

Lighting The Road To The Future

New Orleans

Data

News Weekly

"The People's Paper"



FREE
COPY

**Alicia Carr's
Big Birthday Bash**

**Data Zone
Page 6**

March 2 - March 8, 2019 53rd Year Volume 44 www.ladatanews.com

A Data News Weekly Exclusive

Mayor Cantrell Speaks with Data News Weekly



Page 2



**Newsmaker
Baby Dolls'
Unique Mardi Gras
Tradition**

Page 4

**National News
Calling for
KKK Night
Riders?**



Page 11

Mayor Cantrell Speaks with Data News Weekly

Talks Fair Share, Infrastructure, Equity and Her Place in History



Mayor LaToya Cantrell breaking down barriers to equity in New Orleans.



Mayor Cantrell continues to make history as the first Woman Mayor of New Orleans. One of her goals is to inspire young girls and women that they can reach their full potential.

Edwin Buggage
Editor

On the eve of the Mayor’s Annual Mardi Gras Ball, Data News Weekly sat down with New Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrell, where she spoke to Editor, Edwin Buggage and Publisher, Terry Jones regarding a host of issues on this day.

As we entered Mayor Cantrell greeted us like she always does as family members. Speaking with her is less like an interview and more like speaking to a relative or friend at a dinner table. The Mayor is one who is well

Cover Story, Continued on page 3.

INSIDE DATA	
Cover Story	2
Newsmaker	4
State & Local News . . .	5
Data Zone	6
Commentary	8
Health News	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 Edwin Buggage Glenn Summers Marc H. Morial Ruthie Hawkins Edward Carter, III Nsenga K. Burton, Ph.D. Dr. Anisa Shomo Julienne Malveaux Hannah Joy Shareef Kelsyn Parker Jordan Spencer Lauren Victoria Burke	bellsouth.net
Edwin Buggage Editor	Advertising Inquiries	datanewsad@
Cheryl Mainor Managing Editor		bellsouth.net
Calla Victoria Executive Assistant	Art Direction & Production Pubinator.com	Distribution
June Hazeur Accounting	Editorial Submissions datanewseditor@	On The Run
		Courier Services

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.

studied and abreast on the issues. And in her first few months in office she has proven to be the fighter for people from all zip codes. This is one of the things that's endeared her to the citizens of New Orleans that elected her as she continues her historic reign as the first Woman Mayor of New Orleans.

Fair Share and Infrastructure Improvements

In the forefront of her agenda was her 'Fair Share Initiative'

Cantrell said, "We need to get our fair share of revenue from the state and business community to help rebuild the City's infrastructure problems." With a sense of urgency in her voice she says, "We've kicked that can down the road and it can't go any further."

One project she spoke of pressing concern was Sewerage and Water Board

"All of reserves being spent before our administration upwards to 85 million dollars. Right now, we are asking for 75 million dollars to repair in some cases 100-year-old drains. This is something that as many of our citizens know affects our quality of life and our safety as well."

She is seeking the help of all stakeholders to come up with creative solutions to solve the infrastructure problem. Recently, the mayor reached out to Governor Edwards' asking him to create a task force that would look at the issues surrounding re-directing revenues to New Orleans towards infrastructure projects and to re-convene in 30 days with a decision.

Mayor Cantrell is also the Co-Chair on Infrastructure for the National Conference of Mayors with Mayor Eric Garcetti of Los Angeles. She is taking a holistic view of infrastructure improvements. "We need to look at infrastructure as our top priority. It is one of the lessons we should have learned post-Katrina." Continuing she says, 'We must focus on potholes, the Green Water Management Plan, and transportation accessibility. This is not only just common sense; it also makes good business sense.'

Equity and Opportunity for All

As the City possibly have more infrastructure projects coming down the pipeline; it is important that more minorities are able to access contracting and employment opportunities.

Mayor Cantrell speaks optimistically about what she believes is possible in this area. Speaking enthusiastically, she



Data News Weekly Editor, Edwin Buggage, New Orleans Mayor, LaToya Cantrell and Data News Weekly Publisher, Terry Jones.



"We need to look at infrastructure as our top priority. "We must focus on potholes, the Green Water Management Plan, and transportation accessibility. This is not only just common sense; it also makes good business sense," says Mayor Cantrell in regard to her Fair Share Initiative, a plan aimed at rebuilding the City's infrastructure.

says, "The City of N.O. already has a mandated 35% DBE minority participation. But in the case of Sewerage and Water Board they do not have a mandated 35 percent it has a greater flexibility. I think this can be a great opportunity to move more minority-based firms to become prime contractors."

