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New Orleans

Data

News Weekly

"The People's Paper"

**Tatyana
Ali,
Love
that
Girl!**



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**Data
Zone
Page 6**

October 1 - October 7, 2011 46th Year Volume 17 www.ladatanews.com



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Decide
Election 2011
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Louisiana Gets Ready For Upcoming Elections On October 22



Where former political allies are suddenly competing for seats in newly consolidated districts; one such race is State Senate District 3 that has longtime New Orleans City Councilwoman and present State Senator Cynthia Willard-Lewis running against former State Representative and present State Senator J.P. Morrell.

By Edwin Buggage

As the month of October begins Louisiana's citizens again will be asked to go to the polls to vote for the people who will represent them in various elected offices. In these, what is amounting to tough times for all citizens it is important that people participate. Several of the last elections turnouts have been dismal with some being at about 20% of registered voters casting ballots. In the coming weeks Data News Weekly will bring you coverage leading up to the primary election and runoffs. It is our goal to give citizens information to make informed decisions when going to the

polls. So here are only a few of the many races citizens will be voting on in a few weeks.

The October 22nd primary has several major statewide races that will hopefully draw people to get involved. On the ballot is the race for Governor with incumbent Bobby Jindal as the lone Republican in a crowded field of Democrats. While Jindal enjoys name recognition and incumbency, he may find himself not able to garner 51% percent of the vote in the primary forcing him into a runoff. In a two-person race this may cause his vulnerabilities as a candidate to become more apparent.

Another race that will be of interest is the Lt. Governor's race with incumbent

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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
Glenn Jones
VP Advertising
& Marketing
Cheryl Mainor
Managing Editor
Edwin Buggage
Editor
Lynesia Carson
Executive Assistant
June Hazeur
Accounting

Contributors
Edwin Buggage
First Class Inc.
Benjamin Todd Jealous
Kingfish
Julianne Malveaux
Christopher Mercadel, Sr.
Marc H. Morial
Data News Weekly Staff

Art Direction & Production
MainorMedia.com
Editorial Submissions
datanewseditor@bellsouth.net
Advertising Inquiries
datanewsad@bellsouth.net

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Running unopposed is Karen Carter-Peterson of State Senate District 5.



In the race for Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) District 2, Incumbent Louella Givens (pictured left) faces Democratic Challenger Kira Orange Jones (pictured right) and Ferdinand Wallace (not pictured).



Jay Dardenne facing off against Billy Nungesser. This two-person race will be decided on Oct. 22nd as the two Republican candidates fight for the second highest elected office in the state. Dardenne is a former State Senator and Secretary of State. His opponent also Republican is Plaquemines Parish President Billy Nungesser, he is part of a political legacy in Louisiana State politics. Beginning his career under then Governor Dave Treen in the 1980's, Nungesser has risen to the office of Parish President and notable figure and key voice in the BP Oil Spill. In 2009 Governor Bobby Jindal appointed him to the Louisiana Coastal and Restoration Authority.

The fight for our children's future is of concern to many citizens; and the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) District 2 is an area that covers Orleans, parts of Jefferson, St. Charles, St. John, St. James and part of Assumption Parishes. The incumbent Louella Givens faces a new challenge as a reconfigured district takes her into new territory as her former constituency only covered Orleans and Jefferson Parish. As one of two African-Americans out of the eleven members on the board with eight districts and three at-large seats; Givens is in for a battle to retain her seat against two challengers in African-American Democratic Candidates, Kira Orange Jones and Ferdinand Wallace.

As the latest data from the U.S. Census shows demographic shifts has changed the political landscape in some districts. Where former political allies are suddenly competing for seats in newly consolidated districts; one such race is State Senate District 3 that has longtime New Orleans City Councilwoman and present State Senator Cynthia Willard-Lewis running against former State Representative and present State Senator J.P. Morrell. In a two incumbent race with both vying for votes in new territory makes for an interesting race that will test the cross-over appeal and coalition building skills of both candidates that is an essential component in who will be the victor in this political contest.

In another newly configured District 99 covering parts of New Orleans East and the Lower Ninth Ward, incumbent Wesley Bishop who won a special election to fill the seat for District 101 vacated by present U.S. Congressman Cedric Richmond; he is running against political newcomer Samuel Cowart after District 99 incumbent Charmaine Marchand-Stiaes decided not to run for re-election.

Some Officials up for re-election are running unopposed: Ed Murray State Senator of District 4, Karen Carter-Peterson of State Senate District 5, Helena Moreno of State Representative District 93, Jared Brossett of District 97 and Austin Badon of District 100.

Of major interest in New Orleans that has been getting coverage is several races for judge. In the race for Judge of Civil District Court Division B it has Attorney Regina Bartholomew who has been racking up endorsements running against former City Councilwoman and present Clerk of 1st City Court Ellen Hazeur. In the race for Civil District Court Division E has Attorney Nakisha Ervin-Knott running against Attorney Clare Jupiter and Kris Kiefer son of former State Senator Nat Kiefer. In this three-person race with all candidates being Democrats the key to winning is to get their supporters to the polls.

