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News Weekly

"The People's Paper"



**45th Annual
Bayou Classic
Kicks Off**

**Data Zone
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A Data News Weekly Exclusive



Bayou Classic and the Continuing Importance of HBCU's

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Bayou Classic and the Continuing Importance of HBCU's



Anna Jones, is a Southern alum who looks forward to the Classic each year. She says that the Bayou Classic is a 45 year tradition she says it's like a homecoming. Time to reconnect with former students, former class members and friends and time to create new memories.

Edwin Buggage
Editor

Battle of the Cats Return to New Orleans

Since 1974 during the Thanksgiving Holiday weekend New Orleans have experienced a rivalry that brings people from all over the country to what is known as the "Battle of the Cats." The Southern University Jaguars and the Grambling State Tigers battle it out not only on the gridiron but what is also a must see, the much renowned the Battle of the Bands.

Today, the Bayou Classic and New Orleans are synonymous. Over its four decades it has grown to include empowerment seminars, a parade, fan festival and much more. Given this is New Orleans, of course, parties also take place all over the City, as people come together in the spirit of friendly rivalry, but most important African-American unity.

This is the tradition and continuing spirit of HBCU'S (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) as they have been institutions that continue to be important in training African-Americans for future greatness and being a beacon light for the Black struggle and the quest for excellence in many fields of endeavor.

Bayou Classic: More than Just a Game

The Bayou Classic has become more than just a football game, but a place where people come together every year to restore old bonds and foster new ones. It is a multi-generational event with people

of all ages in attendance.

On the significance on the Bayou Classic, Anna Jones, a Southern alum says, "Bayou Classic is an important African-American tradition that spans 45 years. It's like coming home! It is the time of year we come together to reconnect with former students, members and friends and watch an exciting football game. It's also a time to create new memories and share in the values of these two great organizations."

Echoing similar thoughts is Bill Tucker, who serves as a member of the Southern University System Foundation, Board of Directors, chairs its Investment Committee, is a member of the University Club, a charter member of the 1880 Society, and a life member of the Southern University Alumni Federation. He playfully says he is a Jaguar through and through and bleeds Blue and Gold.

"The Bayou Classic is the most continuously successful HBCU Classic in history. Mainly because it is indeed a family affair, where generational differences merge (parents/children who attended SU or GSU; inter-college family relationships are challenged, sisters & brothers who attended one or the other of the schools) and the pure gridiron rivalry of the Blue & Gold, Southern University Jaguars vs the Black & Gold, Grambling State Tigers, make for a tumultuous and exciting afternoon. Thousands of people travel from all over the country to be in New Orleans for the Bayou Classic."

Joseph Stewart, a Southern Alum from Maringouin, Louisiana and his wife Clara Stewart, who attended Grambling for 3 and a half years before graduat-

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DATA NEWS WEEKLY

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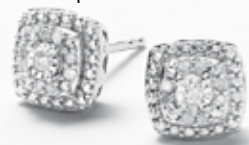
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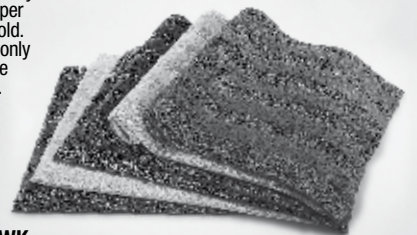
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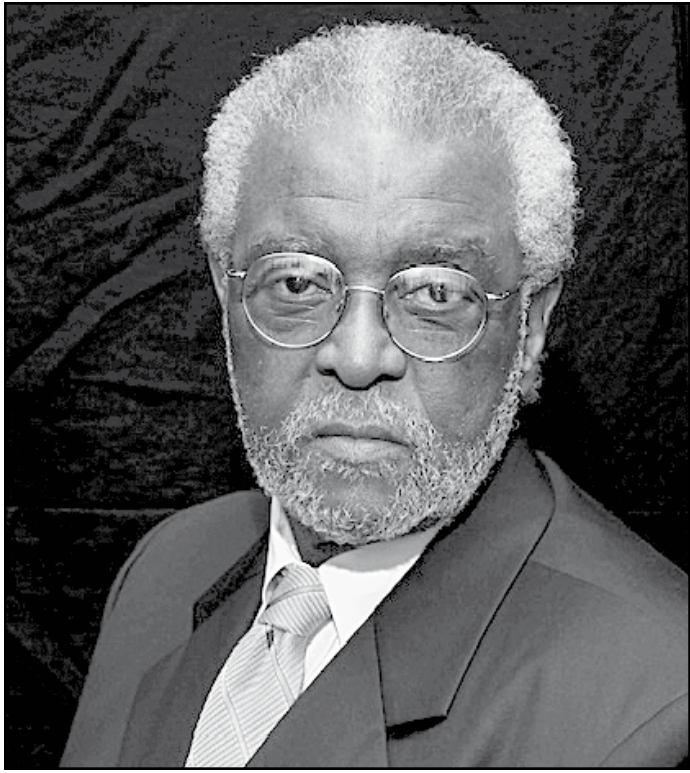


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Cover Story

Cover Story, Continued from page 2.



