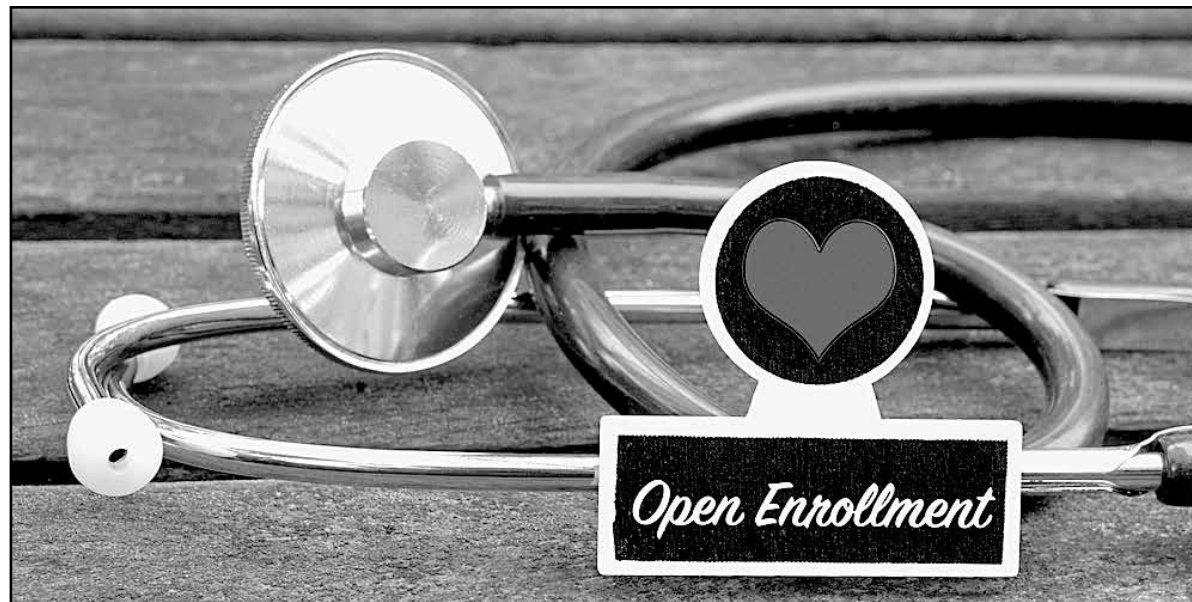
TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS, CALL (504) 581-7002



Now is the Time to Enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace

NEW ORLEANS — This week marks the beginning of open enrollment for the Health Insurance Marketplace. Starting today, local organizations are mobilizing to help Greater New Orleans area residents sign up for health insurance coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace. The open enrollment period ends on Dec. 15th.

Approximately 109,855 Louisianians received their health insurance through the Marketplace in 2018. The Marketplace exists to provide discounted (or subsidized) health insurance to individuals over 138 percent FPL (which is the upper limit for Medicaid eligibility), up to 400 percent FPL, who do not receive health insurance through their jobs. This includes thousands of independent contractors, part-time or seasonal workers, musicians, self-employed residents and service industry professionals in New Orleans. In Louisiana, approximately 90% of residents qualify for financial assistance to help pay for the costs associated with their Marketplace insurance plan: premiums, co-pays and deductibles. The Marketplace is critical for individuals and families who make too much money to qualify for Medicaid in Lou-



isiana, but are not offered an affordable plan through their employer.

As a function of the Affordable Care Act, all plans offered through the Marketplace cover a comprehensive set of benefits, including physician visits, preventive care, hospital stays and prescriptions. Discrimination based on gender or preexisting conditions is no longer allowed, making it easier to get covered. Through the Marketplace, financial assistance is available to help lower the cost of

health insurance.

504HealthNet has a navigation line that residents can call during business hours (8 a.m.-5 p.m.) to ask questions and get connected to enrollment specialists. 504HealthNet and partners will host and attend a number of community events to provide information about the Marketplace open enrollment period, and one-on-one assistance to residents seeking to apply for health insurance. Residents can

find a calendar of these events at <http://504healthnet.org/calendar/>.