The race for Judge of Criminal District Court Section L is a three-person race with Attorney Donald Sauviac running against Attorney Glen A. Woods and Attorney Frank Ziiblich. The race has two Democrats and one Republican, this race has one African-American candidate in Glen A. Woods. The Judges race on the ballot is for Traffic Court Division A that has present Civil District Court Division K Judge Herbert Cade running against former Assistant City Attorney Ernest F. Charbonnet and Patrick Giraud, son of longtime Traffic Court Judge Thomas Giraud.

As the clock ticks down to Election Day candidates will be making their cases to represent the people of New Orleans in these various elected offices. While they make their pitches

it is important that as citizens you understand that the power is in your hands. And the future of the city is at stake, so please get involved and get

out to vote. You can register online at www.sos.la.gov or call 1-800-883-2805. Remember to get involved the future is in your hands.

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The World Will Remember Troy's Name

Troy Anthony Davis October 9, 1968 – September 21, 2011

By Benjamin Todd Jealous
President, NAACP

Last week the State of Georgia killed an innocent man.

In recent weeks, we fought hard for the commutation of Troy Davis' sentence. More than one-million petitions were delivered. Protests, rallies and vigils were organized around the globe. Last night, we fasted and prayed together as a community.

I have spent the past week with Troy's family. He wanted the world to know that he understood that this struggle goes beyond just one man. Troy was prepared to die that night. As he said again and again, the State of Georgia only held the power to take his



Troy Anthony Davis

physical body. They could not take his spirit, because he gave his life to God.

Let's remember and heed Troy's words: We must not let them kill our spirit, either.

Troy's execution, the exceptional unfairness of it, will only hasten the end of the death penalty in the United States. The world will remember the name of Troy Anthony Davis. In death he will live on as a symbol of a broken justice system that kills an innocent man while a murderer walks free.

The world will remember Troy's name, as the death penalty supporters who expressed doubt in this case begin to doubt an

entire system that can execute a man amidst so many unanswered questions.

The world will remember Troy's name, as death penalty opponents who remained silent in the past realize that their silence is no longer an option.

The world will remember Troy's name because we will commemorate September 21st each year as both a solemn anniversary and a call to action. The night they put Troy Davis to death will

become an annual reminder that justice will not be achieved until we end this brutal practice of capital punishment.

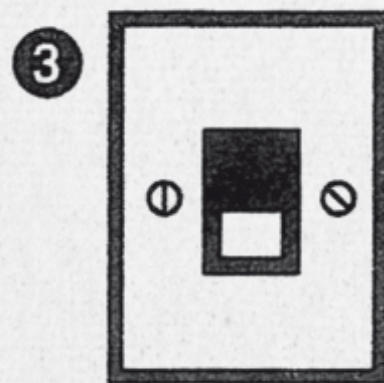
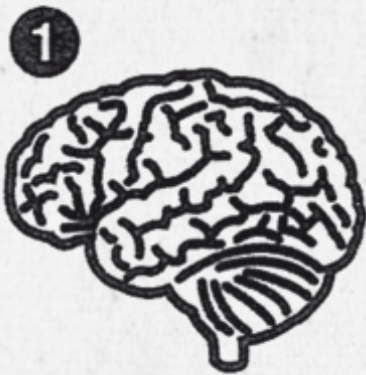
"This movement," Troy said, "started before I was born." After last night, our movement will grow stronger until we succeed in destroying the death penalty in the United States once and for all.

I know you will join me. Together we will secure his legacy, and the world will remember the name Troy Anthony Davis.

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**TO TURN OFF LIGHTS WHEN YOU
LEAVE A ROOM YOU WILL NEED:**



**WHAT'S
YOUR
EXCUSE?**

Postal Jobs, Pay, Benefits Threatened by Congress

Data News Staff Report

The United States Postal Service [USPS] is in danger of financial collapse, and could close its doors as early as July 2012. A battle is raging on Capitol Hill over what to do about it, but one thing is clear, jobs, pensions and benefits are at stake for over 598,000 postal workers.

At the core of the problem according to the USPS, is the congressionally imposed requirement that the USPS pre-fund future retiree health benefits to the tune of \$5.5 billion a year for much of its trouble and, turning its pockets out, says it won't be able to make the mandated contribution next month. It has already stopped contributions to its employee pension fund for lack of cash.

The agency says it needs to terminate 220,000 jobs by 2015 to stop the hemorrhaging that cost it \$20 billion in losses between 2007 and 2010 due to 20% less mail. By

the end of next month five years of losses will stand at about \$29 billion.

The USPS estimates 100,000 people would go to attrition; the rest would either have to be bought out or laid off. Since the 1980s union contracts have stipulated no layoffs, a restriction that currently does not apply to employees with less than six years service but reportedly there are only 20,000 of them. Two very different plans are under consideration in the House of Representatives. Fixing the problem is at the core of the debate, but it will take a law passed by Congress and signed by Barack Obama to do it.

It's Time to Act!

"The choices are clear," said APWU President Cliff Guffey. "But the word on Capitol Hill is that Chairman Issa won't allow Rep. Lynch's bill to come up for a vote!"

"APWU members must let

their U.S. Representatives know that we adamantly oppose H.R. 2309 and that we urgently support H.R. 1351. We must demand that Rep. Issa stop blocking H.R. 1351," he added.

House Resolution 1351

A bill introduced by Rep. Stephen Lynch (MA), the ranking Democrat on the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, would address the cause of the USPS financial crisis without cutting pay and benefits, eliminating collective bargaining rights, or slashing service.