Bill Tucker, serves as a member of the Southern University System Foundation, Board of Directors where he chairs its Investment Committee. He is a member of the University Club, a charter member of the 1880 Society, and a life member of the Southern University Alumni Federation. Tucker is an entrepreneur, venture capitalist, and active investor who believes he would not have realized his potential if not for Southern University.



Joseph Stewart, is a Southern Alum and his wife Clara Stewart, attended Grambling for 3.5 years graduating from Tennessee State pictured here with President and Secretary Clinton. The pair are regular attendees of the Bayou Classic. He says the most important function of the Classic is fundraising, as the event produces critically needed financial resources for both schools.

85% of Black doctors, 50% of Black attorneys, 75% of Black military officers, 40% of Black dentists, 50% of Black pharmacists, and 75% of Black veterinarians are graduates from HBCU's.

The Continued Significance and the Need to Support HBCU's

The Bayou Classic is more than just a great weekend of football and fun. Some of the proceeds go to help students pay for the cost of college. Many students attending HBCU's are often first-generation college students or non-traditional students that are working adults. So, it is important that in the age where there have been public funding cuts to higher education nationwide that we as African-Americans consider supporting our HBCU'S to continue in their quest to nurture Black excellence.

As a man of great success and overcoming the odds, Bill Tucker reflects on his life and what it might not have become if it were not for HBCU'S, "Take a look at Bill Tucker; grew up in a single parent household, where my mother raised me after the untimely death of my father, before my third birthday. I never knew we were poor, but when I arrived at Southern University, Baton Rouge, in 1969, I had never heard of LSU. Yes, Bill Tucker, entrepreneur, venture capitalist, and active investor would not have realized his potential if not for Southern University. Now, of course, times have changed. Many people of color have educational opportunities that I could not have dreamed of at the time. But I believe that there are still kids out there like Bill Tucker."

Today education is still key and is important as African-Americans continue to fight for equity, fairness and justice. And HBCU's have a proven track record of providing the bridge to a better life for African-Americans. It is important to note that all our historical institutions need support including our schools and businesses. It is up to us to continue to uplift each other and support with not only our rhetoric, but with resources that will assist in preserving our historical institutions. Forging ahead in our strides towards improving and enhancing our community.

ing from Tennessee State, another HBCU. They are regular attendees of the Bayou Classic. Chiming in on the significance of the Classic he says, "It is about Black Pride; it's about "Yes, We Can; it's about Top Shelf Entertainment and most importantly it's about Fundraising. This event produces critically needed financial resources for both Southern and Grambling."

The Importance of HBCU's

HBCU's have a special place in the African-American Community. These schools, many of them

formed after the Civil War and Segregation were providing a place for African-Americans to get education in a supportive environment with the goal to bring, not only to uplift yourself and your family, but to represent the best of the Black race. To inspire and encourage others to aspire to reach higher.

These schools provided opportunities to pursue excellence. Today, while students can attend PWI (Predominately White Institutions), HBCU's still are the places where the seeds of greatness are planted, fertilized and harvested.

"Traditionally HBCU's were established to provide a space for academia when Black students weren't welcomed in other schools. They continue to provide a diverse learning environment by promoting and preserving Black education and Black excellence. Post-graduation, HBCU alumni are uniquely equipped to make significant impact as leaders, innovators, creators, and educators in their communities. Continued support of these institutions is critical to the success of generations to follow," says Anna Jones.

Bill Tucker is an example of a person who embodies the spirit of HBCU's and what they can do as a bridge to unlimited possibilities. "I believe that there are still kids like Bill Tucker out there. Kids that come from challenged home environments. Half of the freshmen class at many HBCUs are from low income backgrounds. Kids that are gifted and talented; but do not get the opportunity to truly realize their potential. They don't realize their potential because they get lost in a large university student population, and ultimately, they get lost in society. HBCUs are uniquely com-

petent to empower these student populations."

HBCU's and Holding the Keys to Black Excellence

It is without a doubt that HBCU's across the country are centers of excellence producing some of the countries most talented and successful African-Americans. It is in these schools many students get their undergraduate, graduate and terminal degrees armed with the tools to make a difference and defy the myths of African-Americans not being able to achieve at a high level.

"Any objective review of U.S. History will judge HBCU's to be National Treasures. These institutions have and continue to uplift more of this nation's disenfranchised than any other element of our society!" says Joseph Stewart.

