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**New Orleans**

# Data

**News Weekly**

*"The People's Paper"*

**Data Zone Page 6**



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# Terrance Osborne

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# Terrance Osborne

## The Art and Soul of a City



New Orleans Artist Terrance Osborne

By Edwin Buggage

### New Orleans: America's Artistic Mecca

It's that time of the year again, when people from around the globe come to experience the culture of America's most international City. For two weekends the New Orleans Fairgrounds will be ablaze with art, music, and food at the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival. The festival has grown by leaps and bounds from its early origin in Congo Square to become one of the premiere festivals in the world.

Cover Story, Continued on next page.

"The subject is Trombone Shorty; it is one of my favorites because Troy "Trombone Shorty" Andrews and I have many similarities." Continuing he said, "He grew up in Treme and so did I, he went to NOCCA and so did I, so it was an easy painting for me. And I wanted to paint Troy in the neighborhood, and I knew I was certain that it was the setting I wanted. So as he is playing and the neighborhood is bending to his note, that's why the houses are leaning his way. It is really about people coming together and living in harmony."

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Cover Story, Continued from previous page.



JazzFest 2012's official poster entitled "Porch Song"

While the City is an artistic Mecca year round, one of the most highly prized treasures for festival goers is the official Jazzfest poster. This year this honor has been bestowed upon Terrance Osborne, the wunderkind of the artistic world whose colorful New Orleans themed paintings have become the inspiration for a City. "I am glad I've been chosen to do the official poster that is entitled "Porch Song," says Osborne. Continuing he says, "This is actually my third poster for Jazzfest, I did the 2007 and 2010 Congo Square poster that are for emerging artists, something I am proud of and this year's poster is what the established artists get."

Speaking of the piece and its inspiration he says, "The subject is Trombone Shorty; it is one of

my favorites because Troy "Trombone Shorty" Andrews and I have many similarities." Continuing he said, "He grew up in Treme and so did I, he went to NOCCA and so did I, so it was an easy painting for me. And I wanted to paint Troy in the neighborhood, and I knew I was certain that it was the setting I wanted. So as he is playing and the neighborhood is bending to his note, that's why the houses are leaning his way. It is really about people coming together and living in harmony."

### An Artistic Journey

In the world of art, Osborne's accomplishment is huge and will add to his already large following. He says of the poster and likens it to his own evolution as an artist



Osborne creates "Porch Song", paying homage to Troy "Trombone Shorty" Andrews

"Jazzfest has grown from a small community festival to become the highest grossing festival in the world. And the Jazzfest poster is the highest grossing poster in the world, so to anybody who gets the poster it is a huge honor, and you can go anywhere in the world and see a Jazzfest poster hanging from someone's wall," says Osborne. "And it is my hope that my success continues as I can be one of the many voices that use my art to introduce people to New Orleans and its traditions and heritage."

His journey from being an art student at Xavier University studying under renowned Art Instructors John Scott and Ron Bechet and outside of school he refined his skills working with Artist Richard Thomas. He first came to the attention of many when his work was displayed on the walls of MTV's "The Real World" house when it was shot in New Orleans. He says reflecting back on this time in his career, "Looking back at it I thought I'd arrived, since it was the biggest thing I'd done up to that point, but now I realize I still had a lot of growing to do as an artist." Continuing he says of his life Pre-Katrina, "I was a Schoolteacher, and I didn't have any Jazzfest poster, but I had a good following and I was showing every year at Jazzfest. And after Hurricane Katrina Jazzfest

gave me a call and asked me to do a poster in 2007 and I produced a piece called "Rebirth" and that became the best-selling Jazzfest Congo Square poster ever. And now I think the current poster is selling at record numbers as well and is well on its way to become a bestseller."

### An Artist Loses and Regains His Muse

Art is an essential part of the landscape of the City, from the musicality of the language and the dissonant but harmonious sound, rhythm, pace and color of life that is New Orleans. For centuries this unique backdrop has served as the muse for artists of every stripe and type. Then in 2005 Hurricane Katrina hit leaving a City damaged and left the great artistic muse of many artist ram shackled. This turn of events took its toll on many artists including Osborne who had to uproot himself and his young family to a suburb out of Atlanta. Reflecting back he says of this time and how it was a journey into self-discovery, "Before Katrina, I'd never lived anywhere else, and of course I visited places over the summer and things, but we moved to Atlanta for three years and when we got there it took me about a



Terrance Osborne

year to get settled there because of course something as devastating as Katrina would affect you." Continuing he says, "I must say at first I totally rejected living there, we were about an hour north of Atlanta. Things were so different, the houses were far apart, there was a lake out back and a wooded area, and I am a City boy so I rejected everything about it." But after a while he became acclimated and learn to appreciate his new surroundings saying, "After a while I began to enjoy nature, but I soon realized one thing that while living there I began to lose one of my sources of inspiration because the people are not like New Orleanians and I found myself sometimes lost trying to discover who I was, forging a new identity in this new place that felt so foreign."