H.R. 1351 would:

Allow the USPS to use billions of dollars in pension overpayments to meet its financial obligations — including the congressional mandate to pre-fund the healthcare benefits of future retirees. Leave workers' collective bargaining rights intact. It would make no changes to wages, benefits, or protection against layoffs.

House Resolution 2309

H.R. 2309, introduced by Rep. Darrell Issa (CA), the Republican Chairman of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and co-sponsored by Rep. Dennis Ross (FL), the Republican Chairman of the Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, U.S. Postal Service and Labor Policy, would:

Do nothing to correct USPS overpayments to its pension accounts.

Do nothing to correct the congressional mandate that requires the USPS to pre-fund the healthcare benefits of future retirees. (No other government agency or private company bears this burden, which costs the USPS \$5 billion annually.)

Force postal workers to make up the difference:

Ensure that Postal wages are "comparable" to the private sector. (Rep. Ross claims postal employees enjoy a "compensation premium" of 34 %).

Empower a board to unilateral-

ly cut wages, abolish benefits, and end protection against layoffs.

Create a commission that would order:

\$1 billion worth of post office closures in the first year, and

\$1 billion worth of facility closures in the second year.

Would that include your office or your facility? Would that wipe out your job?

Increase employees' costs for healthcare and life insurance, and eliminate the right to bargain over these crucial benefits.

Rep. Issa says his bill is designed to avoid a "bailout," but the USPS doesn't rely on taxpayer funding, and doesn't need a bailout. As noted above, the federal government is holding billions of dollars in excess postal payments to FERS (Federal Employees Retirement System) and CSRS (Civil Service Retirement System).

Entergy Ranked as National Leader in Economic Development

Company recognized as one of the Top 10 utilities by Site Selection Magazine

Beyond just providing electricity to its customers, Entergy is heavily involved in economic development activities, working to help attract new businesses to its four-state service territory.

And for the fourth consecutive year, the corporation has been recognized as one of the Top 10 utilities in North America for its work to support economic development in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas. The recognition comes in the September 2011 issue of Site Selection Magazine.

Each year, Site Selection Magazine recognizes utilities based on their work in economic development during the previous year. Important criteria in the selection process include job creation, capital investment, innovative programs and incentives for businesses such as en-

ergy efficiency and renewable energy programs. The selection is also based on the input of leading site selection consultants and interviews with company executives.

"In these challenging economic times, Entergy knows that attracting new business, helping to retain existing businesses and helping companies grow is more important than ever," said Charles Rice, President and Chief Executive Officer of Entergy New Orleans, Inc. "That's why we continue to work closely with state and local officials, our economic development allies and community organizations to bring new jobs to New Orleans."

Entergy was specifically cited for the \$3.1 billion in new capital investments and more than 7,800 jobs that Entergy's utility companies helped to create in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas in 2010. Entergy was one of just six utilities that also made last year's listing.

Closer to home, a recent eco-

omic impact study authored by Timothy P. Ryan, Ph.D., former Chancellor of the University of New Orleans and Dean of the UNO College of Business Administration, shows that Entergy is the sixth largest employer in the New Orleans metro area and is responsible for more than \$866 million in local economic activity annually.

Dr. Ryan's study concludes:

- Entergy is the only Fortune 500 Company (listed at 213) headquartered in the City.
- In 2010, Entergy's operations in the New Orleans metro area were responsible for \$866.32 million in total spending.
- Entergy helps to support more than 6,000 jobs in the metro area, including 2,600 direct employees of the company and 3,400 jobs supported by company and employee spending.
- Entergy companies contributed more than \$4.3 million to charitable causes in the New Orleans area in 2010.

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Other operational fees are generated from service fees, service contracts, consulting fees, fundraising events, and individual donations.

All Donations are tax deductible.

To Donate: go to www.ndf-neworleans.org or make check payable to neighborhood development foundation send to:
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Have a SAFE and HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Big Easy Kiwanis Club of New Orleans

The Big Easy Kiwanis Club of New Orleans recently held its event to introduce new members and honor others who had served the organization over the past year, and Data was There!





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Tatyana Ali

Love That Girl

By Edwin Buggage

She has grown up right before our eyes, from the precocious and adorable little girl playing Ashley Banks on the early 90's sitcom the Fresh Prince of Bel Air; the vehicle that also launched the acting career of box-office phenom Will Smith. In the ensuing years since the show aired Tatyana Ali has evolved into a beautiful, intelligent young lady that's taken her career in her own hands and defined success on her own terms.

On the heels of Buppies her successful web series broadcast on BET.com, Ali is poised for the new season of her TV One show "Love that Girl" she says viewers are in for a great season of entertaining episodes, "Well the new season is really exciting, we're going into deep family issues and things people



deal with on a daily basis." "We have some amazing guest stars that include: Omar Gooding, Jaleel White, Layla Ali, and the list goes on and on."