While HBCU'S comprise only 3% of colleges and universities in the United States according to UNCF; it produces 20% of African-American college graduates. This great work these universities do as well is evidenced by the fact that 75% of all Black PhD's, 46% of Black business executives, 50% of Black engineers, 80% of Black federal judges,

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Mayor Updates NOLA Residents on Administration's First Six Months

Data Staff Edited Report

Mayor LaToya Cantrell – one week after submitting the 2019 budget to the City Council – updated residents on the progress of her administration at the six-month mark.

The Mayor's "check-ins," prepared in coordination with the Chief Administrative Office and City department heads, build on reports prepared at the 90-day mark of the Cantrell administration and serve several purposes:

To provide context for the City's ongoing oversight of the executive, administrative and infrastructure work that impacts the lives of residents

Establishes a through line of work on multiple projects and initiatives – starting with the status quo or current situation, explaining the scope of the work, and illustrating outcomes and their impact. And, it offers a foundation for the 2019 budget to inform how the City will address challenges moving forward.

"I am proud of all that we've accomplished in our first six months, and I am confident in the leadership team we've put into place," said Mayor Cantrell. "As we work through this year's budget process and identify our priorities for 2019,



Mayor LaToya Cantrell says she is proud of all that her administration has accomplished in its first six months, and says she is confident in the leadership team she has put into place during her address outlining her first 6 months in office.

it's an appropriate time to check in with our residents and update everyone on the significant progress that's being made."

Points of progress in several different areas included:

City Operations

Housing

Infrastructure

Welcomed a new Executive Director

for the Sewerage & Water Board
Neighborhood Engagement
The Civic Leadership Academy

Public Safety

Launch of CleanUpNOLA

Opened the new Low Barrier Shelter

Launch of the "Ready for Rain"

campaign across multiple agencies

Conducted a review of the existing

City-Assisted Evacuation (CAE) Plan

Public Works

Leadership

Employment

Technology

Launched the Digital Equity Challenge

For a full overview and to watch video of the address by Mayor Cantrell, visit www.nola.gov.

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Bayou Classic Event Line-Up

The Bayou Classic is more than a football game. The annual event is one of the nation's greatest college sports rivalries, bringing the fans and alumni of Grambling State University and Southern University to New Orleans each November. The week-long events featuring the Parade, Greek Show & Battle of the Bands and Fan Festival culminates with Saturday's Bayou Classic football match-up. Listed below are our official events:



Each November

Jaguars and Tigers bust a move.

Every Saturday after Thanksgiving, Jaguars and Tigers take the field. While most of America is still carving up turkey, the Crescent City dives headlong into three days of combat. Two hundred thousand fans and alumni come to stand on the

sidelines as the marching bands duke it out and the football teams kick, punt and hook. The score, for some, might be besides the point. The Bayou Classic is about more than the victory. It's about coming home.

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FRIDAY

P&G Corporate Recruitment

Friday, November 23, 2018
Hyatt Regency Hotel, 601 Loyola Ave, NOLA 70113
Doors Open at 11:00AM

Bayou Classic BizTech Challenge

Presented by GE in Partnership with NexusLA
Friday, November 23, 2018
Hyatt Regency Hotel, 601 Loyola Ave, NOLA 70113
Doors Open at 1:00PM

Greek Show Presented by Be The Match

Battle of the Bands Presented by United State Marine Corps
Friday, November 23, 2018
Mercedes Benz-Superdome 1500 Sugarbowl Drive NOLA 70112
Doors Open at 6:00P | Show starts at 7:00P

SATURDAY

Doc Griggs 2X Around the Dome

Saturday, November 24, 2018
Mercedes Benz-Superdome 1500 Sugarbowl Drive NOLA 70112
8:00AM

Bayou Classic Parade

Presented by Cricket Wireless in Partnership with French Market District
Saturday, November 24, 2018
Parade starts on Elysian Fields Ave. at N. Peters St. and finishes on Loyola Ave. at Perdido St.
9:30A

Fan Festival Presented by Cox

Saturday, November 24, 2018
Champions Square LaSalle St, NOLA 70112
11:30A – 3:30P

The 45th Annual Bayou Classic

Grambling State University vs. Southern University
Saturday, November 24, 2018
Mercedes Benz-Superdome, 1500 Sugarbowl Drive NOLA 70112
KICK-OFF at 4:00P

The Bayou Classic Halftime Show Presented by P&G Crest

Saturday, November 24, 2018
Mercedes Benz-Superdome, 1500 Sugarbowl Drive NOLA 70112
Halftime Show of the 45th Annual Bayou Classic Football Game

45th Annual Bayou Classic Kicks Off

Photos by Terry B. Jones
Data News Contributor

Monday marked the official kick off for the 45th Annual Bayou Classic. As the city readies for the tens of thousands set to take part in the ultimate homecoming game of the year, Grambling President Richard Gallot, Jr. and Southern University President- Chancellor Ray Belton were joined by Mayor LaToya Cantrell and Gov. John Bel Edwards, as well as Grambling Coach Broderick Fobbs and Southern Coach Dawson Odums. Everyone is looking forward to the biggest year yet, as ticket sales by Monday, had already surpassed last year's sales. If you haven't gotten your tickets yet, get them today, and come support the game. Show your support for these two important HBCU's. Of course, Data will be there!!!