In a City that even in the face of some demographic shifts in certain neighborhoods it still is a majority Black City. But when it comes to contracting and business opportunities it is often a tale of two cities. Where the pendulum of prosperity often swings one-way. Mayor Cantrell believes that expanding access and helping minority business build capacity to become prime contractors could be a win-win for the City. "We have an opportunity to do more and to create more equity in our city. We cannot get tunnel vision and focus on 35% when structuring these projects. I feel we can be more ambitious where we can do both."

Black and Woman: Mayor Cantrell and Her Place in History

On this day as we speak to the Mayor, we are nearing the end of Black History Month and nearing the beginning of Women's History Month. In our nation and in our City, we are at a watershed moment and as LaToya Cantrell is making history as the City's first woman mayor; in addition to being an African-American holds special significance.

"Making history as our first woman mayor in our city in 300 years is an awesome responsibility and knowing I might be the first, but will not be the last," she says with a smile and sense of accomplishment and triumph. Understanding her role in being a trailblazer bringing hope to generations of other women that they can achieve greatness. "I realize the significance of my election and breaking the ceiling, but the most satisfying part is that it is not just about me, but it can inspire so many other women."

Understanding the challenges of how her leadership will be measured as being the first is something she understands but is poised to face the challenge. Something she's proven more than cut out for since Hurricane Katrina showing she is a leader that can bring people from various constituencies together under one umbrella. "This is a great time not just for me but other women to show we can lead as executives. Also, it speaks to our ability to build consensus that will not just uplift women, but our community as a whole."

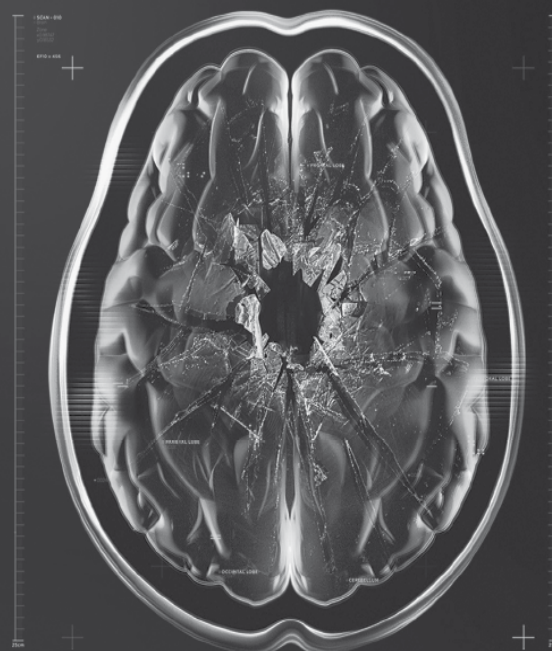
WITNESSING VIOLENCE CAN CHANGE A KID'S MIND.

YOU CAN HELP THEM HEAL.

New research shows that witnessing traumatic events — like domestic violence, shootings, or even fighting — can impact the physical development of a child's brain. Learn how your everyday gestures can help reverse the effects.

Childhood trauma
Changing minds.

ChangingMindsNOW.org
DEFENDING CHILDHOOD
Ad FUTURE'S
BRIGHTER TOMORROW



Purchased Lives Exhibit Examines the Roots of African Americans

By Kelsyn Parker
Data News Weekly
Contributor

Time flies by and memories are often forgotten, however a historical footprint left behind by ancestors leave a rich history of their roots that still thrives today. Documentation of their past grants today's society an all access pass to their origins. Historian Wendy Gaudin and Professional Genealogist Jari Honora dissected Gaudin's Creole Heritage at a public lecture on Feb. 19, 2019 for the exhibit: "Purchased Lives: The American Slave Trade from 1808 to 1865."

The travelling exhibit that spanned six weeks and ends on Feb. 28th allowed the public to consider the lived experiences of enslaved Africans in the United States for Black History Month.

"Record-keeping is significant as it is an available, physical reference to our origins," said Robin Vander, an Associate Professor of Literature and African-American and Diaspora Studies at Xavier University of Louisiana, who directed the "Purchased Lives" public lecture



New Orleans Genealogist Jari Honora and Historian Wendy Gaudin explain the significance of tracing one's roots for the Purchased Lives exhibit series on Feb. 19, 2019. (Photos by Kelsyn Parker)

series. "Purchased Lives provides the public with a platform to further explore their roots," Vander added

On Feb. 26th, the exhibit hosted its final installment of the lecture series, "Reclaiming African-American Legacies and the Human Spirit." The lecture highlighted recent projects on African-American History in the Greater New Orleans area. The exhibit was housed for public viewing at Xavier's Library on its 6th floor.

Honora shared the importance of retracing the roots of ordinary citizens in the Black community.