Growing Up In Hollywood

As a woman only entering her third decade of life she is wise beyond her years. Reflecting on her career and life she says, "My journey in the business has been blessed I have had the opportunity to work with some amazing people. Many who are still teachers to me to this day." Continuing she says, "I've had the opportunity to be onstage with some amazing actors, singers and performers and I've gotten to see the world. It's an interesting thing when you grow up with your career and that has been really wonderful to examine

Tatyana Ali, Continued on page 9

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LIFE



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LEON CANNIZZARO
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DAVID HEITMEIER
State Senator

CYNTHIA HEDGE-MORRELL
City Council Member

J.P. MORRELL
State Senator

KRISTIN GISLESON PALMER
City Council Member

KAREN CARTER PETERSON
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GASPER SCHIRO
Former Registrar of Conveyances

AUSTIN BADON
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WESLEY BISHOP
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School Board Member

TROY CARTER
Former City Council Member

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT REGINA BARTHOLOMEW

National Urban League Helping Mortgage Scam Victims



Marc Morial
President and CEO
National Urban League

To Be Equal #38

"The thought of my home being taken away is consuming, I can't get to sleep at night, and it's the first thing I think of when I wake up."

—Doris Tinson, of Los Angeles, CA

Doris Tinson is just one of a growing number of American homeowners, desperate to save their homes from foreclosure, who are being duped by mortgage loan scam artists. Doris was falling be-

hind on her refinanced high mortgage payments and was looking for help. On the way home from church she saw a sign in the median promising loan modification for a fee. But after forking over \$2000 of her hard earned money, after months of waiting for action, and finally receiving a notice that her house was being sold, it became clear that Doris was the victim of a scam.

As the mortgage crisis sweeps the nation, it is unfortunately being accompanied by a rise in mortgage fraud. But you don't have to be a victim. The National Urban League's network of U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) approved housing counselors has been offering FREE mortgage counseling services for years. Last year, Urban League affiliates provided housing counseling to over 42,000 clients, including more than

15,000 clients who benefited from default mitigation and foreclosure prevention counseling.

The Urban League is also part of a coalition with the federal government, and some 235 community-based partners in the "Loan Scam Alert Campaign," a nationwide effort that is empowering homeowners to protect themselves against loan modification scams, find trusted help, and report illegal activity to authorities.

Scam artists may pose as lawyers or real estate agents, promising loan modifications and charging large fees – then disappearing without helping anyone but themselves. If you are a homeowner facing foreclosure, you may unknowingly become a victim of such a fraud, costing your home, thousands of dollars and a damaged credit score.

The first thing you should know is that you should never

have to pay for counseling. If anyone requests money up front or guarantees they can keep you in your home, these are warning signs of a scam and they should be reported. There are no promises that anyone can give you. But trained counselors from HUD-approved counseling agencies will work with you and your lender to get the best results at no cost. HUD lists these six warning signs of a foreclosure scam:

Beware of anyone who asks you to pay a fee up front in exchange for a counseling service or modification of a delinquent loan. Assistance from a HUD approved housing counselor is FREE.

Beware of anyone who guarantees they can stop a foreclosure or get your loan modified. Nobody can make this guarantee.

Beware of people who pressure you to sign papers immediately, or who claim they can "save" your

home if you sign or transfer over the property deed.

Beware of a company that claims to provide government-approved or "official government" loan modifications. They may be scam artists posing as legitimate organizations.

Beware of a company or person you don't know who asks you to release personal financial information online or over the phone.

Beware of anyone who advises you to stop paying your mortgage company and pay them instead. Never make a mortgage payment to anyone other than your mortgage company/lender.

To learn more or to report a scam visit <http://www.iamempowered.com/loanscams>

Marc H. Morial is the President and CEO of the National Urban League.

CBC Gathering Shows Complexity of Black America



Julianne Malveaux
NNPA Columnist

I don't know how many African-American people came to Washington for the Congressional Black Caucus Annual Legislative Conference, but there were more than 5,000 gathered at the dinner that featured President Obama as a speaker. Though the halls of the Washington Convention Center were full, and it did my eyes good to see people lined up to buy books, some say that the economy may have dampened attendance. To be sure, the corporate presence did not seem as strong as it has been in the past, yet it is always gratifying to see Ingrid Sanders Jones and the Coca-Cola Company sponsoring the prayer breakfast, which sizzled this year

when the Rev. Freddy Haynes totally threw down.

The high point of the conference may have been President Obama's strident and almost angry speech, challenging Congress to pass the jobs bill, and explaining why it must pass. Watching the President, he appeared to be undaunted, but certainly frustrated, by the legislative gridlock and the total lack of cooperation he has been experiencing from Congress. If those assembled reach out to their legislative representatives, not all of whom are CBC members; perhaps it will make some difference.

Another high point of the dinner was the range of wonderful honorees present. They included: EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson, and also the indomitable Rev. Joe Lowery, who at nearly 90 has as much fire in his belly as he did 50 years ago. He lifted his fist, roused the crowd, and exhorted us to keep fighting injustice. He is an amazing example of a civil rights warrior, and he deserves every honor that is bestowed on him.

That may have been the high-

est point but, from my perspective, the Legislative Conference contained many highs. There were more than one-hundred brain trusts, panels, or other gatherings both at the Convention Center and in nearby places, as several organizations also use the Legislative Conference week as a time to organize their own meetings. The White House HBCU initiative, for example, held its conference on the Monday and Tuesday before the CBC Legislative Conference. With everything that is going on, the ALC is a cross between a policy conference and a family reunion, with a few evening parties thrown in for good measure.