Southern University System Foundation JAG TALKERS: Quionne Dabney, Kadarius Walker, and Courtney Johnson



To the Jaguar Nation,
Thank you for your continued support of the students, faculty, staff, and campuses of the Southern University System. Enjoy the City of New Orleans and the 45th Annual Bayou Classic.

The **Southern University System Foundation** is a private, nonprofit corporation established to secure financial support for each of the five campuses of the Southern University System. The Foundation is a voluntary institute of business and professional leaders, proudly incorporated to provide broader educational advantages to our students, encourage research among our faculty, and advance the University's role in helping to build an increasingly functional Louisiana.

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To Be Equal:

Does Democratic Takeover of the House Mean the ACA is Safe?



Marc Morial
President and CEO
National Urban League

"I'm signing it for 11-year-old Marcelas Owens, who's also here. Marcelas lost his mom to an illness. And she didn't have insurance and couldn't afford the care that she needed. So in her memory he has told her story across America so that no other children have to go through what his family has experienced ... We are a nation that faces its challenges and accepts its responsibilities. We are a nation that does what is hard. What is necessary. What is right. Here, in this coun-

try, we shape our own destiny. That is what we do. That is who we are. That is what makes us the United States of America." President Barack Obama, March 23, 2010, on signing the Affordable Care Act

The Affordable Care Act of 2010, also known as "Obamacare," is one of the most consequential acts of Congress in the 21st Century, especially for African-Americans. The ACA slashed the Black uninsured rate by 40%. According to the National Urban League's annual report on the social and economic status of African-Americans, State of Black America, racial health disparities began to narrow as a result of the law.

The U.S. House of Representatives has voted to repeal the ACA more than 50 times since 2011, only to have the repeal blocked by the Senate. While the Administration may have succeeded in chipping away at the law through executive

action, the Democratic takeover of the House at least will put an end to attempts at full repeal.

The 2018 midterm campaign season saw candidates across the political spectrum campaigning on promises to retain the ACA's provisions barring insurers from denying coverage to people with pre-existing conditions or charging sick people more. Even candidates who previously voted to repeal the ACA adopted the rhetoric.

Voters in Idaho, Nebraska and Utah even passed ballot initiatives that will expand Medicaid to more than 330,000 low-income adults, an option made possible by the Affordable Care Act.

Recent polling and the results of the election make it clear: the vast majority of Americans support the ACA and rely on its protections. And the incoming Congress has vowed to strengthen it.

To be sure, there is work to be done. The very first executive or-

der issued by the current Administration was a vague directive to "to waive, defer, grant exemptions from, or delay the implementation of any provision or requirement of the Affordable Care Act" that imposes a cost, fee or "regulatory burden."

Since then, the Administration and the Congress have taken dozens of steps to sabotage the law, the most significant being the repeal of the individual mandate requiring most Americans to carry health insurance. According to the Congressional Budget Office, the repeal is estimated to leave 13 million more Americans uninsured by 2027, and to cause premiums to spike 10%. A pending lawsuit by 20 states, with support from the Administration, challenges provisions of the Affordable Care Act, including the protections for people with pre-existing conditions.

Reversing this sabotage must be a top priority for the incoming

Congress. The individual mandate, which is a key factor in keeping premiums affordable, must be restored. Prescription drug prices remain too high.

One of the Urban League Movement's core goals is that every American has access to quality and affordable health care solutions. It's why we fought so hard for the passage of the Affordable Care Act, and why we continue to fight so hard to protect it. A majority of the members of the 116th Congress, which convenes in January, have vowed to protect it, too, and we will hold them to that promise.

Marc H. Morial is President and CEO of the National Urban League and former Mayor of the City of New Orleans. Connect with the National Urban League, Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NationalUrbanLeague>, Twitter: <https://twitter.com/naturbanleague>, Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/naturbanleague> or visit www.NUL.org.

In Defense of a Smart Housing Mix



Andreanecia Morris
Housing NOLA,
Executive Director

Opponents of progressive and forward thinking affordable housing policy were left disappointed after the United States Supreme Court shot down a property rights case in October 2017. The case challenged a requirement in California that expects developers to subsidize the creation of affordable housing by either pricing 20% of their units below market rate, or pay a fee that subsidizes housing for people with low or moderate incomes. They were disappointed again when, earlier this year, Governor John Bel Edwards vetoed a bill that would have prevented communities in Louisiana from enacting

similar requirements. These decisions have given the City of New Orleans the opportunity to enact a solution that would address the city's spiraling housing crisis.

