

Lighting The Road To The Future

New Orleans

Data

News Weekly

"The People's Paper"



**French Quarter
Fest Highlights**

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April 20 - April 26, 2019 53rd Year Volume 51 www.ladatanews.com

A Data News Weekly Exclusive

Vote Yes for the Millage to Support Parks and Playgrounds in Our City



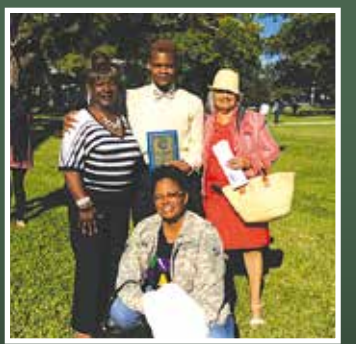
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Coming Together in Support for a Better New Orleans for All

*Data News Weekly Says Vote “YES” for PW Parks
and Recreation Millage Renewal*



Edwin Buggage
Editor

Vote YES for the Future of New Orleans

It is again springtime in New Orleans. Which means people across our City will be outside using the many

amazing parks and other outdoor facilities enjoying the Big Easy and all it has to offer its citizens.

On May 4, 2019 there is millage proposal renewal on the ballot and Data News Weekly believes it is good for our City and we encourage our readers and citizens across the City to get out and vote YES to PW Parks and Recreation–6.31 Mills Tax.

Get Out and Vote

Early Voting is from April 20-27 and we are encouraging our citizens to get out and vote for this millage renewal because it is something that will benefit all our citizens in a positive way.

Data News Joins in Support of Millage to Improve Quality of Life of all New Orleanians

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Cover Story, Continued from page 2.



We are supporting this because we believe as many elected officials, civic groups and citizens from all walks of life who have endorsed it feel this millage renewal continues to move the city in a forward direction. Data News Weekly believes that having more places for our young people to experience the joy of being outdoors as well as the museums, programming and the many educational, sports and recreation and enrichment experiences that the Audubon Institute and the New Orleans Recreation Department offers is of the utmost importance in building the future of New Orleans and increasing the quality of life for everyone in our City.

We have outlined for our readers information about the millage and why they should vote YES:

Not a New Tax

- Not an increase in the tax rate, a renewal and reallocation (6.31 mills for parks and recreation more equitably distributed among Parks and Parkways, NORD, City Park and Audubon Commission)
- The 6.31-mill tax is a re-allocation of current millages that allows for a more equitable fair share of taxpayer dollars. The renewal supports four park partners: Audubon Commission, the Department of Parks and Parkways, The New Orleans Recreation Development Commission and City Park. This would be the first time that City Park would receive funding if the millage passes.

How it Benefits the Community

- Increase in funding for NORDC and Parks & Parkways—NORD will be able to increase program-

ming and Parks & Parkways will be able to increase services to the community.

- If the millage passes, the 20-year agreement would be having an immediate impact that will provide more equitable access to parks and recreation and more equitable funding of Park Agencies.
- The partners will work together to implement storm water management practices to alleviate flooding.

Good Government and Accountability in Action

- Transparency and accountability for all 4 park partners with regard to how the funds are spent—regular interagency meetings and collaboration, as well as two community meetings a year to receive feedback from the community on parks and recreation in the City

(this is set forth in the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement signed by all parties).

- This collaborative effort was developed in partnership with the Trust for Public Land, a national leader in parks and recreation advocacy. Better maintenance and improvements for green infrastructure, safer parks and positive recreational alternatives and improved quality of life for all.

Positive Impact on Quality of Life for All Citizens of New Orleans

- Collective impact to every neighborhood in the City—parks and opportunity for recreation improves our quality of life
- When the parks and recreation operators in this City work together to offer more access, more programming and improvements to our green space, the benefits

can be seen City-wide

- Better maintenance and improvements for green infrastructure, safer parks and positive recreational alternatives and improved quality of life for all.

Early Voting Sites

City Hall

1300 Perdido Street, Room 1W24
New Orleans, LA 70112

Algiers Courthouse

225 Morgan Street, Room 105
New Orleans, LA 70114

Chef Menteur Voting Machine Warehouse Site

8870 Chef Menteur Highway
New Orleans, LA 70126

Lake Vista Community Center

6500 Spanish Fort Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70124

Liberty Bank is a Proud Partner of the \$5 Million BuildNOLA Mobilization Fund

Data News Staff Edited Report

Liberty Bank Announces Partnership that will Provide Capital to DBE's

Liberty Bank and Trust Company announced its partnership with the City of New Orleans, Newcorp, Inc., the Kresge Foundation, J. P. Morgan/Chase, and Living Cities Catalyst Impact Fund to create a BuildNOLA Mobilization Fund. The fund will provide up to \$10 million in capital for Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE's) to access work in the City of New Orleans' Green Infrastructure Rebuilding Program

over the next 6 years. Liberty also participates in a similar program in Detroit, Michigan.