Speaking of the uniqueness and the familiar feel of New Orleans he recalls of how he began to reconnect with his native City, "There is a sense of family that people have in New Orleans that is unlike any other place. We'll walk down the street and speak to each other, good morning, good evening, good night and that's another way of saying we're all connected and that is our way of doing it without saying it." Continuing he says, "Where I was nobody speaks unless they know each other and that is normal to them. I soon found while living there, we began to be that way and we stiffened up, so when we moved back or when we came down to visit and people would speak and you had that sense of community even though our community was broken we still had that sense. I had to readjust and realize I had lost something and so I began speaking to people. What woke me up to this is when I was in a parking



## Ashe Performing Arts Center Presents

# Angola 3

Angola3 is an amazing play. It tells the ongoing true story of three men; Herman Wallace, Albert Woodfox and Robert King. In the early 1970's these men and others were co-founders and members of the first chapter of the Black Panther Party for Self Defense in a U.S. penal institution.

Framed for murders they did not commit to silence them as they fought to end inmate rape, sexual slavery and brutality in what was then known as the nation's bloodiest and most brutal penitentiary.

Angola3 was written to inform the public of cases of human rights violations which are so outrageous that the U.S. govern-



Artist rendering of the Angola 3 (l to r) Herman Wallace, Albert Woodfox and Robert King. The three are the subject of the play "The Angola 3" which will premiere at the Ashe Cultural Arts Center.

ment would probably want to file charges with the United Nations against another country guilty of these acts of cruelty.

Angola3 opens with a history lesson in the form of a prolog performed by all of the Black cast members, inmates at Angola. Most of these cast members are then introduced to the audience at role call by the plays two white actors menacingly playing the roles of a warden and a prison guard.

From the plays 1971 open to its 2001 finale, Angola3 provides valuable information as it addresses probable solution to some of the issues that affect our young people today.

Angola3 Features Oliver Thomas - As Poet and the audience is

blessed with a special monolog by Death row Exonoree #119 Derrick Jamison detailing his story of suffering and surviving 20 years of wrongful incarceration.

Don't miss Angola3. Ashe Performing Arts Center 1712 Oretha Castle Haley Blvd. Only two weekends remaining, April 27 - 29 & May 4 - 6 Fridays and Saturdays 8:00pm \* Sundays 3:00pm

Angola3 is a "Must see performance," Written, produced, directed and performed by New Orleanians. It is destined for greatness. Hollywood actors are currently engaged in discussions to produce Angola3 as a major motion picture.

For Additional Info Call Ashe (504) 569-9070

## City Issues Reminders In Advance Of 2012 New Orleans Jazz And Heritage Festival

With the 2012 New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival set to open at the Fair Grounds Race Course on Friday, April 27, City officials issued a reminder today regarding the procedures and requirements for permitting for public parking in the festival's vicinity as well as businesses selling goods. This year's Festival dates are April 27 - April 29 and May 3 - 6.

"Our goal is make commercial business owners and non-profit managers aware of the rules and regulations, and to eliminate confusion in advance," said Deputy Mayor and CAO Andy Kopplin. "City enforcement officials will be on site to ensure that local businesses are in compliance with City ordinances."

City code requires that commercial businesses get the appropriate permits if they wish to operate commercial parking on their commercially zoned property during the festival. In the event that a non-profit organization plans to manage a parking service on commercial property,

they must also apply for a permit. Fees associated with permits for parking operations are \$265.25 for a business and \$30 for a non-profit organization.

### PARKING ENFORCEMENT REMINDERS:

The Fair Grounds Race Course is located in a residential part of the city offering restricted parking in surrounding neighborhoods. Festival-goers that are driving to the Fair Grounds are encouraged to park in downtown long term lots and use the shuttle system festival organizers have arranged or to take public transportation. Gray Line Tours will operate continuous round-trip transportation - the Jazz Fest Express - from the Sheraton Hotel, the Gray Line Lighthouse at the Steamboat Natchez Dock (Toulouse St. at the River - next to Jax Brewery), and City Park (next to Marconi Meadows) daily from 10:30 a.m. until all patrons have been transported from the Fair Grounds.

A special entrance will be used only by Jazz Fest Express vehicles to avoid traffic and bring

festival-goers inside the gates of the festival.

For more information, call 504-569-1401 or 1-800-535-7786 or visit <http://www.graylineneworleans.com/jazzfest.html>.

Parking enforcement personnel will be monitoring for illegal parking, including blocking hydrants, driveways and sidewalks, or parking within 20 feet of a crosswalk, intersection or stop signs, in the residential neighborhoods adjacent to the Fairgrounds. Motorists are also reminded to park in the direction of travel on one-way streets, and with the right wheel to the curb on two-way streets.