"Genealogy is the study of all the individuals who contributed to making the people we are," Honora said. "The documentation of our ancestors' cultural practices, nomenclature, and linguistics are all integral to unveiling who we are deep inside," he added.

Capturing the past is key to re-

connecting the bloodline of the African-American Community, Honora reminded the audience. It was not unusual for descendants of slaves to slightly change their given last names for multiple purposes, he explained. A change of a last name might initially indicate a disconnect from heritage, but this is not the case at all with documentation, which will show what the original name after a change of last name. Records from the past, such as birth certificates, death certificates, marriage certificates, and even photographs all offer clues to the mystery of who African-Americans are and where they come from, he said.

"The case of Dr. Gaudin is an interesting one," Honora said. "She's done extensive, independent research to find out more information about her ancestry. The fact that she moved from California to New Orleans, where her ancestors are from, to further her knowledge shows that more and more people are getting in touch with their roots," he added.

The purpose of genealogy serves more than just unveiling the past. It allows researchers to feel a sense of pride and confidence.

"Knowing your family's legacy is an art of celebration and inclu-

sion," Gaudin told the audience as she dissected her family's origins with documentation of their story that she has uncovered from Tulane University and family photos that were handed down to her. She added that knowing the history of her family amazes her as it gives her the feeling of fulfillment.

"Purchased Lives has given me the opportunity to tell my story of discovering my background," Gaudin said, encouraging the audience to engage in research about their genealogy.

Both Gaudin and Honora believe it is necessary that African-Americans today become aware of their ancestral history in order to comprehend where they come from and attain a sense of pride, which they believe today's society is lacking.

"To understand who you are and what and who makes you the person you are is one of the greatest feelings you can possibly feel," Gaudin said to the audience. "We don't come from just slaves. We are the product of people who have already walked a mile in our shoes, people who have experienced the wonders of different eras, and people that are pieces to the puzzle that makes us who we are," she said.

Baby Dolls Reflect on their Unique Tradition in Mardi Gras

By Edward Carter, III
Data News Weekly
Contributor

The Baby Dolls emerged in segregated areas around Uptown, then became a mainstay during Mardi Gras around 1912, and are now known to be one of the first women's masking organizations in the city, even the country. It is a group that is considered a sisterhood, supporting women's empowerment, that still exists. For Black History Month, Southern University at New Orleans paid tribute to the Legacy of the Baby Dolls as it marked "African-American Carnival History" on Feb. 25th.

The event brought local baby dolls Connie Abdul-Salaam, Diane Honoré, Merline Kimble, Rosaline Theodore and Denise Trepagnier together with Kim Vaz-Deville, the Author of "Walking Raddy: The Baby Dolls of



New Orleans traditional Baby Dolls and Kim Vaz-Deville, author, presented on this Black Mardi Gras tradition at Southern University New Orleans on Feb. 25, 2019. (Photo by Edward Carter, III)

New Orleans" who is a Professor of Education and the Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Xavier University.

"My grandmother said Masking Baby Dolls was the most fun she had in her entire life," said Merline "The Gold Digger" Kimble, the granddaughter of an original "Gold Digger" Baby Doll. She said that she grew up watching her grand-

mother happy and having fun masking, and that sense of joy intrigued her about the tradition.

"And if this was the most fun time she was having in her life, then I was interested," she said. Kimble said this first-hand experience is what got her excited about Masking Baby Dolls.

"Once you put on the costume, that Baby Doll costume, you are no

longer shy, you are no longer camera shy and you really enjoy it," said Baby Doll Denise Trepagnier.

Current Baby Dolls said they continue to maintain the practice the way the original Baby Dolls did. The celebration of womanhood and sisterhood and the freedom to express themselves during Mardi Gras is a tradition they want to pass on to future Baby Dolls, they said.

"I'd like to see more of our youth masking and costuming. I'd like to see our children enjoy Mardi Gras as we did," Trepagnier said. "I'd like to see the Mardi Gras come back to when it was families," she added.

They acknowledged that while some things are changing today for traditional masking, they believe the essence of the Baby Dolls in the community is something that is still relevant today.

"The whole thing is about comradery and giving back to the com-

munity," said Baby Doll Dianne "Gumbo Marie" Honoré. "We come together, and we share that same spirit," she said.

Most Baby Dolls work to improve the community year-round and not just during Mardi Gras. Honoré, for instance, is the Founder of the Amazons, a group who participates in community service and charity work. Vaz-Deville, who has written about the Baby Dolls, emphasized that despite decades since they started, it was still important for the public to know what the Baby Dolls represent.

"It is something that is over 100 years old. It is a way that people express themselves and for them to know they are important. It is a way for them to make their neighbors have a good time because their neighbors weren't included in Mardi Gras," Vaz-Deville explained.