Out of the HousingNOLA planning process, one of the most significant recommendations eventually became what we now call the Smart Housing Mix. That process, launched in 2014, led to the 10 Year Strategy and Implementation Plan and our annual report cards which document the state of housing in New Orleans. The Smart Housing Mix, when enacted, would be a citywide policy plan to create more affordable housing that is fair and feasible by requiring that new development, adaptive reuse projects, and rehabilitation projects to include at least 10% affordable units in areas where it's almost impossible to find affordable housing. Developers have the option to pay a fee, build affordable units off site, preserve a building or dedicate alternative land if they do not wish to reserve units below market rate.

A standard, unified package of incentives would be offered to developers to accompany the Smart Housing Mix requirements, and require 99-year terms of affordability.

Opponents of the Smart Housing Mix seem to believe the capitalistic market will readjust on its own. If you believe the market will "fix itself," you believe this market will suddenly begin producing units below market rate. If you think that this market, one that rewards greed and encourages unregulated growth, finally make its way down to the base of the wealth pyramid, then it is time to wake up and face the reality: this market needs policy intervention to protect the more vulnerable populations. Currently, the Median Income in New Orleans is \$36,999, while the Median Home Value sits at \$227,800 (HousingNOLA Report Card, 2018). In 2018, 50% of all households are cost burdened—paying more than 30% of their gross income on housing. Review the facts sur-

rounding housing in New Orleans and reconsider if these numbers reflect a housing market that is on the verge of "correcting itself".

For housing to be affordable and accessible, it is imperative that the Smart Housing Mix is used in central and transit-oriented development neighborhoods. As the neighborhoods of New Orleans grow and gentrify, the areas around job centers grow more expensive to live. These job centers support New Orleans' main industry: tourism. Usually, these tourist hubs provide jobs in restaurants, hotels, convenience shops, and historical tours. Ideally, people want to live as close to their job as possible; unfortunately, when these areas become expensive to live in, people with limited means are forced to move further from their jobs. The ramifications of this are detrimental to all involved; unstable living situations create an unstable workforce.

The need for affordable, mixed housing developments near job centers with adequate public trans-

portation is crucial. That's why HousingNOLA had the support of a broad coalition of advocates, professionals, developers and community leaders when working with city officials to craft the Smart Housing Mix. In 2019, the New Orleans City Council will have the chance to #FixtheMix by passing the Smart Housing Mix and enact a policy that mandates affordable housing—we can longer simply offer incentives and hope for the best. The council must act soon because Governor Edwards has made it clear that we will not get another chance because the opponents have promised to bring forth more legislation in 2019 to prevent New Orleans from utilizing this needed tool. If the housing crisis will "fix itself" and the market will self-regulate, when will we start to see this shift? The answer is not soon enough to save the citizens of New Orleans who need affordable housing now. Our leaders must #PutHousingFirst and act in the best interest of the people of New Orleans when this issue comes before them!

OneEgg

Using Nutrition to Transform Education

By Piper Thurman
Data News Weekly
Contributor

One egg is all it took to change the lives of many children in various countries, like Rwanda, Honduras, Nepal, Haiti, Nigeria, and more. That is the gospel Chris Ordway, the Executive Director of OneEgg, hopes to spread so that ordinary Americans can see how one simple act of giving can have immense impact.

"Once I had a chance to visit Rwanda and see how many kids were without proper nutrition, I knew something needed to be done and I was ready to be a part of it," Ordway said to Xavier University of Louisiana students on Nov. 15, 2018. The organization partners with Xavier's campus ministry to support mission trips to locations that OneEgg serves.

OneEgg started off with three ordinary people who had one goal: to provide kids with protein-filled food, while also giving them a reason to attend Sunday school. In 2008, these three people, a Memphis businessman, a Rwandan church leader, and young woman working for Tyson Foods Inc. turned what started off as an idea to reality. In 2010, construction began on chicken houses located in Rwanda, and then that turned into 37,000 eggs being produced each week. Tyson Foods, an American multinational corporation based in Arkansas and the world's second largest processor and marketer of meat, partnered up with OneEgg and today, the organization sits in numerous countries, and provides snacks to children while they attend Sunday school.

Among all the students in Rwanda's villages, only four students were showing up to attend classes, but once OneEgg preschools began to open and eggs started being passed out, the number of students attending began to increase. The organization also supports local farmers, who also serve as a source for eggs provided to schools.

"These school kids were with very little energy, living off beans and rice, and no kind of animal protein in their diet," he began. "So, the



Chris Ordway with OneEgg shares on the organization's collaboration with Xavier campus ministry students during a presentation on Nov. 14, 2018 in New Orleans, La. (Photo by Piper Thurman)

main goal was to provide them with more to their diet, and the effects it had were tremendous," Ordway said.

With all of its 11 chapters, Xavier campus ministry students had the opportunity to visit a OneEgg Chapter located in Honduras in 2017 and in working so closely with the organization, the experience helped them to realize what missionary work they wanted to do in the future.