In addition, existing businesses will be allowed to sell their products on their property, both inside and outside of their business contingent upon not blocking public right of way. However, the City will aggressively enforce the rules against transient vendors (carts, trucks, etc.) from improperly selling their products within the festival's "clean zone."

## Thai'la Henderson Finalist in Louisiana's National American Miss Pageant

National American Miss is a pageant unlike any other. It is one that is based on inner beauty as well as poise and presentation. It is a national competition with each state is represented. Data News Weekly would like to recognize one of the finalists from the State of Louisiana that will participate in the event in the Jr. Pre-Teen Division that will take place in Baton Rouge on June 1.

Thai'la Henderson, is nine years old and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Marc Henderson. She enjoys dancing, gymnastics, playing the flute and collecting porcelain dolls. Her sponsors include The Famous Theatre Inc., New Roads Chiropractic Center, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Woodworth, Mr. Curklin Atkins Esq., Ms. Cheryl Scorza and Ms. Nia Pittman.

The winner will receive a 1000 dollar cash award and other prizes.



Thai'la Henderson

es. In addition to competing in the national pageant in California they will receive a complimentary tour of Hollywood and two VIP tickets to Disneyland, and we at Data News Weekly wish Thai'la the best of luck.

# Latoya Cantrell

## *Rebuilding Hope*

by: Edwin Buggage

**L**atoya Cantrell is a woman whose name has become synonymous with service. Ever since arriving in New Orleans from her native Los Angeles as a student at Xavier University she's been dedicated to giving back. "I remember being a student and back then I use to ride the streetcar then transfer to the bus to get to school and witnessed the vast differences and disparities in how the people lived in the City." Continuing she says describing her early years in New Orleans, "I saw extreme wealth while riding the St. Charles streetcar and I would ride it then ride Louisiana bus and saw so many people in need and felt conditions needed to be improved and I decided then I would not simply complain about what is wrong, but to work towards solutions," says Cantrell.

She feels that one does not have to wait to serve their community and that all it takes is a spirit of selflessness and that quality is within all our reach and is our duty, "I think it is all of our personal obligation to improve the quality of life of all people because it makes our City a better place to live for everyone."

Presently, she is the President of the Broadmoor Improvement Association, a post she has held since 2004. While she and her husband had their choices of many areas of the city Latoya felt she wanted to reside in an area where she could make a positive impact, "I moved in the neighborhood with my family and I knew wherever I lived I would invest time and energy to make things better," remarks Cantrell. Continuing she talks about how her community has become the poster

child for a successful rebuilding post-Katrina. "Our community was proposed to become green space, but we fought to develop not just portions of Broadmoor, but the entire neighborhood and while today we are 86% recovered we cannot wave the flag of victory when 14% of our people are still suffering, while we are happy about our success we still have work to do."

In addition to her duties as President of the Broadmoor Improvement Association Latoya Cantrell is committed to volunteer service as Vice Chair of the Broadmoor Charter School Board, Board Member of the Salvation Army of Greater New Orleans, Arts Council Committee of Greater New Orleans, Neighborhood Partnership Network, 4-H Foundation of Louisiana, Smart Growth Louisiana and the National Association of Bench and Bar Spouses.

Latoya continues to be a force for change in the City and has been recognized in her post-Katrina recovery efforts as a Restore America Hero by the National Trust of Historic Preservation, Young Leadership Council Role Model 2007, New Orleans Magazine People to Watch 2006 and Gambit Weekly's 40 Under 40. Prior to Katrina, she was recognized by the Mayor of the City of New Orleans as a Neighborhood Knight for her community service efforts. A woman full of humility she says of these honors, "I appreciate being recognized for my work, but the reason I serve my community is because it is the right thing to do and it is what I live for and my greatest reward is seeing Broadmoor recover and become an inspiration for neighborhoods all over the City.



**JMJ**  
Joseph M. Jones  
Continuing Education Fund





## "2nd Annual "Best Chefs of New Orleans" After Party Honoring Leah Chase at Le Musée

Le Musée was the backdrop for the after event of The American Culinary Federation of New Orleans' 2nd Annual "Best Chefs of Louisiana" Awards and Data was there!



## The Autocrat Club Mardi Gras Committee Annual Crawfish Boil

The Autocrat Club Mardi Gras Committee held their Annual Crawfish Boil and Data was there!

Photos by Terry Jones



If you have photos of parties or events you would like to run in DATA, please send to [datanewsad@bellsouth.net](mailto:datanewsad@bellsouth.net) for inclusion.



# Scandalous Sizzle or Fizzle?



Kerry Washington

By Cheryl Pearson-McNeil  
NNPA Columnist

Thursday nights have gotten hot. And I'm not talking about the weather. Thursday is when viewers can tune into ABC's new drama *Scandal*. The show revolves around the life and work of a powerful and professional crisis manager who left the White House to create her own successful, take-no-prisoners image consulting firm.