Local Businesswoman Calls for more Black Philanthropy

By Jordan Spencer
Data News Weekly
Contributor

The African-American community needs to expand its philanthropy to change inequality within the Black community. These were the main points raised at a public talk by National Author Valaida Fullwood in conversation with New Orleans Community Leader Linetta Gilbert on "Engaging Black Philanthropists" on Feb. 20, 2019.

"Giving back to the community doesn't necessarily mean you have to write a check, but it does mean that you have to be active and open to working in the community," said Marcus Cox, the Associate Dean of Graduate Programs and the Director for the Center for Continuing Studies at Xavier University of Louisiana, whose Sanford Institute of Philanthropy organized the talk.

"Part of the reason why we applied for this grant and partnership with Sanford was to try to make an impact in the Black community and also in the New Orleans area," Cox explained.

The event featured Gilbert, who is considered a local model for changing the Rules of Philanthropy. Gilbert's extensive work with the Ford Foundation spans housing, violence prevention, health and education policies, and child-welfare services. Fullwood has worked nation-wide as a community leader documenting Black Philanthropy. She describes herself as an "idea whisperer," forming her visions for the Black community into writings. Her book Giving Back contains a collaboration of stories from Black Philanthropists and received the respected 2012 McAdam Book



Linetta Gilbert advocates for more African-American Philanthropy within our own community on Feb. 20, 2019. (Photo by Jordan Spencer)

Award. One-hundred percent of the book's proceeds directly fund grants and scholarships.


"Conventional ideas around who's a philanthropist is narrow," Fullwood said. She named her philanthropic idols: entrepreneurs Richard Allen, Absalom Jones, Catherine Ferguson, Madame CJ Walker, and Matel Dawson Jr. as her early inspirations in the Philanthropy Field. She recognized that often times the community knows them for their businesses, but their philanthropy in the community is often-overlooked.

"With imagery and stories over the centuries in America, Black stories were absent, and many stories were untold," she said. She noted that the Philanthropy Industry focused too much on wealth and the idea that donors always come from

White organizations.

However, she stated the fact that two-thirds of African-American households give \$11 billion per year in formal donations mainly going to faith-based organizations and educational institutions. As racial and ethnic diversity increases in organizations, Fullwood deemed it important that Black organizations tell their stories with meaningful engagement and appeal to diverse groups of donors to promote their cause.

"It is important we invest time in institutions that will move us forward," she said. According to Gilbert, spending money within the Black community is the driving force of Black Philanthropy. "Philanthropy doesn't do anything, it causes something to happen," she said.



LIONMAN Foundation, Inc.


in Partnership with

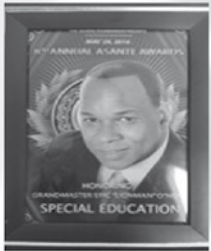
BLUE LION Karate Academy International


Presents


The Legend Of LIONMAN

1000 Beams of Light











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



Find us on:
facebook®
more photos
more stories
more data

Alicia Carr's Birthday Party at Prime Example

Alicia Carr celebrated her big 60th birthday last Friday, February 22, 2019 with family and friends at The Prime Example Nightclub. The music was pumping, the libations were owing, and of course Data was there!!



Data News Weekly is Hiring

Data News Weekly Newspaper, The People's Paper, is hiring in our New Orleans Office.

Sales Manager/Retail Ad Manager

About the Job

Data News Weekly Newspaper is the leading African American media company in New Orleans, publishing a weekly newspaper. Additionally, its website under ladatanews.com is the most read Black website in the region.

We are currently seeking a strong leader to proactively manage broad aspects of the advertising division. You will be working in a positive team-oriented atmosphere which has a modern press, leading website and award-winning newspaper.

Responsibilities include but not limited to:

- Prospect and develop sales leads for print and digital product lines
- Drive online and cross platform advertising sales
- Identify, create strategies, develop influential contacts, and help close new digital products
- Increase overall revenue opportunities in both print and online
- Develop a team sales atmosphere

Our ideal candidate will possess the following education, skills and experience:

- Minimum 5 years print and digital sales and manager experience
- Self-starter, capable of executing within all phases of sales cycle
- Strong relationship building and client service background
- Strong organizational, communication and presentation skills
- Team player and leader
- Understanding of Analytics and ad serving technology
- Strong motivational skills
- Recruit talent

Our company provides a competitive salary, and an environment that encourages personal and professional growth. We are an equal opportunity employer.

If you are interested in a rewarding career, email a cover letter and resume to: terrybjones@bellsouth.net or mail to: Data News Weekly, c/o Terry Jones, Publisher, 3501 Napoleon Avenue, New Orleans LA 70125

Mayor's Mardi Gras Ball Highlights

Last Friday our new mayor, LaToya Cantrell, started off the Mardi Gras season with a blast. The Mayor's Mardi Gras Ball at Gallier Hall was very well attended with music of all different varieties throughout each room. Below are some of those who attended, because of course, Data was there!!