With over \$250 million anticipated infrastructure work and the City's 35% DBE goal, \$87 million in construction opportunities will be designated for small and minority businesses as New Orleans continues to rebuild. The City has designated Newcorp to manage the BuildNOLA Mobilization Fund.

Newcorp is a local Community Development Fund Institution (CDFI), which provides technical and financial assistance to disadvantaged businesses. Newcorp will receive applications and will help DBE's access loans.



Alden McDonald

Liberty Bank Committed to BuildNOLA Fund

Liberty is a major investor in the BuildNOLA Fund with a \$4 million commitment towards the goal of raising \$10 million for the fund. The other entities are providing capital, technical assistance and networking.

"Access to capital continues to be the most important factor limiting the establishment, expansion and growth opportunities for firms", says Alden J. McDonald, President and CEO of Liberty Bank and Trust Co. "These businesses are an engine of employment and economic development and we are proud to be able to provide a means to sustain them within our communities."

Drexel Amy, President of Liberty's Michigan Region, where Liberty is a major investor in an Entrepreneurs of Color Fund, says "Liberty Bank is keenly aware of the needs to provide capital to small business enterprises. There are many small business enterprises that have the expertise to perform high quality work that don't have consistent access to capital. Providing capital to these entrepreneurs effectively allows them to gain access to public and private sector contracting opportunities."

The BuildNOLA Mobilization Fund is another effort by the City of New Orleans to make sure the 35% DBE goal becomes a reality.



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6th Annual Easter Eggstravaganza!



The New Orleans Recreation Development (NORD) Commission will host its 6th Annual, Family-Friendly Easter Eggstravaganza. The event will take place at the Lafitte Greenway, 1971 Lafitte St. on Saturday, April 20, 2019. Activities will begin at 11:00 a.m. and end at 2:00 p.m. at all sites, on both dates.

Children ages 3-12 are invited to join the Easter Bunny and should bring their baskets to the egg hunt. Eggs will be filled with candy and prizes. Coveted golden eggs will be available at each hunt, containing special prizes like tickets to local attractions, Easter baskets, and more. Family-fun activities include face painters, spacewalks, sack races, carnival games, and refreshments. The NORD Easter Eggstravaganzas are FREE and open to the public.

For more information please visit <http://www.nordc.org> or contact (504) 658-3052.

ladatanews.com

New Orleans African American Museum Reopens after Six Years

By Edward Carter III
Data News Weekly
Contributor

New Orleans has many historical traditions, however, when the African-American Museum in Tremé closed in 2013, due to financial problems, it was considered an important loss for the Black community. When it first opened in 2000 on 1417 Gov. Nicholls Street, the museum served as a space to house the history and culture of Black people in the city. Residents and supporters showed up at the Historic Building of the Villa Meileur as the museum reopened on April 12, 2019.

"We are really doing a lot of fundraising both in the city and outside the city to renovate these buildings," said Gia Hamilton, the Executive Director and Chief Curator



the community was a moment of celebration for those who attended the opening.

"May we always have joy, may we always have laughter, and may we remember that we are really children," said Janet "Sula Spirit" Evans, a Singer-Songwriter, who spoke at the event, and who encouraged the audience to preserve memory through places like these. The museum affects the community positively, Adams added, giving artists, musicians, and speakers a place to connect to residents and to share and preserve culture.

"The museum is diverse giving people a location to feel that this is where they belong," Evans said. "Thank you for being honorable, thank you for your liking, and for all the babies out here, thank you all for being born. I say Ashe," Evans told the crowd at the opening.



for the Museum.

"We want to make sure that all the people who put energy in that space get the opportunity to see it come alive again," said Hamilton, adding that the plan is to turn this renovated museum into one of the best museums across the country.

"We are working tirelessly again to think through and strategize on how to fulfill this dream of creating a state-of-the-art African-American Museum," said Michael Griffin, the Museum's Board President and the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Daughters of Charity Services of New Orleans.

The grand opening launched with an exhibit titled "Everywhere We Are, Everywhere We Go: Black Space and Geographies." The exhibit was co-produced by the Amistad Research Center and will be available for the public to view until the end of 2019. The renovations for the New Orleans African-American Museum are part of wider city plans to modernize the whole Tremé neighborhood along Governor




Nicholls Street. The museum will use federal and private grants to support renovations for the remaining buildings that comprise the museum's extended campus.