Somehow the majority press gets away with focusing only on the party aspect of the gathering. The Washington Post printed a piece that talked about the ingredients for a successful CBC party. Ho, hum. Why not a piece about the ingredients for a successful brain trust? Why not some reporting on the range of issues addressed. There were panels on the environment, the foster care system, education, wealth, business development, criminal

justice, global affairs and more. A highlight for me was visiting with students from four elementary and high schools that were organized by Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX). Our panel's task was to encourage them to consider careers in math and science. With a NASA Astronaut, a Math Educator, an Engineer, and this Economist on the panel, the students got lots of reinforcement to consider untraditional careers. It was great to see young people gathered and open to learning. Too, Congressman Elijah Cummings always puts together a panel on youth, which is attended by young people from his congressional district in Baltimore. This year, Cora Masters Barry Moderated the panel and brought her young people from D.C.'s Southeast Tennis and Learning Center. Four Bennett students, and hundreds of college students from other campuses, were in attendance. While the cynical may say that the CBC Conference is the "same old, same old", it is interesting to view the ALC through the fresh eyes of our young people who are so eager to learn and

to make a difference.

Women's issues were well-represented. Melanie Campbell convened the Black Women's Roundtable with an overflow crowd. Congresswoman Karen Bass (D-CA) convened the International Black Women's Policy Forum to explore the issue of health disparities.

Tony Brown once said that if the ALC were cancelled for just one year, that money could be used to fund significant initiatives in Black America. He may be right. At the same time, I'd like to challenge the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation to document some of the outcomes of the ALC, which might include legislation inspired, business deals closed, scholarships funded, students exposed. If the accomplishments were clearly documented, perhaps the mainstream press would talk purpose, not party, when they reference next year's ALC.

Julianne Malveaux is President of Bennett College for Women in Greensboro, NC.

Fight the Blight Over 500 Residents Pitch in for Largest Turnout Yet



Approximately 510 volunteers joined representatives from various City departments and agencies to participate in Mayor Mitch Landrieu's fourth "Fight the Blight" Volunteer Day. The initiative is part of the Mayor's commitment to eliminate up to 10,000 blighted and/or vacant properties by 2014 and to make improvements to parks and playgrounds. This effort was coordinated through ServeNOLA, the City's service and volunteerism initiative. Today's turnout was the highest to-date for a "Fight the Blight" Volunteer Day.

In keeping with Mayor Landrieu's commitment to place-based development, blight eradication and volunteer efforts targeted a five-block radius of open schools, playgrounds, and high-traffic commercial corridors. Volunteers gathered at five central locations across the city, including:

Orleans Avenue Corridor: Claiborne to Broad, Faubourg Lafitte to Dumaine Street. (District A)

Samuel Square Playground, Napoleon Avenue at South Saratoga Street (District B)

Stallings Center Playground, 4300 St. Claude Avenue at Lesseps Street (District C)

Digby Park, 6600 Virgilian Street at South Laverne Street (District D)

Kerry Curley Playground, 4851 Camelot Street at Dwyer Street (District E)

In addition to the volunteers' work to improve playgrounds and clean-up neighborhoods, the effort included blight eradication and beautification efforts from City departments and agencies including Code Enforcement & Hearings Bureau, NOPD (Quality of Life officers), Sanitation, NORDC, Public Works, Parks & Parkways, Sheriff's Office, Office of Neighborhood Engagement and Mosquito & Termite Control. Accomplishments today included the demolition of seven blighted and abandoned buildings, clearing vacant lots and storm drains, filling potholes, debris pick-up and litter abatement, landscaping, tree-trimming, and improvements to parks and playgrounds, including basketball courts, seating areas, graffiti eradication, and general repair. Partners with the City in the effort included Beacon of Hope, Hike for KaTREE-na, HandsOn New Orleans, and Camp Re-Store.

Mayor Landrieu said, "Today's efforts by volunteers and City departments prove once again that in order to achieve our goals, this must be a partnership between the City, local neighborhood organizations, local non-profits and volunteers from throughout New Orleans."

Growing Poverty in New Orleans Metro

The Census Bureau released new data that reveals a growing share of residents in the New Orleans metro have fallen below the poverty level since 2007, mimicking trends for the United States.

Thus, the poverty rate in New Orleans and the metro area is now the same as it was in 1999.

The new data for 2010 also reveal that residents of New Orleans and the metro area as a whole are more likely to be college educated, more likely to have access to a vehicle, and less likely to have a mortgage on their home than a decade ago.

This data, plus more analysis of the Census Bureau's 2010 American Community Survey results are available at:

"Who Lives In New Orleans and the Metro Area Now?" at: www.gnocdc.org/Demographics/index.html

Tatyana Ali, Continued from page 7.

who I am and where I want to be, the type of performer I want to be and the type of person I want to be. I think the lesson so far I've learned to put my expectations for myself ahead of anyone else's."

In a business where many child stars go on to have tumultuous, drama filled lives as adults Tatyana is a very normal and extremely focused young woman. Living a balanced life she marries work and other aspects of her life, this sexy, sassy woman is both beautiful and brilliant. She is armed with an Ivy League education, earning a Bachelor's Degree from Harvard, in addition to having a successful career as a recording artist. Crediting her parents for providing a solid foundation for her life she says, "My parents and my family have been important in keeping me grounded," says Ali. Continuing she says of the importance of good parenting, "Just because someone is a star that does not mean they are not children; they still need nurturing and protection and they need to be told no." "They need guidance and just because they are making a lot of money as child stars doesn't mean they have any idea on how to live life and just because you're famous does not mean you are prepared for life. I grew up around very ethical, beautiful, respectable responsible people and that is the reason I am the person I am today."