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

Four Hundred Years and We Still Ain't Clear

Distortions of Black History



Julianne Malveaux
NNPA Columnist

According to some historians, Afrodescendants first entered these united states in 1619 off the coast of Virginia. If we believe that narrative, Afrodescendants have been in this country for 400 years. If the people who were kidnapped and brought here had to tell the story, would they tell the same one? Would they say that we came before Columbus? That some of us might

have been here even longer? There were captured Africans that came from the mother continent in 1619, but also, thanks to the transatlantic slave trade, Africans here who had come from Bermuda, Jamaica, and other places.

Why is this relevant? Because there is this misguided group of Afrodescendants, who are throwing shade at those who are not "American descendants of slaves" ADOS. Their shade is an odd version of the "am I Black enough for you" game that some folks ran against President Barack Obama, and are now running against Presidential candidates Kamala Harris and Corey Booker. What is Black enough, when we, Afrodescendant people, all have enslavement in our background? Let's make it plain. Europeans went to the African con-

tinents, kidnapped people (sometimes with African acquiescence), brought them to the Western Hemisphere, and sold us. Goods and people flowed between England (or New England, the Americas, and Africa), including sugar, tobacco, manufactured products, guns and humans. Understand that everyone in the triangle was affected and that enslaved people were freely traded between the United States and other parts of the Americas!

I am not sure what kinds of warped brains dreamed up the realities of enslavement and the ways that a minority in the South was able to control a majority. The laws that managed enslavement included laws that prevented literacy, ownership, and much else. The laws often detailed the terms of punishment if restrictive conditions were

breached. A North Carolina law said, "teaching slaves to read and write, tends to excite dissatisfaction in their minds, and to produce insurrection and rebellion." Disobeying this law was punishable by thirty-nine lashes or imprisonment for a free Black person, or a fine of two hundred dollars then, or about \$5000 now. People violated the laws, of course, but the warped sensibility that prohibited the dissemination of knowledge is the basis for many sick stereotypes, such as "if you want to hide something from a Black person, put it in a book."

Fast-forward four hundred years, or even two. Why are teachers in Loudoun County, Virginia, forcing fifth and sixth-grade students to simulate enslavement with an obstacle course they called "The Underground Railroad"? Why were

many of these students Afrodescendants? Why are the leaders of the school silent about the discipline that was ordered on the rogue teachers who took it upon their ignorant selves to construct such an exercise? Why has David Stewart, the principal of the Madison Trust School in Loudoun County, sent out a vapid apology for a "culturally insensitive" exercise, and not a more strongly worded condemnation of the racism implicit in this nonsense.

We have been here at least 400 years, and still, some folks aren't clear about the ways enslavement has shaped our nation. In Virginia, where both the governor and the Attorney General (two of the top three elected officials in the state) have admitted to masquerading in

Commentary, Continued
on page 10.

To Be Equal

Jussie Smollett Case Threatens to Distract from the Rising Tide of Hate Crimes



Marc Morial
President and CEO
National Urban League

This week, the Southern Poverty Law Center announced that the number of hate groups in the United States continued to rise for the fourth consecutive year in 2018.

Also, this week, a television actor was arrested on charges of staging a fake racist and homophobic attack on himself, allegedly so he could appear more sympathetic in salary negotiations.

The announcement by Chicago police of the case against Jussie Smollett sparked outrage and dismay across the nation, particularly among people of color and LGBTQ people who are increasingly targets of hate crimes like the one Smollett allegedly staged. Smollett is, of course, presumed innocent until proven guilty and is entitled to due process. But the

accusations shock the conscience.

The SPLC said the 30% rise in the number of hate groups since 2014 coincided with a 30% increase in the number of hate crimes reported to the F.B.I. from 2015 through 2017. At least 50 people were killed in a wave of right-wing violence in 2018, according to the Anti-Defamation League.

Just a week ago, federal authorities arrested a self-described "white nationalist" Coast Guard officer who had stockpiled 15 firearms and more than 1,000 rounds of mixed ammunition and who wanted to use violence to establish a "white homeland." His hit list of prospective victims included prominent Democratic politicians, activists, political organizations and media personalities.