Even if you weren't one of the 1.8 million African-Americans (out of a total of 7.3 million total viewers) who tuned in to "*Scandal*'s" premiere on April 5, surely you've heard the buzz about it. ABC heavily invested in a full-court press of broadcast (radio and TV), print and online promotion.

And for African-Americans in particular, the concept of the program has many Blacks puffed up with pride and pleased to welcome the program to the nighttime drama line up for several reasons.

1) "*Scandal*" was created by an African-American woman, Shonda Rhimes, who is also the creator of the long-running, award-winning ABC hits, "*Grey's Anatomy*" and "*Private Practice*."

2) It stars an African-American woman, Kerry Washington, as Olivia Pope and

3) The program is inspired by the life of a real-life former White House aide, Washington PR powerhouse and image-fixer, Judy Smith, who is also African-American.

This was a historic triple-

win for Blacks. And I'll bet you're just dying to know how the ratings shaped up, so let's take a look.

More than 7 million viewers (7.329 million to be exact) watched the show. The 1.88 million Black viewers who tuned in placed it firmly in second place as Black viewers' choice for all shows that aired on network and cable the week of April 2 - April 8. It placed ahead of "*Dancing with the Stars*" (ABC), which had 1.82 million Black viewers, "*The Game*" (BET) with 1.79 million Blacks watching, "*American Idol*" (FOX) with 1.57 million Blacks and "*Let's Stay Together*" (BET) with 1.49 million. It also outpaced "*Basketball Wives*" (VH1) and "*Real Housewives of Atlanta*" (BRAVO), which had

1.40 and 1.39 million Black viewers, respectively. The only program "*Scandal*" didn't beat out was the "NCAA Basketball Championship" (CBS), which had 2.85 million Black viewers.

Since the show centers around an African-American woman lead, it shouldn't surprise anyone that of the 1.82 million Black viewers 1.3 million of them were women. As The State of the African-American Consumer Report notes, African-American women make up 64 percent of the U.S. labor force compared with 60 percent of other women, and Black women tend to be the primary decision makers for most household purchasing decisions. This is relevant because marketers like to know that they'll attract a consumer

demographic segment if they directly appeal to that segment. "*Scandal*" is, according to Rhimes, the star and the inspiration, a show for women. And the Newsweek/Daily Beast reports, Rhimes, Washington and Smith all felt "a tremendous responsibility to offer characters that differ from the regular negative portrayals of African-American women, particularly on reality television shows."

As you can see from the ratings above, "*Scandal*" beat out standard favorites and reality shows the first week. But what about week two? Well, not so much. Black viewers tuned in higher numbers for "*The Game*" (2.01 million), followed by "*Dancing with the Stars*"

**Scandal, Continued on page 10.**

May 5,  
2012



## LEMONADE DAY

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# Black Women Don't Have the Luxury of Staying Home



Julianne Malveaux  
NNPA Columnist

By Julianne Malveaux  
NNPA Columnist

When Democratic strategist Hilary Rosen said that Ann Romney had "never worked a day in her life," Romney behaved as if she had just hit the lottery. She smugly made the media rounds talking about how hard it was for her to raise her five sons. And she's right. Stay at home moms

work extremely hard to cook, clean, run a shuttle for their children and their various activities, participate in school activities like "Room Mom" and "Cookie Mom." How do I know, having never had chick or child? A very dear friend, a Harvard-educated lawyer, has been mostly home with her children, one of whom is my godson, for the past decade or so, and it shows.

I digress. Hilary Rosen mis-spoke when she said Ann Romney had never worked. What she could have said is that Ann Romney never needed to work in the paid labor market. Even when Mitt Romney was in graduate school, they survived by living on the returns from their investments, according to them. So it isn't that Ann Romney never worked, it is simply that she was never forced to.

This entire conversation is a blast from the past, reminiscent of articles that I wrote in the 1980s. Even then this was a mostly White women's conversation since few Black women have or are married to the kind of wealth that would allow them to stay home. Conservative stay home moms often say that people have to make sacrifices to stay at home, perhaps cutting out luxuries such as restaurant meals and extra clothing. But unless food is a luxury, there are Black women who are in the labor market simply because they have no choice.

The official unemployment rate among African Americans is 14 percent. The actual rate is more like 26 percent, and in many inner cities the Black male unemployment rate is nearly 50 percent. This is a burden to African American women who often don't have

the economic assistance they need to raise a family. As a result of this burden, nearly 40 percent of African American children live in poverty, too often supported by a single mom (more than 40 percent of African American households are headed by women).

While there is a group of African American stay-at-home moms called Mocha Moms, and there is little data to suggest the size of the African American stay-at-home mom population, it is clear that historically, African American women had no choice but work. I am not invoking ancient history when I reference the women who, as maids, were paid to take better care of their employer's children than they could possibly take of their own. And then they often paid, I part with used clothes and leftover food substituting for cash.

