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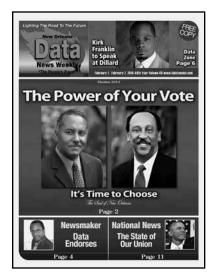


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2014

The Year of Turmoil

is our tradition, each year, Data News Weekly takes a look back and the year just ending as we transition into a new year. 2014 was a year which will be remembered by the varied complaints across the nation of police brutality, violence and inhumane treatment of Black men and boys. The stories, although not new in the Black community, made national headlines and pushed citizens beyond the breaking point, causing marches, protests and civil disruption across the nation which continues into 2014. The state of race relations in the US is strained at best today, as people of all races look for answers to the problems which plague the Black community and place a black eye on the country. Political power was challenged on a local and national level, with the Black community here in New Orleans sometimes being on the losing side. The impacts of these election losses remain to be seen, but we remain hopeful for our city and our readers. A new Police Chief replaced Serpas, and our former mayor was convicted and went to prison. The year was marked with turmoil and will go down as one of the most tumultuous in recent memory. Read on as we take a look back at 2014 and visit www.ladatanews.com/archives to read the full issues

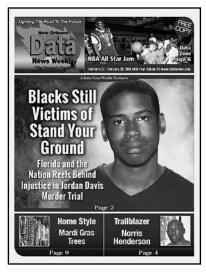


February 1, 2014

The Race for Mayor of the City of New Orleans

New Orleans continues to be a tale of two cities, one prospering and another sinking further into the abyss as neglect and blight are facts of everyday life in some of these neighborhoods.

Challenger for the Office of the Mayor of New Orleans was mounted by Michael Bagneris who had a plan that he felt could help eradicate this problem in addition to serving the common good by making some of the City's most vulnerable citizen's homeowners. Bagneris gave a good fight in the campaign, picking up some major endorsements, but in the end, he lost the election to the incumbent Mayor Mitch Landrieu who won his bid for re-election.



February 22, 2014

2 Years after Trayvon's Death Blacks Still Victimized by 'Stand Your Ground'

Two years ago, 17-year-old Trayvon Martin was returning from a trip from a nearby 7-Eleven store in Sanford, Fla. to purchase a bag of Skittles and a can of Arizona tea when he was confronted by George Zimmerman, a neighborhood watchman.

Instead of making it back to the house to watch the tip-off of an NBA All-Star game, the unarmed Black teenager was fatally shot in the heart by Zimmerman, who was later acquitted of first-degree murder charges.

The not guilty verdict triggered protests across the country and calls for a review of Florida's controversial Stand Your Ground law that justifies the use of deadly force by anyone who believes their action was necessary to prevent "imminent death or great bodily harm' to them. The killer gets a free pass even if the person on the receiving end of a deadly bullet is unarmed. Even if that person is not breaking any laws. Even if that person happens to be a frightened Black teenager.

Cover Story, Continued on next page.

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Cover Story

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May 17, 2014

Justice and Beyond A Group of Concerned Citizens Coming Together Working Towards Solutions that Plague the City of New Orleans

In a City that is rebuilding the struggle for justice Continues. There are many issues that continue to plague the City. There are organizations and individuals dedicated to trying to deal with the problems that continue to exist.

While sometimes there's discord between groups about an agenda and the methods and means to come to solutions; there is a group that's has a big tent approach and thinking long-term and strategic in the fight for justice. Justice and Beyond is not a formal organization, but a group of concerned citizens that's come together to advocate and move towards solutions to issues that adversely affect the community. Rev. Dwight Webster of Christian Unity Baptist Church serves as co-moderator of forums with Veteran Civil Rights Activist Pat Bryant, "What we do is try to come towards workable solutions through constructive dialog, we are not an organization per se, we meet weekly to discuss and devise strategies to address the gamut of issues that concern our community," says Webster whose church is also the site where the meetings are held every Monday from 4:45 to 7:00 PM and planning meetings are held Tuesday from 12:00 noon to 1:30 PM.





July 12, 2014

Ray Nagin Sentenced To 10 Years In Prison

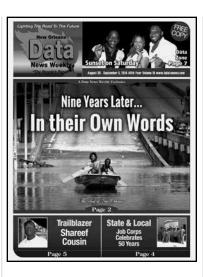
Former New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin was sentenced Wednesday to 10 years in prison for bribery, money laundering and other corruption that spanned his two terms as mayor — including the chaotic years after Hurricane Katrina hit in 2005.

U.S. District Judge Helen Berrigan handed down the sentence Wednesday morning.

Nagin was convicted Feb. 12 of accepting hundreds of thousands of dollars from businessmen who wanted work from the city or Nagin's support for various projects. The bribes came in the form of money, free vacations and truckloads of free granite for his family business.

The 58-year-old Democrat had defiantly denied any wrongdoing after his 2013 indictment and during his February trial. Moments before sentencing, a subdued Nagin made a brief statement, thanking the judge for her professionalism. He made no apologies. "I trust that God's going to work all this out," he said.

After the sentencing Nagin smiled and hugged supporters as he walked out of the courtroom with his wife, Seletha, and other family members and friends. Nagin is to report to the federal prison in Oakdale, Louisiana, in September.



August 30, 2014

Nine Years Later... In Their Own Words

It has been nine years since Hurricane Katrina and the breaching of the levees drowned the City of New Orleans trapping many of its citizens in what at the time seem hopeless circumstances.

Today, it continues to be in the mode of recovery as you can drive or walk through neighborhoods across the City and still see reminders of the devastation that wreaked havoc on the City nine years ago.