In the face of the growing menace of hate-fueled terrorism, it would be tragic if the collapse of Smollett's story makes it harder for true victims of hate crimes to be believed. As New York Times columnist Jamelle Bouie noted on Twitter this week, the details of many hate crimes are outrageous, and his accounts of the horrors of lynchings and other racially-motivated terrorism are sometimes met with incre-

"I'm left hanging my head and asking why. Why would anyone, especially an African American man use the symbolism of a noose to make false accusations? How could someone look at the hatred and suffering associated with that symbol and see an opportunity to manipulate that symbol to further his own public profile. How can an individual who's been embraced by the city of Chicago turn around and slap everybody in the face making these false claims?"

— Chicago Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson

dulity. "Why didn't anyone do anything?" he was asked.

"Take a deep dive into the history of racist violence in the United States and you'll come away with countless items that sound absurd or even ... conspiratorial. But they are true, and the truth of them informs reactions today," Bouie wrote.

Bouie was responding to a conversation that included mention of the 1998 murders of James Byrd Jr. and Matthew Shepherd. White supremacists attacked Byrd, spray painted his face and chained him by his

ankles to the bumper of a pickup truck. He was dragged three miles, conscious for most of his ordeal until he was decapitated. Shepherd's attackers, motivated by homophobia, tied him to a fence and pistol-whipped him into unconsciousness. He hung on the fence for 18 hours before he was found, and lingered nearly a week in a coma before he died.

"These crimes were so monstrous and random and thorough that they might seem to defy plausibility," journalist Gene Denby of NPR wrote. "How can anyone look

at the history of racialized violence or hate crimes in America and think some randos with bleach and a noose ain't feasible?"

The Chicago police appear to have done thorough work in Smollett's case. They took his complaint seriously, devoted considerable resources to investigating his claims and followed the evidence where it led. Every report of a hate crime should be investigated as thoroughly.

Many questions remain about the Smollett case. False reports — particularly in a high-profile case — represent a squandering of precious law-enforcement resources. Chicago, battling a wave of gun violence, can ill afford the distraction. Indeed, Superintendent Johnson said, "I just wish that the families of gun violence in this city got this much attention, because that's who really deserves the amount of attention that we're giving to this particular incident."

Rather than minimize the true victims of hate crimes, we should take this opportunity to turn our attention to the rising threat. And should Smollett be proved beyond a reasonable doubt to have betrayed the public trust, must be held accountable for his actions.

Leave a Legacy



Creating generational wealth
for the Past 46 Years.
The shift starts with you!

Open your account today
at **www.LibertyBank.net**



Liberty Bank

MEMBER FDIC



There's freedom here.

Femme Fatale Rolled Through Uptown With Female Empowerment

By Hannah Joy Shareef
Data News Weekly
Contributor

Residents turned out to see Grammy Award-Winner Irma Thomas who served as the Grand Marshall this year for the Mystic Krewe of Femme Fatale's Parade along the Uptown route on Sunday, Feb. 24, 2019. The primarily African-American all-women krewe was established in 2013 for women of all racial backgrounds to come together during the Mardi Gras Season and bring social awareness through the community.

"Growing up, Femme Fatale has always been about meeting new people, having fun, the community coming together and forgetting about all of the negativity in New Orleans," said Alana Lankster, a Gentilly resident and student at McMillian First Steps Academy. "Although I am young, the women in this parade inspire me to believe in myself and these women give girls hope every day to become whatever they want to be," she said.

The parade featured local high schools and the St. Augustine High School Marching 100, who danced, marched, and played their instruments along Napoleon Avenue on to St. Charles Avenue.

"Mardi Gras parades keeps our babies off the streets. Our boys in



Leslie Carter and grandson, King, enjoying the Femme Fatale parade on St. Charles Avenue. (Photos By Hannah Joy Shareef)

particular need to know that the community supports their talents," said Kimberly Reed, a local seventh ward vendor.

Along St. Charles Avenue parade-goers joined in on spontaneous line dances from the "Cupid Shuffle" to the "Wobble." The latter becoming particularly popular after the latest Saints football season. "The dances are a part of the African-American Culture despite the situations that occur every day in our world like poverty, racism,

and sexism," Reed said.

The krewe customized their floats and signature throws to reflect the organization's mission to support and empower women. This year's throws ranged from plastic lips, bags, flasks, and Femme Fatale dolls.

"Being a woman is much more than the cute clothes, hair and makeup. It is the ability to remain confident in your own skin. It is simply the way you uplift and encourage other women," said Leslie Carter,



Participants in the Femme Fatale parade wore black and red on Sunday, Feb. 24, 2019.

er, who works for Louisiana State University's School of Medicine. "Today, women of all shapes and sizes accepted their true beauty by remaining sexy from their head to their toes," Carter said.

Visitors to New Orleans for the build up to the final days of Mardi Gras said that they chose to attend this year's Femme Fatale Parade, citing the krewe's purpose to inspire and motivate women, while embodying New Orleans' Culture. They also

turned out to experience the city's food, music, and to catch as many festive beads that they could carry back.