"To see these less fortunate kids so excited to come to school, and so attentive to what was being taught made me so grateful for my own university and I definitely want to come back and do more," said Denise Ssettimba, who had the chance to visit a OneEgg Chapter in Honduras.

Father Etido Jerome, who heads up Xavier's campus ministry, also went with students and spoke about the many changes happening because of OneEgg.

"In Nigeria, 250 kids were getting zero eggs, now there are 250 kids getting an egg a day and to see the changes being made makes all of this seem worth it," Jerome said.

Today because of OneEgg in Rwanda, Uganda and Haiti, there are over 4,000 kids receiving eggs and over half of these kids are getting an education. In newer chap-

ters located in Mozambique, students went from receiving one egg three times a week, to more than 750 eggs being given a day.

Even more recently, the ministry was given a \$341,490 grant from Tyson Foods, and according to Ordway, this grant will work towards an economically sustainable egg farm in Haiti, which will not only provide eggs for school kids, but orphanages and clinics as well.

Ordway wanted students to take away one important thing from OneEgg: that no matter who they are or where they come from, they can come together to make a difference in this world.

"Through OneEgg, I want to work to make this crazy, cruel world a better place by giving back," Ordway began. "And we started doing that with something as simple as an egg," Ordway said.

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Pinkett Aims to Inspire Next Wave of Black Entrepreneur

By Tylan Nash
Data News Weekly
Contributor

With over 2.6 million Black-owned businesses in the U.S., many entrepreneurs launch into their work never even knowing the first thing about running a business. They learn through the mistakes they make, and through the successes they create, and this is what Randal Pinkett figured out early on when he decided to launch his own business.

"But that's okay," Pinkett said, "neither did I when I first started. I just knew I wanted to accomplish something great."

"I've always been doing things entrepreneurial, I just didn't know it was entrepreneurship," Pinkett told Xavier University of Louisiana college students on Nov. 13th about

his journey to success.

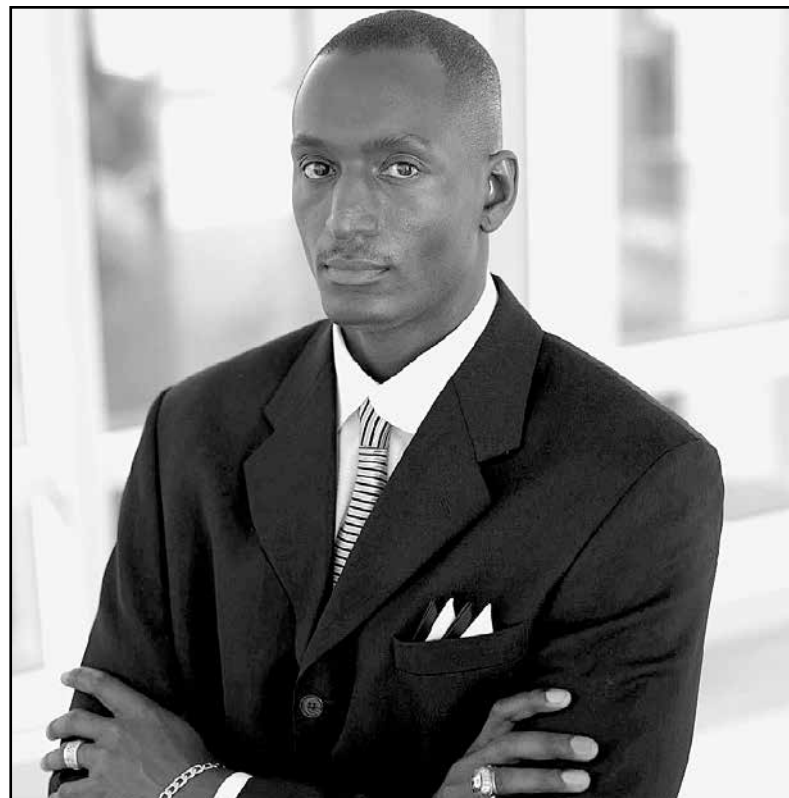
Pinkett grew up in a single-parent household in Philadelphia, Pa., after his father passed away at a young age. Pinkett would grow up with an entrepreneurial mindset from selling things like lemonade and cookies, and even his toys. However, he did not have someone to look up to while accomplishing these things. It was not until he saw a fellow classmate at Rutgers University selling t-shirts that he felt inspired to pursue entrepreneurship.

Pinkett earned five academic degrees in areas like engineering to business, and he holds a doctorate from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He became the first Black man to become a Rhodes Scholar in 1994, an international scholarship given to postgraduate students who would like to study at the University of Oxford in Oxford,

England. He even became the first Black man to win The Apprentice, a reality show that was hosted by President Donald Trump that measured a person's business skills through certain tasks. He went on to work in Trump's business operations in Atlantic City, N.J., and later became the Chairman and CEO of his own company, BCT Partners, a multi-million-dollar consulting, research and technology operation headquartered in Newark, N.J. He told students that it wasn't easy balancing his personal life and starting his own business.