"The New Orleans African-American Museum is rooted in history, culture and art," Hamilton said.

"Part of what we want to do is make sure that we are grounding this in the history, but that we are also doing economic development. We are not interested in being an old model of a museum, we are interested in how we can really serve a community," Hamilton added.

This was an event that impacted the community in various ways, residents said. For people who were already aware of the museum, seeing it return as an important space for



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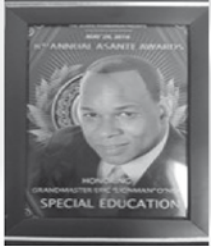
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French Quarter Fest

Photos by Kichea S. Burt
and Ellen Rosenberg

The French Quarter Festival this past weekend was a huge success. Everyone who attended was wowed by the entertainment, the food, the games for the kids and all the vendors. Data as one of the co-sponsors was there to capture it all!



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

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The African American Museum Reopens in New Orleans

Data Staff Edited Report

Located in the historic 'Treme' neighborhood, the New Orleans African American Museum of Art, History, and Culture reopened last Thursday with much fanfare and long lines.

The New Orleans African American Museum of Art, History, and Culture originally opened in 1998, with the purpose of honoring the rich African American history in New Orleans. Over the years the institution had to close a few times. Now with new support and management its future is looking bright. Upon completion of the entire campus, at a cost of \$12 Million, the New Orleans African American Museum of Art, History, and Culture will span an entire city block. The museum is located at 1418 Governor Nicholls St, New Orleans, LA 70116.



SUPPORT PARKS & NORD

Vote Yes on May 4th | Early Voting: April 20th - 27th

It's a once in a lifetime opportunity to sustainably fund parks and recreation in New Orleans. *And it's not a tax increase*, but a renewal and a reallocation.

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- Better maintenance of parks & playgrounds
- More programming
- Fair and equitable allocation of funds
- Improved park safety
- Reduced flooding
- Better access for everyone

A **YES** vote is in everyone's best interest – children, families, seniors, all of us. It will help us enjoy our parks and recreational facilities for years to come.

VOTE YES FOR PARKS AND NORD.

Paid For By Together For Parks Alliance.

Wordz of Wilson

Black Heroes



Chelle Wilson
NNPA Newswire Contributor

The Need for Heroes by Langston Hughes was featured in a 1941 issue of *The Crisis*. He was bothered by the overwhelmingly negative images of African-Americans in the news, movies, and books, as well as the growing erasure of Black heroes from the iconic—like Denmark Vessey and Mary McLeod Bethune, to the not so well known

like Sam Solomon, who in 1939 led the first African-Americans to vote in Miami, and Roscoe Dunjee, who in 1915 started the Black Dispatch newspaper in Oklahoma City to challenge and expose racism and violent attacks on the community.

Hughes believed heroes like these would never make the news, writing “Why bother with the [news] at all? Look around you for the living heroes who are your neighbors—who may or may not always speak perfect English but who are courageous, straightforward, strong...and whose words and thoughts gather up what is in our own hearts and say it clearly and plainly sitting quietly in a chair in front of you.”

I remembered Hughes’ words as I began to read all the articles

and tributes celebrating the life and legacy of Nipsey Hussle. I was saddened that I didn’t know more about Nipsey, his story, and all of his accomplishments before his passing.

From major national news outlets to local dailies, the “everyday hero” is featured all the time.

Recently, I’ve seen stories on a high school principal who installed washing machines, so his students wouldn’t miss school because of dirty clothes; a nurse that adopted a baby who had been in the hospital for over a year without any visitors; and a chef who left his Michelin Star-rated restaurant to try and add some flavor to school lunches in New York.

These are all heroic efforts, to be sure, but so are Nipsey’s.

That leaves me to wonder, why are so many just learning about his heroics? My mother used to always say, “Give me my flowers while I live.” I view her words a little differently now.

Nipsey Hussle’s transformative work in community development, entrepreneurship, economic empowerment and, efforts to end gang violence will be recorded in the Congressional Record, but all of this comes posthumously.

I believe celebrating our heroes does as much for us as it does them. Most who put in work to improve our communities, using whatever resources they have, don’t do it for flowers, applause, or any other recognition. However, is it too much to ask of ourselves to let them know they are seen and valued?

“We have a need for heroes,”

writes Hughes, “[heroes] that will encourage and inspire our youth... to move and stir them to be forthright, strong, clear-thinking, and unafraid.” I believe we have just that kind of hero all around us. Nipsey Hussle may not have ever described himself as a hero, but his mission to transform the community that he both loved and lived in was heroic.