"New Orleans is a place where I am able to feel free. I can do what I want without the thought of being 'small enough' or 'big enough,'" said Danielle Booker, who lives in Washington, D.C. On multiple floats women held up signs which said, "I love me some me!" "And that's what Femme Fatale was all about, loving me," Booker said.

OPSO Chief Earl Weaver Part of Mardi Gras Security Detail at Gallier Hall for 43 Years



OPSO Chief Earl Weaver

When dignitaries gathered at Gallier Hall Friday night for the Krewe of Oshun Parade, they did so under the watchful eye of OPSO Chief Earl Weaver, who has been part of the Mardi Gras security detail at Gallier Hall for the past 43 years.

Chief Weaver, who joined the Sheriff's Office 45 years ago, began working the security detail at Gallier Hall for the 1975 Mardi Gras Season, spanning the administrations of four sheriffs, seven mayors and 14 police chiefs.

Chief Weaver began his 45th security detail at Gallier Hall providing security under the administrations of Sheriff Marlin Gus-

man and Mayor LaToya Cantrell, whose Police Superintendent is Shaun Ferguson.

Chief Weaver joined the Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff's Office in December 1973 as Prison Officer 1 under Sheriff Louis Hyde. He has worked at the Old Parish Prison facility. He continued to move through the ranks, serving as head of the Criminal Sheriff's athletic department, warden of the juvenile division, commander of the reserve division, and Chief of Security. He is semi-retired now and serves on the sheriff's staff as Chief of Courts and Community Services.

Commentary, Continued from page 8.

Blackface, albeit thirty-odd years ago, teachers don't see anything wrong with subjecting Black students to a reenactment of enslavement. Oh, they said they were teaching "teamwork." Really.

We have been here at least 400 years, and our nation is not yet clear about its flawed foundations. There would be no house at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, which should not be called the White House, but the House that Enslaved People Built, were it not for the labor of kidnapped people and their descendants. There would be no banking system if enslaved people were not used as collateral for European devilment. There would be no insurance industry were it not for the enslaved. But in our col-

lective ignorance allows us, all of us, African Americans, European Americans, and others, to live in denial, pretending that there is fairness is a racist, patriarchal, predatory, capitalist society.

We have been here at least 400 years, but we still aren't clear about the nonsense and exploitation that affects and infuses our very foundation. Our entire nation needs to go back to school to learn some history. But there is a special place in hell for teachers in Loudoun County, Virginia who think that enslavement is some kind of game!

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

Black Filmmakers Win Big

By Nsenga K. Burton, Ph.D.
NNPA Newswire
Entertainment and Culture
Editor

The 2019 Academy Awards have come to an end and #BlackGirlMagic and #BlackBoyJoy were in full effect as some of our favorites walked away with gold statuettes, some after a 30-year uphill climb.

Black Panther was a big winner, taking home Oscars for Best Costume Design (Ruth E. Carter) and Best Production Design (Hannah Beachler). Both women making history. Carter, who thanked her 97-year-old mother during her speech, is the first Black woman to win the coveted category. Beachler is the first African-American and only Black woman to be nominated and to win for set design.

Carter thanked Spike Lee for helping to launch her career in the entertainment business while Beachler thanked Black Panther co-writer and director Ryan Coogler stating, "I stand here because of this man who offered me a different perspective of life," says



Spike Lee and Samuel L. Jackson celebrate Lee's 2019 Oscar win for Best Adapted Screenplay.

the Moonlight and Lemonade production designer.

Ludwig Göransson won the Best Original Score category for Black Panther. He also thanked Coogler, his collaborator while the two were students at the University of Southern California's film school.

Regina King started the night off with a win for Best Supporting Actress for her role in Barry Jenkins' If Beale Street Could Talk. Her role was small but mighty and the deco-

rated actress cried as she thanked her mother.

Mahershala Ali became a two-time Best Supporting Actor Academy Award-Winner with his win for Green Book. Ali thanked his grandmother for her sage advice and always believing in him. Peter Ramsey won for co-directing the Best Animated Feature Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse, making history as the first African-American to win the award.

Prolific filmmaker Spike Lee won an Oscar for Best Adapted Screenplay for BlacKkKlansman after having been overlooked in the competitive categories. Lee literally jumped into the arms of prolific actor and fellow Morehouse man Samuel Jackson in celebration of the win.

While Jackson held the statuette, Lee went on to discuss slavery, Black History Month, his grandmother, a Spelman College graduate, and his alma maters: Morehouse College and New York University.

The filmmaker said, "Make the moral choice between love versus hate. Let's do the right thing," when accepting his award. The academy finally did the right thing by acknowledging the contributions of African-Americans in front of and behind the camera.