Blacks and TV... Is The Revolution Being Televised?

As the landscape is changing for Blacks in other fields, in the business of television and film opportunities are bleak in traditional broadcast says Ali. "I think it is a dire state, I think there are a lot of incredible performers who do not have work; I think they're a lot of

incredible writers who cannot find shows to write for, I can tell you that the show we are filming, "Love That Girl" in Los Angeles and we're the only thing in town. When I was growing up, there were plenty of Black shows that would hire Black writers and give young Black people internships. You look at TV there is a real lack of diversity."

With so many things in media changing, and people taking their products straight to the web, or

finding other ways to build an audience is the wave of the future says Ali, "One of the things I love about this show is that it did just what we did with "Buppies" we went directly to the people because sometimes at the networks they will say there is not an audience for a certain type of show when you know better." "And you go out and do it independently

Tatyana Ali, Continued
on page 10.

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City Of Atlanta Honors TV Pioneer

By First Class, Inc.

Atlanta, GA—Mayor Kasim Reed joined members of the Atlanta City Council, Lt. Governor Casey Cagle, and hundreds of other community and civic leaders on Tuesday, September 20, in recognizing the contributions of Civil Rights Activist and Broadcasting Pioneer Xernona Clayton.

Ms. Clayton was recognized for a lifetime of contributions to community and humanity with the dedication of an honorary street and park plaza. Baker Street, N.W. between Piedmont Avenue, N.W. and Centennial Olympic Park Drive, N.W., was named Xernona Clayton Way; and the plaza at Hardy Ivy Park was named Xernona Clayton Plaza.

Members of the City Council, upon the recommendation of a city commission and countless residents and community leaders, approved the designation of these landmarks to honor Ms. Clayton's invaluable service to the community.

"I am extremely honored by this gesture from the Mayor and the City Council. To have a street and a park dedicated in my name gives me joy beyond expression. This is a significant moment for me and I am delighted with this honor," said Ms. Clayton.

The honorary street sign unveiling at the intersection of Baker and Peachtree Streets was followed by the dedication of the Xernona Clayton Plaza, where officials unveiled a plaque commemorating Ms. Clayton's lasting legacy in Civil Rights and Broad-



(From left to right) Atlanta City Council President Ceasar Mitchell, former Atlanta Mayor/President, Buckhead Coalition Sam Massell, Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle, Honoree Ms. Xernona Clayton, Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed, retired Judge Paul Brady, husband of Ms. Clayton, former Mayor/U.N. Ambassador Andrew Young, Councilman C.T. Martin and Xernona Clayton Commission Chairman Joe Hindsley. STAFF PHOTO BY JOHN B. SMITH, JR.

cast Journalism.

Ms. Clayton is only the second woman and the first African-American woman to have a downtown street named after her, following legendary Author Margaret Mitchell.

"The Atlanta City Council is pleased to honor a woman who has been instrumental and prolific in shaping our wonderful city and race relations internationally.

It's time to recognize the contributions of Ms. Xernona Clayton," said District 10 Councilmember C. T. Martin.

A native of Muskogee, OK, Ms. Clayton began her career in Chicago working for the Urban League as an undercover agent investigating employment discrimination against African-Americans. By the 1960s, Clayton was an active fundraiser for the Southern

Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). Through her work with the SCLC, Clayton developed a relationship with Dr. and Mrs. Martin Luther King, Jr. in Atlanta.

Among her many efforts, Ms. Clayton was instrumental in the desegregation of all Atlanta's hospital facilities by coordinating the activities of the city's African-American doctors in a project called the Doctors' Committee

for Implementation. This effort served as a model for cities and states across the country and received recognition from the National Medical Association for its impact.

In 1968, the Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan credited her efforts specifically in influencing him to denounce the organization.

Ms. Clayton is the Founder, President and CEO of the Trumpet Awards Foundation, Inc. and Creator and Executive Producer of the foundation's Trumpet Awards. Initiated in 1993 by Turner Broadcasting, the Trumpet Awards is a prestigious event highlighting African-American accomplishments and contributions.

Ms. Clayton began her television career in 1967 and became the South's first African-American to have her own television show. She has been widely honored for her contributions to humanity and has received numerous media awards.

Through her foundation, the Xernona Clayton Foundation, Ms. Clayton in 2010 opened a school in Kumasi, Ghana, West Africa, which today educates hundreds of students in Atwima-Heman Village, an area where there is a scarcity of educational opportunities.

Tireless and passionate, Ms. Clayton continues her commitment to various civic causes and to fostering global exchange with students here in Georgia and across the nation.

Tatyana Ali, Continued from page 9.

and prove that they're people who want to see a different brand of entertainment and not only is there an audience they make a lot of money. Interestingly enough Black shows have built a lot of network and once they are built they abandon Black programming. So, I think we cannot be complacent and I think it is important at the executive level to have diversity when you have people making those decisions about green lighting a project."