"I had to prioritize, and work, and pray. It wasn't easy, but I got it done. I started it while I was in school, just like all of you," Pinkett said.

With a story like this one, Mark Quinn, Professor of Business at Xavier hoped Pinkett would serve



Dr. Randal Pinkett is an entrepreneur, speaker, author, scholar and community servant, and one of the leading voices for his generation in business and technology. He is the co-founder, chairman and CEO of BCT Partners, a multimillion-dollar research, consulting, training, technology and analytics firm based in Newark, New Jersey.

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as a role model for the business students he trains in entrepreneurship.

"He brings a perspective from the real world, and it's important for college students to hear his story, because these are possible role models for them," Quinn said.

One student, Marloes Booker, is already following in Pinkett's footsteps. As a senior at Xavier, Booker is the founder of RedBeans Nola, which sells bracelets and T-shirts, giving a large amount of the profit to charities that feed the homeless. He discussed how he felt motivated by Pinkett's story and how it really gave him inspiration to work even harder in his business.

"Sometimes, I'm feeling down because of just the stress of school and my small business, and he just really motivated me to keep going and to stay focused," Booker said.

Pinkett told the young students that he believed that people of color naturally embody unique, strong tendencies and talents, like the ability to endure no matter what the issues are, which are important to establishing entrepreneurial mindsets.

"As African-Americans, we are naturally creative," Pinkett said. "We are naturally resilient, passionate, and courageous. We've

gone from chain links to cufflinks. From the slave house to the White House."

Pinkett aimed to inspire the next wave of business leaders. He took his audience on a journey through African-American entrepreneurial history by showing them different entrepreneurial personalities of color: like Oprah Winfrey, who went from owning her own talk show to owning her own TV network to Michael Jordan, who sold over 10 million of his self-named brands of shoes. By doing this, Pinkett hoped to provide young Black future entrepreneurs that they have role models they can look up to.

"I think it is very important to see this representation in entrepreneurship, because there's not a lot of Black people that we see in powerful positions, and seeing them, will really pushed a student like me to want to accomplish great things," said Ayanna Brown, a business major at Xavier, who attended Pinkett's talk.

Visiting a Black university was part of Pinkett's goal to inspire the next generation of innovators. "I didn't have anyone who could be an example for me," Pinkett said. "So, it's important for me to get out to HBCUs, because I want to inspire young Black men and women."

Stacey Abrams Ends Historic Gubernatorial Run

By Nsenga K. Burton, Ph.D
NNPA Newswire Contributor

The State of Georgia's Democratic Gubernatorial nominee has ended her historic run for governor in a controversial political race that has captured the attention of the country. In a press conference held today at 5 p.m. at her Kirkwood Headquarters, Abrams acknowledged GOP candidate and former Secretary of State Brian Kemp will be Georgia's next governor but failed to concede the race. "I will not concede because the erosion of our democracy is not right," she stated.

Abrams announcement comes days after post-election lawsuits demanding that all votes be counted in the face of voter suppression tactics used by the Secretary of State's office. Kemp, who was the Republican candidate for governor, failed to step down from the office while running for office, which was a clear conflict of interest.

During the campaign, it was reported Kemp's office had removed 300,000 registered voters from the rolls in Georgia, 70 percent of which were voters of color.

The Georgia legislature's reinstatement of the exact match rule, which had previously been ruled unconstitutional in a previous lawsuit, resulted in the removal of voters from the rolls for missing a hyphen or leaving out a middle initial. A recent lawsuit found that those reasons could not be used



Abrams, the voter protection crusader, says she will continue fighting for reform as a private citizen announcing the launch of Fair Fight Georgia, an operation that will "pursue accountability in Georgia's elections and integrity in the process of maintaining voting rolls".

to remove voters from the rolls or to discount provisional or absentee ballots.

Kemp declared victory on election night, stepping down from office two days later to begin what he called his transition to the Governorship.

Abrams refused to concede

insisting all absentee and provisional votes should be counted, filing several lawsuits. The former Democratic leader of Georgia's House of Representatives needed an additional 17,000 votes in order to force a run-off with Kemp but decided to end the election in order to work on reforming the

voter registration and participation process in Georgia.

In her speech, she criticized the voting process and the State of Georgia's mismanagement of the gubernatorial election, saying she will be filing a major lawsuit against the State of Georgia for the "gross mismanagement of this election and to protect future elections from unconstitutional actions" in the coming days.

The voter protection crusader says she will continue fighting for reform as a private citizen announcing the launch of Fair Fight Georgia, an operation that will "pursue accountability in Georgia's elections and integrity in the process of maintaining voting rolls."