Additionally, Healthcare for the Homeless (HCH) is a federally qualified health center and provides the direct healthcare services for the New Orleans Health Department. HCH provides medical and dental healthcare to individuals with and without health insurance, and patients do not need to be homeless to receive services. The patient nav-

igators at the clinic can assist with Marketplace enrollment. Please call 504-658-2585 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

"The Affordable Care Act and Marketplace provide a critical place for New Orleanians to receive quality and affordable health insurance. It is important to make sure all of our residents are aware of this enrollment period, and 504HealthNet is a great resource for those struggling to enroll on their own," said Dr. Jennifer Avegno, New Orleans Health Department Director.

"This enrollment period is a critical time for us to connect community members in need of healthcare to health insurance they can afford. With the many changes happening within our healthcare system today, it is our goal to provide information and resources so our community understands what options they have to get and stay healthy," said Tiffany Netters, Executive Director of 504HealthNet.

Those seeking help with enrollment in the Marketplace can call or text 504HealthNet at 504-206-6275. Free, in-person enrollment assistance is available to anyone upon request.

Walmart Announces New Focus on Hiring Military Spouses; Update to Louisiana Veterans Hiring Number

News Comes as Walmart Reports Hiring 4,942 Veterans in Louisiana, Nearing Goal of Hiring 250,000 Veterans Nationwide by 2020

Walmart today announced it will give hiring preference to military spouses, becoming the largest U.S. company to make such a commitment. The Military Spouse Career Connection, a new initiative by Walmart to recruit and hire military spouses, complements the 2013 Veterans Welcome Home commitment, enhanced in 2015, to hire 250,000 military veterans by 2020, a goal it is on track to surpass next year.

In Louisiana, Walmart has hired 4,942 veterans to date. Walmart today announced it has hired more than 212,000* veterans nationwide since full implementation of the Veterans Welcome Home Commitment, and with over 32,000 veteran associates promoted since joining the Walmart and Sam's Club teams,



they are turning opportunities into careers.

Walmart honored veterans, their spouses and families across the country with dozens of in-store ceremonies and events. Nationally, Walmart associates and local stores shared Facebook "thank you" messages to veterans and their families.

"Military spouses are unsung heroes," said Walmart President and

CEO, Doug McMillon, today during a Veterans Day ceremony at the company's headquarters in Bentonville. "They serve in partnership with their uniformed spouses, and we want to honor them and help them find a job or build an amazing career. To military spouses: You've got a home at Walmart!"

There are more than 500,000 active duty military spouses nationwide. While the U.S. jobless rate hovers at four percent nationally, military spouses face a 26 percent unemployment rate and a 25 percent wage gap compared to their civilian counterparts. A full 77 percent of these spouses want or need work, yet frequent relocation is often a barrier to finding and maintaining a rewarding career, according to the Department of Defense

Military Spouse Employment Partnership.

Military spouses are diverse, entrepreneurial, adaptable, educated, team-oriented and civically engaged, according to Syracuse University's Institute for Veterans and Military Families. Nearly 85 percent have some college education or higher. A quarter have a bachelor's degree and 10 percent have an advanced degree.

"We have a duty to honor veterans and military families," said Retired Brig. Gen. Gary Profit, senior director of military programs for Walmart. "But, more importantly, they are tremendous assets to our business. Military spouses bring many of the same leadership qualities we see in veterans, yet they are disproportionately unemployed.

We welcome them to Walmart and hope they will consider us for the next step on their career journey."

Through the Military Family Promise, Walmart has long offered military spouses and veterans the ability to transfer from one Walmart or Sam's Club location to another when a spouse is transferred because of the military. The Military Spouse Career Connection takes the company's commitment one step further by offering any military spouse with a current Uniformed Services Identification Card hiring preference when they apply for a job with the company beginning on November 12, 2018. All candidates must meet the standard hiring criteria, and available positions can be found at walmartspouseswithamission.com.