Patriarchal tradition kept White women home, while White men were paid a "family wage" that was, by definition, enough to support a whole family. Such patriarchal tradition was not economically present in the African American community. Few African American men were paid a family wage, but instead something like a subsistence wage. Women needed to work to help keep the family together.

Until the late 1980s, the labor force participation of African American women exceeded that of White women, which means that proportionately more of us were working. African American women's earnings often make the difference between poverty and comfort for their families. Mom-

**Malveaux, Continued**  
on page 11.

## ...And Sold



Parnell Herbert  
Data News Contributor

Two hundred eighty-one votes that was the difference in Saturday's Council at Large election; was it the rain, was it the cold or was the election "Bought and Sold?"

People continually ask the question; when are we going to stop voting based on race? That question is easy for me to answer. I will stop voting based on race when Racism is no longer an issue in this Racist nation.

"Remember the Alamo!" But forget Slavery. "Never Forget;"

the Jewish holocaust. But forget the Middle Passage. "Slavery was abolished 150 years ago. We are all equal now." But where is the Equity?

No I am not blinded by the illuminating reality of racism. And yes I would vote for a decent, honest and fair white candidate before I would vote for Clarence Thomas or Austin Badon. I love seeing my sisters wearing pearls but; not all ladies in pearls are black and Beautiful.

Was it complacency? Did the low wage earning African American people get tired of going to the polls to vote for "Do Nothing Politicians?" Some may have asked themselves the question and came to the conclusion, it doesn't matter whether they are Black or white, why should I go out to vote for a do nothing politician who does nothing to enhance the "Quality of Life of the people they were elected to serve.

Was it the little Negroes who

sold their support to the white candidate, not because not because they thought she was best qualified but because she was the highest bidder? Was it the Safe Negroes who are convinced that we cannot handle our own business so we need whites to come in and straighten things out for us? Or was it the Scared Negro who refuses to set one foot off of the plantation even with freedom papers in his hand?

Two hundred eighty-one votes determined the outcome of that election. And when I think of what happened I think it is partly the blame on newly imported white people. The ones who came to help us "Rebuild our city," but Rebuild it for whom? Certainly not for us, I feel they want to rebuild

it for themselves; the residents of the ever expanding boundary lines of the "Historic Treme District."

When we were flooded out August 29, 2005 the plan was set into action. It was time to shift the balance of power. "An Act of Nature" and a man-made Mississippi River Gulf Outlet presented them with the opportunity they had been awaiting ever since the election when Dutch Morial took over the office of Mayor of New Orleans. They seized the moment and took advantage of the opportunity.

Well this is our moment. This is the opportunity for us to seize. The message was delivered to Black politicians, "You can no longer be elected just by being Black." And newly elected Coun-

cil-at-Large member Stacy Head will have to work like an Egyptian slave to prove herself worthy of re-election in two years.

I am going to make Lemonade Out of a sour lemon named Stacy Head

Prove your worthiness to me And next election we will see.

I reflect on Mardi Gras day and uptown super Sunday. I ran with "Big Chief David Montana" chief of the "Ouichita Nation" their inaugural run. We sang all of the typical Mardi Gras Indian songs. This moment of transformation in the New Orleans political arena makes me sing out the most spirited Inyun song of them all, "LET'S GO GET EM!" chanted over and over again "LET'S GO GET EM!"

ladatanews.com



# An Analysis Of The At-Large Special Election



Oliver Thomas  
Guest Contributor

You won't get this from the Paper, the Media, or the hand-picked Pundits who too often give you what they wish for instead of the Social, and Political Realities. Now the election, Mrs. Head won because White turnout almost doubled Black turnout, so the 12% crossover that they may want to spin is not anything to really celebrate when you talk about increasing voter confidence and participation.

Well if everyone who didn't vote would vote they could wipe everyone elected out of office, so that means no one on the ballot excited the electorate, and that people or more turned off by the process. Also confidence in Black Leadership didn't inspire African-Americans to at least match their White counterparts as it relates to turnout. (White Leaders aren't inspiring their community to turn out in record numbers either) Mrs. Head was attributed with making a comment in her victory speech which said she feared that we were going to go backwards. What? Back to lower Crime, back to over 41% homeownership, back to a growing Black Middle Class, back to a time when political leaders engaged the community instead of running away from it, back to a time when Murder and Violent Crime were cut 60%, double the National averages of any Major city, back to a time when we didn't lead the Nation (Pugh Report, National Census) in many categories for Poverty in the Black Community, back to a time when we didn't lead the Nation in teen unemployment, and poverty (Covenant House Institute, New York Report on Teen Homelessness).