Georgia's GOP leadership has been mocking Abrams' quest for justice. Kemp's Spokesman Ryan Mahoney stated, "Radical Stacey Abrams is beyond desperate with her latest publicity stunt. Georgia voters made their decision at the ballot box. It's time for Stacey Abrams to end her ridiculous temper tantrum and concede."

Paul Bennecke, Director of the Republican Governors Association has said Abrams antics "will come back to haunt her if she runs for something again," and Clay Tippins who ran for the GOP Gubernatorial nomination stated, "To call Abrams' move childish would be insulting to children." Kemp thanked Abrams for her "passion, hard work and commitment to public service."

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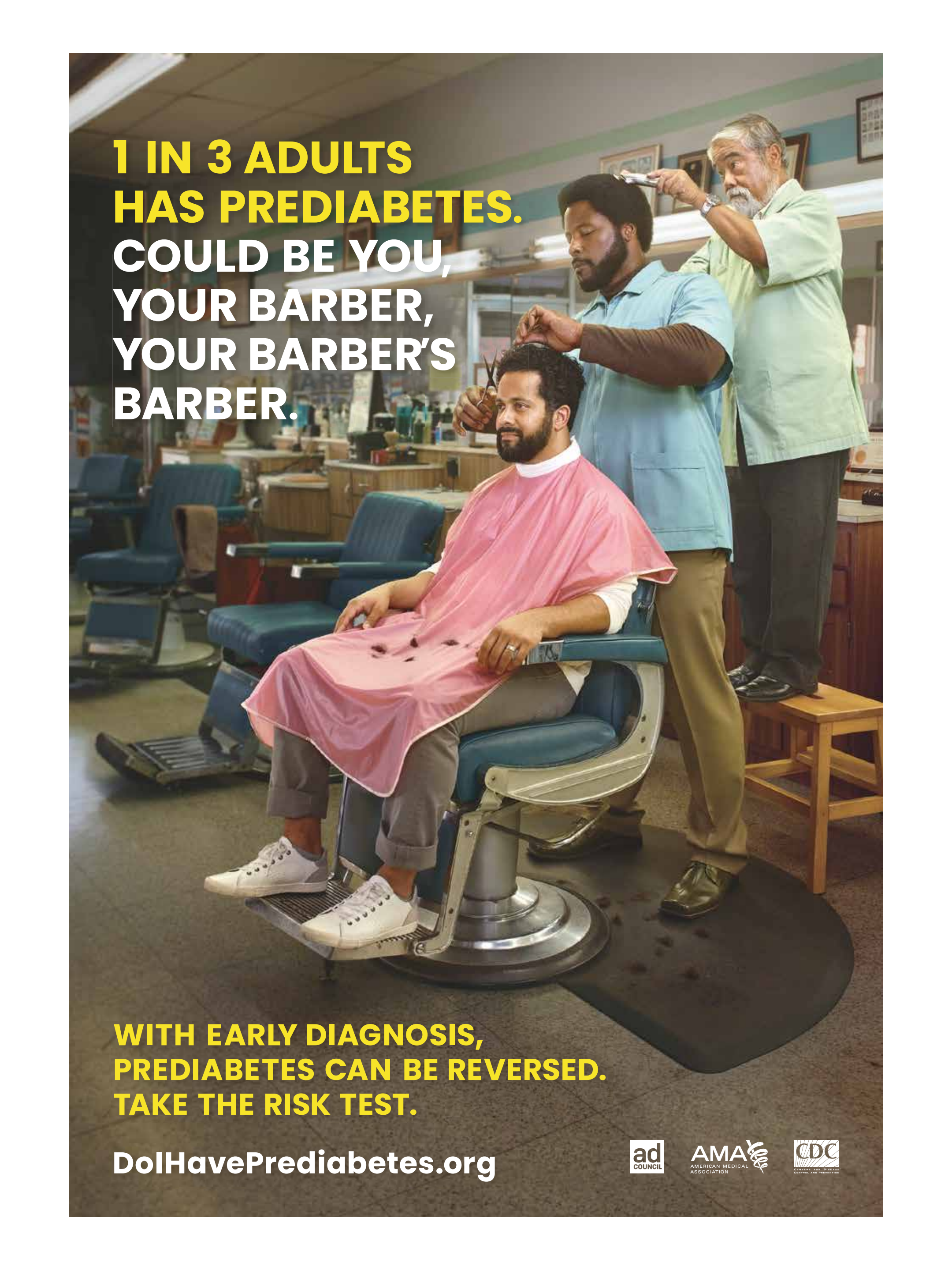
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A photograph of a man with a beard and dark hair sitting in a barber's chair, wearing a pink protective cape. He is looking towards the camera. Two barbers are attending to him: one is standing behind him, using clippers on his hair, and the other is standing to the side, using scissors. The barbershop has blue chairs, a counter with various products, and framed pictures on the wall.

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