Nsenga K. Burton, Ph.D. is entertainment and culture editor for NNPA/BlackPressUSA. A film and media scholar, Dr. Burton is founder and editor-in-chief of the award-winning news blog The Burton Wire, which covers news of the African diaspora. Follow her on Twitter @Ntellectual or @The-BurtonWire.

Alabama Publisher Calls for KKK to 'Night Ride Again' and 'Clean Out' D.C.

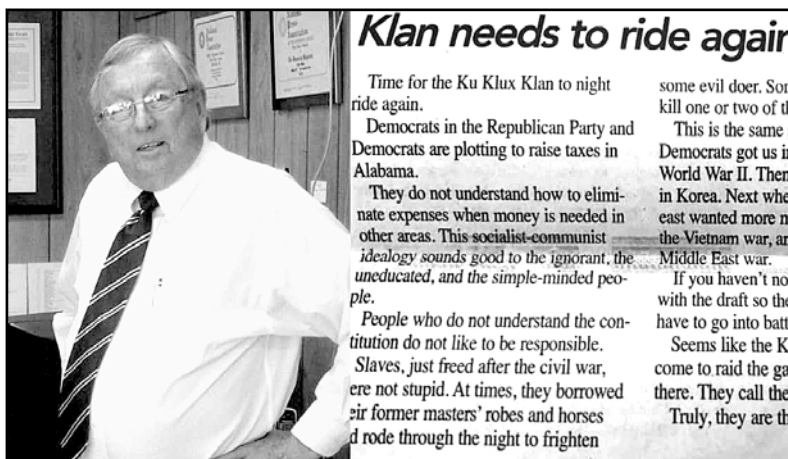
By Lauren Victoria Burke
NNPA Newswire Contributor

Goodloe Sutton, publisher of the Democrat-Reporter newspaper in Linden, Alabama, wrote that the Ku Klux Klan should "night ride again" in an editorial the week of February 11.

"Time for the Ku Klux Klan to night ride again," he wrote. Sutton, the publisher, says he stands by the editorial and that the KKK, a white supremacist group founded in the late 1800s after the Civil War, "didn't kill but a few people."

"We'll get the hemp ropes out, loop them over a tall limb and hang all of them," Sutton explained in an interview regarding the editorial.

"If we could get the Klan to go up there and clean out D.C., we'd all been better off," Sutton told the Montgomery Reporter after news broke of his editorial. The editorial has gained national attention and



Goodloe Sutton, (former) publisher of the Democrat-Reporter newspaper in Linden, Alabama, wrote that the Ku Klux Klan should "night ride again" in an editorial the week of February 11.

condemnation.

Sutton didn't walk back his comments after receiving press attention for the controversial editorial.

"OMG! What rock did this guy crawl out from under? This editorial is absolutely disgusting & he should resign -NOW! I have seen what hap-

pens when we stand by while people — especially those with influence — publish racist, hateful views. Words matter. Actions matter. Resign now!" Wrote U.S. Senator Doug Jones of Alabama.

On February 19, The Alabama Press Association voted to censure

Sutton and suspend the membership of the Democrat-Reporter following the publication of the editorial.

Color of Change, a young civil rights group, tweeted that, "The Democrat-Reporter has a history of anti-Black racism and their recent editorial calling on the KKK to lynch members of Congress is unabashed white supremacist violence."

The University of Southern Mississippi, "removed the name of a newspaper publisher from its journalism hall of fame after Sutton urged the KKK to 'ride again'" and "strongly condemned" Sutton's "dangerous" editorial.

Though many expressed shock and outrage on social media, others pointed out that the recent rise in hate crimes and normalization of racism and white supremacy over the last few years is a contributing factor in Sutton's boldness regarding writing such a forceful endorsement of the KKK.

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!

This space can be
yours for only \$80

Call Now!

504-821-7421

Smarter technology for a stronger grid. And a brighter future.

Entergy New Orleans is modernizing the power grid to ensure more reliable – and more affordable – power for years to come.



Advanced Meters use smart technology to communicate with the power grid. They can detect outages instantly so we can restore power faster. They deliver improved usage data so we can provide better customer service and optimize the grid to meet evolving energy demands. Advanced Meters give you helpful information – as well as new tools to help your energy usage – which could lead to lower bills.

Grid Automation also uses smart technology to automatically respond to problems. When there is an outage, the power grid can reroute power within seconds – keeping the lights on at more homes and businesses while our crews are dispatched to the exact location in need of repair.

We're installing this new technology today so New Orleans can shine brighter for generations. Together, we power life.

entergyneworleans.com/reliability



A message from Entergy New Orleans, LLC ©2019 Entergy Services, LLC. All Rights Reserved.