The City has gotten more violent and poorer in the Black community in the last Two Years (a statistical fact). So it would be to the benefit of the larger portion of

the population if we would go back to better days. In the last few years more money has come to New Orleans per capita than just about any other place, and African-American people have had less participation. So how have we moved forward? So what are some realities about Leadership in New Orleans? The Riverfront was developed under Black Leadership, The Aquarium of the Americas, The Warehouse District was developed under Black Leadership, Harrah's Black Leadership, Lower Garden District, O.C. Haley Blvd., Growth in the Hotel Industry, Essence, Boom in the Jazz Fest, Bayou Classic, First French Quarter Fest, etc., etc..

But we didn't build independent wealth and create a strong Middle, and Working Class that could survive no matter who was elected. The White community does business no matter who is elected, and they don't have to rely on Government Contracts, but the Black community has to rely on Political relationships, and hope that a few have political favor, because those that are out of favor can't count on participating or benefitting if their guy or gal does not WIN! We have also had many great White leaders who have contributed! But don't distort the facts, because you want to re-write history!!

If I were giving White Leaders real talk I would tell them not to celebrate too loudly, because this election is very telling if you want to tell the truth. And that is! The Black community had a candidate with little to no Crossover Appeal who ran against a Major White political figure who raised \$500,000.00 dollars for a Special Election to a Council seat, and lost by a couple of hundred votes. What would have happened if Ms. Willard-Lewis had just a little more crossover appeal, or if she inspired greater participation by black voters, or if she had access to greater resources to be able to paint a better picture?

Black voters have historically crossed over to votes for whites. That is nothing new, and 12% crossover is not how you create unity. I remember Former Mayor Marc Morial being called a reverse Racist or anti-white, but on his worst day he could count on 23 to 25% crossover at the least, so where are we today politically

when we want to celebrate 12% and virtually no % the other way? Black political leaders have a tremendous opportunity if they want to foster more participation, and the numbers from the At-Large Election are quite encouraging if you're willing to do some work, not reign from up above, or fear being too vocal for Blacks will hurt your chances of advancing politically raising money, or being looked at too closely. And let me tell you something most Whites don't care if you fight for your people as long as you're being fair and just! They see the problems in our community and those that don't have Political or Profit agendas want to see everyone improve.

So Black Leaders need to engage their White constituents, and Black Candidates need to work White Communities and aggressively

ask for their votes. One of the good things Mrs. Head did was to strategically engage Black community leaders in N.O. East who were able to deliver enough votes to give her the edge she needed, now we'll see if those Leaders will be part of her ongoing team that benefits Economically, Socially, and if they'll be considered for appointments to Major Boards and Agencies, that have historically been held for the same old families, and the same old people. Also will there be a commitment to reduce the Poverty Statistics by 12% more, or increase African-American participation by 12% more in contracts and hiring. Black Political leaders have always made sure that White Businesses do well. Maybe for the first time in history we could have a White Political Leader who challenges the Business community to

reduce the Poverty stats, by engaging more Black entrepreneurs, by hiring more black teenagers who qualify for work other than waiters or room service. Maybe we'll finally have a White leader who is so grateful for the crossover that they will proclaim to the world that we can't have a viable city (low Crime, high Homeownership) when the Majority of your population is fighting for its economic existence. Finally someone who takes seriously Dr. Peter Dangerfield's Report on Institutionalized Poverty (TCA)!

So there you have it an indepth look at something other than who won, or who lost. Let's see if the community that's been losing now has a chance to win. 281 votes a Landslide, I wonder who'll be at the bottom of the pile?

- OLIVER M. THOMAS JR.

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**40<sup>th</sup> Year**

**Class Reunion**

**May 25-27, 2012**

*The Joseph S. Clark of 1972 is having its 40<sup>th</sup> Year Reunion Memorial Day Weekend (May 25-27, 2012). The activities include a social event on Friday May 25<sup>th</sup>, picnic on Saturday May 26<sup>th</sup> and a church service on Sunday May 27<sup>th</sup>.*

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# Zimmerman Released From Jail

By George Curry  
NNPA National  
Correspondent

WASHINGTON (NNPA) – George Zimmerman, the neighborhood watchman who killed 17-year-old Trayvon Martin in Sanford, Fla., was released from jail on bond shortly after midnight Monday morning and left for an undisclosed destination.

Zimmerman, who wore a brown jacket and blue jeans, was fitted with an electronic monitoring device before being released. He was carrying a bag as he left the facility with an unidentified man in a white BMW, according to news reports. During a court hearing Friday, Zimmerman's bond was set at \$150,000 bond. Because he had to put up 10 percent of that amount, only \$15,000 was required to secure his release.

While being questioned by his attorney Friday, Zimmerman apologized to Martin's parents, who were in attendance at the bond hearing.

"I wanted to say I am sorry for the loss of your son. I did not know how old he was. I thought he was a little bit younger than I am, and I did not know if he was armed or not," Zimmerman said.