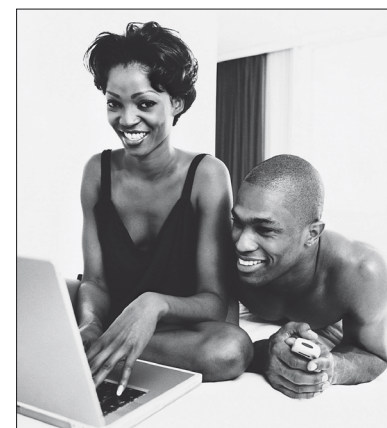
21st Century Woman

Tatyana Ali has spent time in New Orleans

and has a lot of love for the City and its people, "New Orleans is an amazing City. I have had the great pleasure of working there several times and I have spent many months there. The culture is so rich it's really unlike any other American city, there is something about it that's very romantic, spiritual, it's a very deep place."

She is a young woman on the climb with a career spanning two-decades. She is the 21st Century Woman determined to have it all, "What gives my life purpose is my faith, my belief that God has given me this life for a rea-

son, and the adventure of life is discovering what that reason is. There are so many things I want to do as a performer and as a producer; and I think I haven't reached my full potential yet, so there are so many roles I want to play and so many projects I would like to be a part of, I would love to move more into film. Personally, I'm like a lot of women I'd like to meet somebody special and have a family." Tatyana Ali has blossomed into a beautiful young woman and a template for others to follow and all you can say after encountering her why so many "Love that Girl."



ladatanews.com



Cardiac Saints!!

By Kingfish
Data Sports Columnist

From the beginning of the game, the Texans looked sharp and the Saints looked like they'd never left Bourbon Street after last Sunday's beat down of the Bears. The Texans and Andre Johnson were hungry and aggressive early. On the first drive Matt Schaub and Andre Johnson converted a third and fourteen play. It was a wide receiver screen which was executed to perfection on the way to an opening drive touchdown. On the other hand, the Saints' first play was Brees being tripped up by the carpet, the center or whatever, and hitting the ground on the way to an opening drive that ended in a punt. And that folks, is how you can sum up the first three quarters.

Besides a few sparks from Meachem catching some bad passes from Brees and Sproles' kick returning there isn't much good I can say about this first half that can be put in a respectable print publication or said around children. With 8:23 left in the second-quarter the Saints finally got on the board with Sproles looking better as a north, south runner than Bush ever did. At that point I'm sure many fans thought o.k. here we go. Brees is starting to settle down, [the defense even though they can't stop Andre Johnson] the defense is playing "bend but don't break" by holding the Texans to one touchdown and field goals. Than Bam!! Brees throws a horrible interception intended for Henderson. Henderson was never open; this was very uncharacteristic of Brees.

Saints get the ball back and start to drive before the end of the half. Hearts are racing. The entire first half, Saints fans have been on an emotional roller coaster with asthma pumps, defibrillators [machine that shocks your heart] and on stand-by. Brees drops back and gets sacked with two-minutes left in the first half crushing Saints hopefuls. John Kasay filling in nicely for Hartley kicks a field goal; Second-quarter, half ends 16 to 10 in the Texans favor.

Second Half:

Totally different team in the New Orleans Saints in the second half; Brees came out looking sharp. Brees did pretty much a 180 finding Robert Meachem early and often on the way to a two-yard touchdown catch. The defense stood up in the third-quarter holding the Texans to only a field goal. Third-quarter ends Texans up 19 to 17. Even though the Saints D was holding the Texans to field goals, they still were driving the ball down the field at will into the Saints Red Zone. Going into the fourth-quarter, only the fans that ignore complete reality felt well about the Saints pulling this game out for a win. Everyone else had to feel with Zack Strief going down, the running game not being able to fully get going, Vilma not in to orchestrate the D and Brees throwing another interception, albeit not his fault ads to the fact that Johnson was averaging over 9 yards a catch torching the Saints secondary. Anyone acknowledging those facts could not be extremely optimistic. To quote the great Chris Berhman of ESPN "That's why they play the game".

The Cardiac Fourth-Quarter:

The Texans march right down and Schaub makes a beautiful 26 yard pass to his tight end over the shoulder of Saints Linebacker Jonathan Casillas. Taking the score to 26-17 Texans. After the masque between Graham and Brees, Brees shows faith in the young player and comes back to him for a 27-yard touchdown with 9:30 left in the fourth making the score 26-24. If your heart wasn't pumping than you were already dead. On the edge of your seat with Texans getting the ball back it finally happens. Jabari Greer gets redemption for the Saints secondary, pick-

ing off Matt Schaub with 9:08 left in the game. If you didn't jump out of your seat at that point you probably drink tea with your pinky finger out and think passion is an overrated emotion. Brees is feeling it! Brees hits Lance Moore for a 16 yd TD and comes back to him for a brilliant coach's call for a two-point conversion instead of going for the extra point. That put the score at 32-26 Saints making it a 6-point game with the clock at the 7:10 mark of the fourth-quarter. The Texans come right back to score another TD to their other TE as the Saints were double covering Andre Johnson. At 4:13 in the fourth the Texans regain the lead to make it 33-32 Texans. Saints come right back down the field actually with a mix of running and throwing the ball. Needing

to score but also not leave a lot of time on the clock for the Texans, they go back down and score. It worked a little too well. The Saints took just over two-minutes to regain the lead, with rookie Mark Ingram scoring his first NFL touchdown. Saints make a gusty call going for their second two-point conversation. For a second time they go back to Lance Moore successfully. Saints take the lead 40-33 leaving just over two-minutes left in the game. The defense gets the sack of the game!!! Turns the ball back over to the offense to finish out a slugfest fourth-quarter; a great win, hopefully next week less scares going against a rebuilding Jaguars team. Peace, get some rest and I guess some work done, till next Sunday.