Let his sudden loss remind us to honor the Nipsey Hussle’s right here in our own neighborhoods, schools, churches, rec centers, community organizations, sororities, and fraternities. If we look, they are there. We will find them doing the important work Nipsey embodied in life and death, “more faith and less fear...talking about dreams. Better to do it and let it be seen, cause then it’s clear.”



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Spiritually Speaking...



James A. Washington
NNPA News Wire
Columnist

How many of you have ever been too embarrassed to pray, too afraid or really just too ashamed? Maybe you were afraid, or perhaps just feeling a little guilty. Because we claim to know Jesus, it is during very difficult times, that to kneel down before the Lord, (especially after you've done exactly that thing which represents the absolute worst in you) seems impossible. I know this firsthand.

Sin, you see, comes in many shapes and sizes and colors and flavors. Only you and the Lord know how successful the world has been in tantalizing you to do exactly what you know you shouldn't. Only Satan can tempt you in ways that leave you utterly defeated.

He reigns in a world where one of his primary jobs is to get you to do what you've professed to God and man that you would never do. And you know better. It must be rough then, when, instead of you calling on God, He makes a house call on you.

After Adam ate the apple, the bible says God went looking for him. You see, Adam knew better and He knew in his heart, I believe, that he couldn't hide from his creator. And so it is with us.

Real believers must pray and ask for forgiveness. In doing so, quite a

few things should become crystal clear. One, you can't procrastinate where God is concerned and two, you can't hide from the truth. And the truth is you're a sinner. We all are. And to make matters worse, the closer you get to God, the more obvious it is to you and Him how much of a sinner you really are.

When sin succeeds in your life, it is appropriate to seek forgiveness. I'm just acknowledging how hard it is to be forthright enough to say to God through Jesus, "I'm sorry."

We know as Christians we are obligated to do our very best. It, at times, might seem like a cruel joke to aspire to something you'll never be able to achieve. None of us will ever, never commit a sin against God. Living without sin is an impossibility. The obligation is to try. Our success lies in our effort and our intent.

We are obligated to seek Him out and let Him know that we know better and are truly repentant when we screw up. As a matter of fact, the closer we get to His light, the more likely we are to see the countless stains on our soul. Imperfection ingloriously stands out in the illumination of perfection. That's just a fact.

We need to understand that it's okay to look for the Lord even when we know we have no right to ask for His mercy. Part of the mystery of faith, at least for me, is constantly coming to grips with just how much God loves me. In spite of what little I have to offer, He receives me and you as He would His own Son.

I think it's important to remember you can always go home. I used to say home was wherever Mom was. Now I know home is wherever God is.

If that be the case, and I'm trying to be a vessel for the Holy Spirit, then I have to accept that God resides in me and wherever I am is home. Hopefully, that should make following His Word and doing His Will easier, particularly when it comes to choosing right from wrong and asking for mercy when I go wrong instead of right.

The key is knowing that God is not interested in style. He's only concerned about substance. Besides, only a fool would screw things up so badly that he or she is not welcomed in their own home.

Ashamed, embarrassed, afraid, guilty, it's always better to go home and explain yourself. At least you know the people there really care about you. The alternative is just too frightening to contemplate. May God bless and keep you always.



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2019 Salute to Outstanding Minority Male Youth

By June Hazeur
Data News Weekly
Contributors

On Sunday, April 14, 2019, the Theta Beta Sigma Chapter held a public program honoring 93 Minority Males from all over the Greater New Orleans area, who will be graduating high school this year. They are recipients for the 2019 Tribute to Outstanding Minority Youth by Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated – Theta Beta Sigma Chapter. They were honored because of their outstanding academic achievements. The Program was held on Dillard University's Campus, Kearney Hall, Room 112 at 3:00 P.M.

The honorees were chosen from the following schools: Benjamin Franklin High School, Brother Martin Hi School, Carver High School, Chalmette High School, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Charter High School, Edna Karr High School, International Hight School, John Ehret High School, Mc Main High School, New Orleans Charter Math and Science High School, Phoenix High School, Saint Augustine High School, Thomas Jefferson High School and Warren Eaton High School.

The program began with A Processional by Members of the Dias, Members of Phi Beta Sigma Fra-



Pictured above are the 2019 Outstanding Minority Male Youth standing outside of Kearney Hall on Dillard Universities' Campus.



Pictured from L to R is Paternal Great Aunt Sadie Brown, Recipient Ervin Cooper, Maternal Great Aunt June Hazeur and kneeling in front is Cousin Tai'San Guidry.