However, that directly contradicts what Zimmerman, 28, said

on police tapes. There was this exchange:

Dispatcher: How old would you say he looks?

Zimmerman: ... late teens.

Dispatcher: Late teens, OK.

Zimmerman's attorney, Mark O'Mara, said Monday on "CBS This Morning" that Zimmerman would not have apologized to the Martin family Friday if O'Mara had known the family felt it was the wrong time.

Friday's nationally-televised bond hearing raised as many questions as it answered.

Supporters of Trayvon were disappointed that Dale Gilbreath, one of state's lead investigators, performed so poorly on the witness stand.

An affidavit of probable cause, signed by Gilbreath and another investigator, T.C. O'Steen, stated: "Zimmerman confronted Martin and a struggle ensued."

Under questioning by defense attorney Mark O'Mara, the investigator acknowledged that he did not know who initiated the fight. Gilbreath was also unable to defend his assertion that Zimmerman had profiled Trayvon.

For tactical reasons, prosecutors typically try to disclose as little information as possible during pre-trial proceedings, such as a



Accused Gunman George Zimmerman was released from jail earlier this week in Sanford, Florida. Zimmerman stands accused of gunning down 17 year old Trayvon Martin as he walked home from the store.

bond hearing. However, because the state requested that Zimmerman's bond be set at \$1 million, they were expected to make a stronger showing in court. The defense requested a bond of \$15,000, which is the amount he

ultimately paid to secure his release early Monday morning.

The decision to put Zimmerman on the stand at his bond hearing could later be problematic for the defense. If a decision is made to not let Zimmerman take the

stand at his murder trial, some jurors may hold that against him, though the judge will certainly instruct them not to infer anything from that decision.

Until his trial, Zimmerman will be out on bond but will have his whereabouts monitored via satellite by the Seminole County Sheriff's Office.

Circuit Judge Kenneth Lester Jr. imposed a 7 p.m.-6 a.m. curfew on Zimmerman, lifted his passport, and said he cannot have access to guns or alcohol, and must not have any contact with Trayvon's family. A GPS tracking device will be used to monitor his movements.

The teen's parents placed a "Card of Thanks" advertisement in the Miami Herald's obituary page on Sunday.

In the ad is a photograph of Trayvon wearing a hoodie, a garment he was wearing when he was killed. The parents said they "wish to express their heartfelt appreciation for all your words of encouragement, your peaceful rally support, the millions who signed petitions, poems, painting, music, video tributes, monetary gifts to our defense fund (Wepay.com) and all other acts of kindness shown to them during this difficult time."

Cover Story/ Continued from page 3.

lot at Wal-Mart and this lady was saying to me 'Baby I don't know where I parked my car,' and I was almost like why is this lady talking to me. And then it hit me, nothing was wrong with her it was me. I had changed because if this would have happened before Katrina I would have started talking to her without even thinking about it. I think post-Katrina everyone understood what it meant to be reborn. So I almost had to become a tourist and then become part of rejuvenating the City and becoming part of its rebirth."

## Home Is Where The "Art" Is

Today Osborne is back in the City and has seen his profile rise, reflecting on the City moving forward and the art he's producing he says, "I think the City has done a great job coming back and I feel

like this poster is the symbol of that, it shows the evolution of the City from my piece "Rebirth" in 07 to this piece called "Porch Song" I don't believe we could have had a piece called "Porch Song" back then. "I think of the beauty of Trombone Shorty blowing his horn is like a bird in the morning waking people up and bringing them together as one City on one accord." Striking a contrast between the mood of the City from 2005 until now and how it affected his art and what he created he says, "I think the "Rebirth" piece was so successful because this is where we were and it is interesting that it is only now I think our community feels more together and closer to the City I remember."

As the City is rapidly changing and continues to face challenges post-Katrina where many artists have not returned. This poses the question of what would the

City of New Orleans be without its creative people, there would probably not be a jazz fest without the local creative people. After briefly pondering the question he answers, "We are a product of the environment, so then we would have to ask ourselves what would the environment look like if we weren't creative?" As he continues he says, "I can't imagine what it would be like if there weren't people dancing in the streets and people painting their houses different colors, there would probably be no Mardi Gras or Jazzfest and I would imagine it would be a gray day every day."

While Osborne is still a young man he has established himself as a force in the world of art, not just in the City but the world. He talks about how his career has taken off, that much his work continues to have the stamp of the place that gave birth to his talent, "Being a New Orleans artist I think that we

are a product of the City and the City is the product of the artist. So I feel that when you raised in a place as eccentric as New Orleans you don't realize that there is anything unique about it until you leave. And when you're able to step back almost like an astronaut you can see it from a different perspective. I think that at some point I was doing my artwork, but I didn't quite appreciate what I was doing until I realized what I was doing and that is expressing

what this City is about and that is our job. When you're younger you just go with the motions, but when you're more mature and when you realize you are part of something very special; being born into this culture and learning to appreciate it by stepping back from it is something that I think people value when they look at my work; and they can see it and my appreciation for our City."