Power of the Gavel

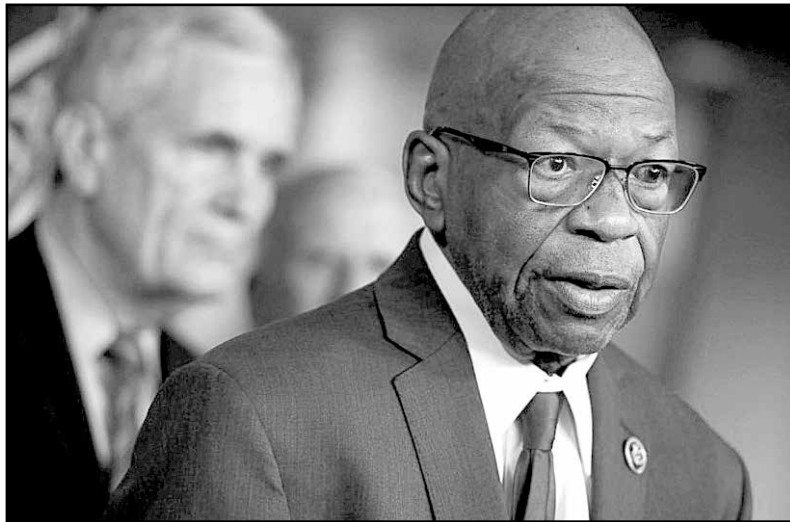
Five Black Caucus Members Set to Chair Committees in Congress

By Lauren Victoria Burke
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Along with what could be nine new members of the Congressional Black Caucus, the CBC will also likely feature five new Chairmen wielding the gavel of five committees in the U.S. House.

Rep. Maxine Waters is slated to chair the powerful House Financial Services Committee, Rep. Bobby Scott will be the Chairman of Education and the Workforce Committee, Rep. Elijah Cummings will Chair the Government Oversight Committee, Rep. Bennie Thompson will Chair Homeland Security and Texas' Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson will Chair the committee on Science, Space and Technology.

A leadership election will be held in the coming weeks to confirm the five as Chairs of the committees they are now the senior Democrat on. None are expected to be challenged.



Rep. Cummings will have the power to investigate Trump. With the power of the gavel as Chairman of the House Oversight Committee, Cummings will be able to subpoena Trump Administration officials. It will likely be a long two years as the 2020 campaign is discussed more vocally now that the 2018 campaign is over. (photo courtesy of ABC)

The gavel being held by five African-American members of Congress will give them the power to investigate, hire at least 30 new staff members each and control the

policy agenda in the House.

Two members who will very likely receive media attention over the next two months in the lead-up to the start of the new Congress in

January 2019 are Reps. Waters and Cummings.

Rep. Waters has been a leading critic of the Trump Administration. She has been vocal not only against Trump's policies but has led push-back on fiscal policies that impact millions of Americans.

Rep. Cummings will have the power to investigate Trump. With the power of the gavel as chairman of the House Oversight Committee, Cummings will be able to subpoena Trump Administration officials. It will likely be a long two years as the 2020 campaign is discussed more vocally now that the 2018 campaign is over.

There is also likely to be at least nine new members of the Congressional Black Caucus. The new CBC Chairs on five House Committees will likely enjoy support of their membership on the committees they chair — as well as membership in the largest Caucus in the Congress.

DATA CLASSIFIED

Call 504-821-7421 to
place your classified ad.

Job Opportunity

Freelance Writers Wanted

Data News Weekly, "The People's Paper," is looking for freelance writers to join our team print and digital team. We want to hear from you if you are a working journalist, or an aspiring journalist who has 2 years or more of newspaper or PR writing experience. We need writers who can cover New Orleans news stories, ranging from local high school sports, community events, City Hall and entertainment. Experience in print is necessary, experience in digital and social media are encouraged.

Compensation is competitive and great story ideas will be appreciated.

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

We can't wait to hear from you!

**YOUR SON HAS ASKED
A CALCULUS QUESTION
YOU DON'T
UNDERSTAND
AT ALL**

Do you:

- (A) Create a diversion.
- (B) Look up the answer on your phone but pretend you knew it.
- (C) Hire a tutor. For yourself.

When it comes to being a parent, there are no perfect answers – just being there is enough. So don't worry, you don't have to be perfect to be a perfect parent. There are thousands of teens in foster care who will love you just the same.



Ad
Council

AdoptUSKids

888.200.4005 AdoptUSKids.org

This space can be yours for only \$80

CALL NOW!!!

504-821-7421

follow us on

twitter 

@DataNewsWeek

ladatanews.com
The People's Website

This space can be

yours for only \$80

Call Now!

504-821-7421



Tweet



Streaming



Selfie



Search Results



Connected

FIND A PARK OR FOREST NEAR YOU AT

DISCOVERthe**FOREST.org**