Pictured with his mother (Chaleta Cooper) is one of the Award Recipients, Ervin Cooper.

ternity and the Outstanding Minority Male Students after which the opening song "Lift Every Voice and Sing" was sang. The young men were greeted by Bro. Rufus Davidson was the Master of Ceremony.

The event was well-attended by family and friends of the recipients plus several of the Fraternity Members. The Keynote Speaker for the event was Mr. Frederick Bell of Greenberg, LA who serves as the 2nd International Vice-President of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated.

The Welcome was given by Bro. R. Melvin Buford and greetings and congratulations by the following: Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Greater New Orleans Chapters, Ms. Ariayne Fortune', New Orleans, Pan Hellenic Council; Dr. Henderson Lewis, Jr., Orleans Parish Schools; and Dr. Walter Kimbrough, President, Dillard University, City of New Orleans. Cyndi Nguyen, District E City Council member was also in attendance for the program, she also greeted the young men and took photos with each of them receiving their awards.

After the awards were presented there were scholarships awarded to four young men by the Fraternity announced by Bro. Joe Butts Jr./Bro. Atari Jenkins. After which everyone gathered outside for a group photo by their photographer.



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Tribute in Honor of Sidney "L Sid" Anthony, Jr.

By June Hazeur
Data News Weekly
Contributors

On Sunday, April 7, 2019, Bishop Tuane organized a Fundraiser Jam Session at Bailey's Hot Spot II, in honor of his fellow musician, Sidney "L Sid" Anthony, Jr. who passed away on March 31st from Stage 4 Bladder Cancer.

Musicians from throughout the City donated their time and talent from 8:00 pm until 12:30 am. He was known as a drummer and vocalist. Musicians were as follows: Keyboard and Vocalist – Sam Joyner and Hillary Allison; Guitar Players and Vocalist – Blues Man Dave, Harry Sterling, Guitar Slim and Andrew Taylor; Keyboards – Warner



Pictured from L to R is his son, Sidney Anthony, III, his daughter, Charolette Doyle and Sidney "L Sid" Anthony, Jr. himself.

Williams and Daryl Harry; Vocalist – Danita Rayfield, Tracy Brown, Jimmy Hicks and Bishop Tuane; Drummers - Rick Jones, Ernest Fontenot, Jarvis, Bryant Foster, Pucker Red, Ray Byrd and Cori Walters; Bass Players – Murphy Taylor, Ronnie Dents and Anthony Garner. And other musicians who performed were Hill the Thrill, Kevin, Emile Hall, Keith V, Michael Atkinson, Sid Anthony III.

It was a beautiful tribute to one of New Orleans' greatest. In spite of the bad weather they came out one and two at the time to participate. It is a great honor the way these musicians stick together and support each other. Everyone who attended enjoyed the performances.

The 2019 Masters

Tiger's Incredible Improbable Comeback to Win

Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Correspondent

After 11 years, multiple surgeries and a myriad of personal drama, Tiger Woods won his fifth Masters Championship and his 15th career major on a sun-soaked Sunday at Augusta National.

It was the first time Woods had won at Augusta after he was trailing after 54 holes.

The victory also came following years of doubting whether he would ever be able to play at a high level.

"It's overwhelming because of what has transpired," Woods told reporters after he shot a -2 under 72 for -13 under overall to seal the victory. "It's unreal for me to be experiencing this. I'm kind of at a loss for words really," he said.

The victory, one of the greatest comebacks in sports history, had social media abuzz.

"The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) congratulates and salutes Tiger Woods as he wins the Masters Golf Tournament for the fifth time," NNPA President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., tweeted.

Chavis also noted the tough road Woods had to take to re-emerge as Golf's biggest star.

"Resilience is in our DNA," Chavis said, referring to African American and other minorities and certainly acknowledging the challenges overcome by Woods.

Golden State Warriors superstar guard Stephen Curry called Woods' victory, "the greatest comeback story in sports. 'Congrats Tiger Woods, let me hold one of those 5 jackets one time,' Curry wrote on Twitter.



Tennis great Serena Williams said the win moved her to tears. "I'm literally in tears watching Tiger Woods. This is greatness like no other," Williams Tweeted. "Knowing all you have been through physically to come back and do what you just did today? Wow. Congrats a million times. I am so inspired. Than you buddy," Williams said.

Former President Barack Obama also offered his congratulations via Twitter. "Tiger! To come back and win the Masters after all the highs and lows is a testament to excellence, grit, and determination," Obama said.

Fellow golfers like Phil Mickelson, Luke Donaldson, Gary Player and Bubba Watson also tweeted out their respects and congratulations to the 43-year-old Woods.

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and Bubba Watson also tweeted out their respects and congratulations to the 43-year-old Woods.

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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.

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