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# SBA Offers Free Computer Security Workshops To Small Business Owners

WASHINGTON – Small businesses around the country can take advantage of free computer security workshops to help strengthen their information security, determine their readiness against security breaches and safeguard their business information from computer attacks.

The U.S. Small Business Administration, Commerce Department's National Institute of Standards and Technology and the Federal Bureau of Investigation's InfraGard will conduct a series of workshops on information security threats and solutions designed for small businesses.

This joint federal partnership promotes information security training and computer protection for the nation's small business community and will help to identify information security vulnerabilities that can put small businesses at risk and the protective tools and techniques used to assess, maintain and guard their information and systems.

The protection of sensitive data such as business invoices, payroll records, client and employee data and other proprietary information is essential to a company's suc-



cess. A computer failure or other system breach could undermine a company's reputation, expose it to costly recovery expenses, and disrupt the business' overall operation.

Small business owners will

learn how to protect themselves from intentional attacks or unintentional damage, guard themselves from decreased productivity caused by security

breaches and evaluate the needed security tools and tech-

niques. Participants will also learn useful and practical steps to take to protect their business' operations.

In addition, business owners often cannot afford extensive programs or a full-time expert in information security. The computer security workshops will help educate business owners on potential weaknesses and the corrective actions to take.

## Dates for New Orleans and Louisiana are as follows

Lake Charles, Louisiana  
Lafayette, Louisiana  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
Slidell, Louisiana  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
LaPlace, Louisiana  
May 21, 2012: 8:30am – 12:30pm  
May 22, 2012: 9:30am – 1:30pm  
May 23, 2012: 8:30am – 12:30pm  
May 24, 2012: 8:30am – 12:30pm  
May 25, 2012: 8:00am – 12:00pm  
May 25, 2012: 1:30pm – 5:30pm

For additional information on the computer security workshops, including local area registration information, visit online at <http://csrc.nist.gov/groups/SMA/sbc/workshops.html#dates>.

## Scandal/ Continued from page 7.

(1.99) and "Real Housewives of Atlanta" (1.87), with "Scandal" dropping to 1.74 million Black viewers.

As I've mentioned before in this space, African-Americans watch 40 percent more television than any other group and prefer live programming with sports, drama and reality shows being the most popular. And, these numbers reflect that trend. But, the second week's lower "Scandal" numbers don't coincide with the outcry I often hear from Blacks about the need for "quality programming with positive images." It's been 37 years ya'll since an African-American woman has held a starring role in an hour-long primetime network dramatic series. Not since 1974, when ABC starred Teresa Graves in "Get Christie Love" has a Black woman held that honor. So, if ABC and Rhimes are bold enough to give Blacks what we "say" we want, wouldn't one expect that the number of Black viewers to increase and not decrease each week?

Each column, I ask you to consider carefully how you use your consumer power. Advertisers and marketers make their decisions based on it. Broadcasters base their programming decisions on it. And by "it," I mean what you prove you want – through your actions, spending patterns and viewing habits – instead of what you say you want. If you don't support quality shows they could disappear, for say, another 37 years. And that truly would be scandalous.

Cheryl Pearson-McNeil is senior vice president of public affairs and government relations for Nielsen. For more information and studies go to [www.nielsenwire.com](http://www.nielsenwire.com).

## Malveaux/ Continued from page 8.

my wars? Give me a break. Let's talk about survival wars.

Even those African American families who have been blessed with higher education and "good jobs" are well aware that African Americans are "last hired, first fired". Too many so-called middle class families are a paycheck or two away from poverty. Last time I checked, African American households had only 2 percent of our nation's wealth, hardly a cushion to fall back on, with few investment returns to live on when no one is working.

Tuesday was Equal Pay Day, which counts the extra days women have to work to earn as much as a man did last year.

This hits women of all races, but it may hit African American women harder.

We can only laugh and shake our heads at Hilary Rosen's faux pas and Ann Romney's smugness. We working African American women, stay at home or in the paid labor force understand that "life for us ain't been no crystal stair". Educated or uneducated, middle class or working class, the labor market has never been a level playing field for us, and our salaries show it. Mommy wars? We fight survival wars in the workplace and in this economy.

Julianne Malveaux is president of Bennet College for Women in Greensboro, N.C.

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Eddie Conrad,  
Peoples Health  
plan member

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- have just moved into the area,
- are losing your coverage through your employer and you're eligible for Medicare,
- make less than \$1,361 per month, or
- have Medicaid too.

If you're new to Medicare you have a lot of options and probably a lot of questions. Is Medicare enough by itself? Do I need to buy a supplement? What about Part D drug coverage? Or a Medicare Advantage plan that combines benefits and Part D?

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