NEW ORLEANS CITY COUNCIL

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

ELECTRIC AND NATURAL GAS REGULATORY SERVICES

The New Orleans City Council is soliciting Statements of Qualifications for Professional Electric and Natural Gas Regulatory Consultants Firms to provide Consulting Services and advice to the City Council and its Utility Committee regarding matters associated with Entergy New Orleans, Inc. (ENO) and Entergy Louisiana, LLC (ELL) in the Provision of Electric and Natural Gas Services in Orleans parish and to address a broad range of utility issues as they arise. Both ENO and ELL are wholly owned subsidiaries of Entergy Corporation (Entergy), a multi-state holding company. A complete copy of the Request for Qualifications is available at the City Council's website at www.nolacitycouncil.com. Complete Statements of Qualifications must be received by Thursday, October 27, 2011 at 3:00 p.m.

For further information and the request for qualifications packet please contact:

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1300 Perdido Street - Room 1E06
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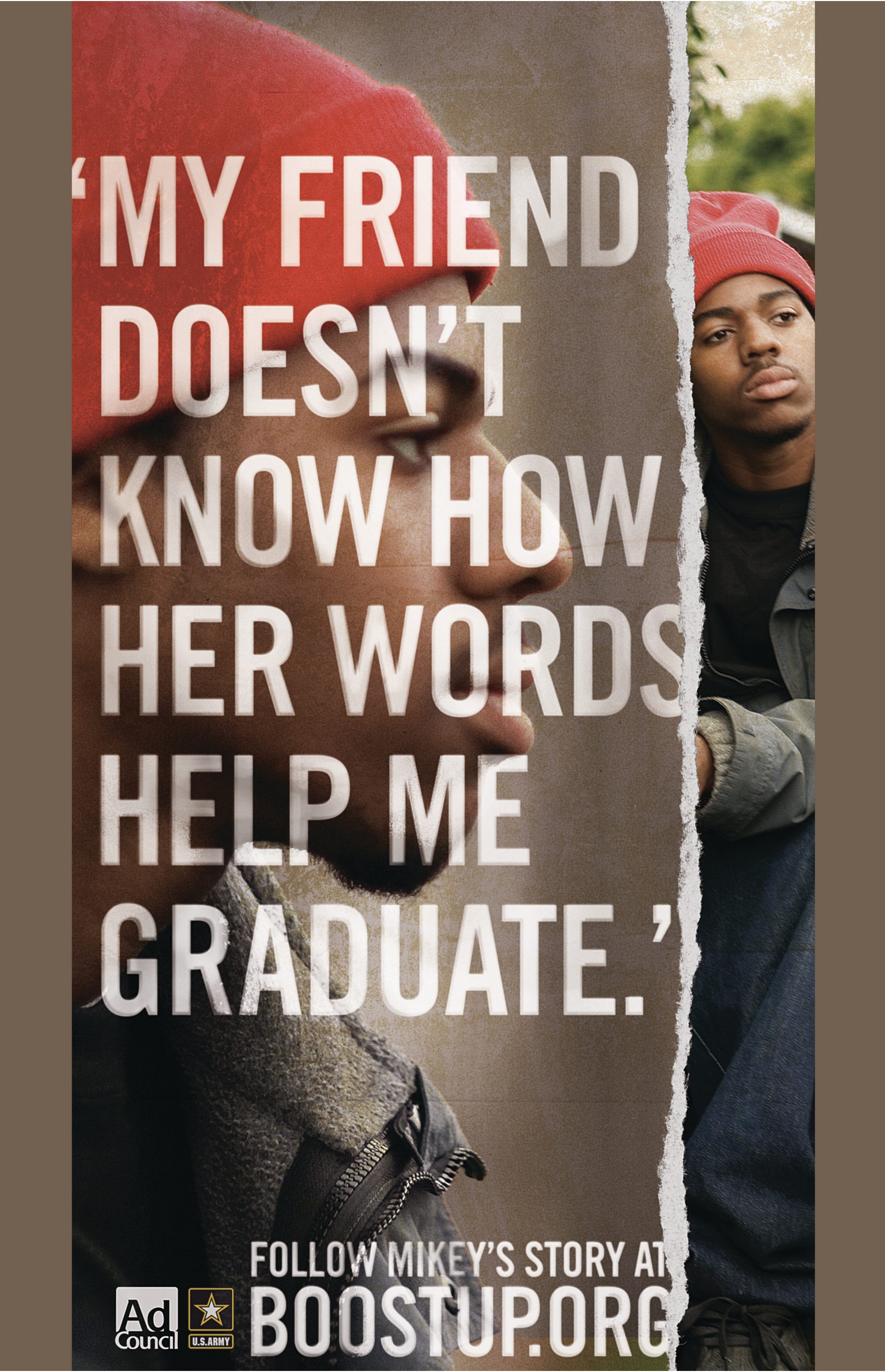
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