Data News caught up with several New Orleanians that we have featured throughout the years to get their perspectives on how they feel about the City and their lives as we are close to nearly a decade to a tragedy that changed their lives forever.



September 27, 2014

Data News Weekly Trailblazer of the Year: Norris Henderson

Data News Weekly celebrated its 48th Anniversary and Gala honoring its monthly trailblazers. These were twelve amazing individuals who come from different walks of life but have one thing in common. All are blessed with a big heart and a will to serve others. On this night Data News Weekly also awarded one person the esteemed honor as "Trailblazer of the Year". This year's honoree is Norris Henderson. He is a man whose story is well-known. He was wrongly accused and convicted of murder and served 27 years in Angola State Penitentiary. But this fate did not keep him from opening his heart while incarcerated and upon his release he's dedicated his life to helping others.

Through his work he has become known around the globe doing his life's work and that is to being an asset to the community and family of humanity; being a drum major leading the charge towards justice, fairness and equality. "I am humbled that I was considered for "Trailblazer of the Month" let alone "Trailblazer of the Year". There were many amazing people who were in attendance that also received awards that night who serve the community in great ways and I share this award with all of them for what they do and the many others who serve to help others every day," says Henderson.

Community Development Institute Head Start JOB ADVERTISEMENT

CDI HS Serving Orleans Parish, Louisiana is currently seeking applicants for the following positions.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR: Manages the day-to-day operation of an Early Head Start program including personnel administration, supervision and oversight. Works to develop an early childhood education curriculum for infants and toddlers; provides educational resources for staff and parents; endures compliance with performance standards and recognized best practices in early childhood education. Education services include program options and services to children with disabilities. Responsible for development, training and on-going work with the program Policy Council. Assures regulatory and legal compliance with federal, state and local regulations and licensing, monitoring facilities where Early Head Start services occur and of all staff working at center (s) and throughout the program.

Requirement is a BA in child development, early childhood education, human services, business or related field with supervisory experience. Must have training or coursework in early childhood development with a focus on infant/toddler development. At least 2 years teaching experience with infants and/or toddlers, preferred. 52 wks./year. 40 hrs./wk.—\$2,307.69 bi-weekly—Bilingual (English/Spanish) preferred.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT—Human Resources/Fiscal: Responsible for the human resources activities of an Early Head Start program including personnel files, orientation and tracking of staff. Also responsible for the smooth operations of an office and other duties related to administration including answering phones, filing, policy and procedure updates, typing, word processing, faxing, acting as receptionist, etc. Performs duties as required to ensure accurate and timely processing of accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll and other duties relating to fiscal operations. Position is responsible for monitoring program expenses, tracking activity in program budget lines and communicating any issues or overspending concerns.

Requirements are a high school diploma or GED with some relevant experience in human resources and two years direct experience working with purchasing, accounts payable, accounts receivable and payroll. Must possess a basic understanding of accounting systems and have at least one year of direct experience working with a accounting system general ledger and budget. AA degree or higher in a related field preferred. Must possess a sound working knowledge of Microsoft Excel and the ability to manage numerous tasks, possess good organizational skills, communicate effectively with co-workers and the public, and work collaboratively in a team environment. 52 wks./year; 40 hrs./wk.—\$13.50 hourly with HS/GED/\$14.50 hourly with AA. Bilingual (English/Spanish) preferred.

Applications and copies of job descriptions may be obtained by emailing: jobs@orleanspehs.org. Applications should be submitted to P.O. Box 8249 New Orleans, LA 70182 by the closing date of January 13, 2015 or until position is filled. Applications may be picked up in person at the Orleans Parish EHS administrative office, 2714 Canal Street, Ste. 407, New Orleans, LA., 8AM—5 PM. Resumes will not be accepted in lieu of applications. Hiring offers are contingent upon the successful completion of criminal records/background checks, health, TB screening and MVR prior and other screenings/approvals prior to hire.

CDI HS is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Cover Story

Data News Weekly

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October 18, 2014

NOPD Gets New Chief Mayor Landrieu gives Nod to Interim Chief Michael Harrison

Mayor Mitch Landrieu gave the nod to Interim Chief Michael Harrison, choosing him to fill the position permanently, and ushering in a new era in the New Orleans Police Department

7th District Cmdr. Michael Harrison was elevated to the interim position two months ago after the unexpected retirement of Ronal Serpas.

Prior to being tapped to serve as Interim Chief, Harrison spent 23 years rising through the ranks

before Landrieu chose him for the top job.

Harrison, said he'll focus on relationships within and outside law enforcement, "building the ones that were never built and repairing the ones that were broken." He continued, "I think I'm the poster child that there's no more glass ceiling."



December 6, 2014

Longtime US Senator Mary Landrieu Faces Bill Cassidy in Run-Off Election

After placing first in the primary Mary Landrieu found herself in the battle of her political life to reelected as our U.S. Senator; taking off the gloves and talking about why she and not Bill Cassidy should represent the people of our state on Capitol Hill. Throughout her career in politics Mary Landrieu has been a strong advocate for many of the diverse people and interest in our state. She is a person who works with people on both sides of the aisle and is an independent voice that for nearly two decades has fought for what's best for Louisianan's regardless of their party affiliation, race or social class. She has a record of being a bridge builder bringing people under one tent finding areas of common interest unlike her opponent Bill Cassidy who is doing his best to emphasize our differences.

Ultimately, Senator Landrieu lost her election, caught up in the tide which saw the US Senate move from a Democratic to a Republican Majority. Both houses of Congress are Republican majority, which leaves President Obama in a precarious situation when they reconvene the 114th Congress in January, 2015.



December 13, 2014No Justice No Peace!!

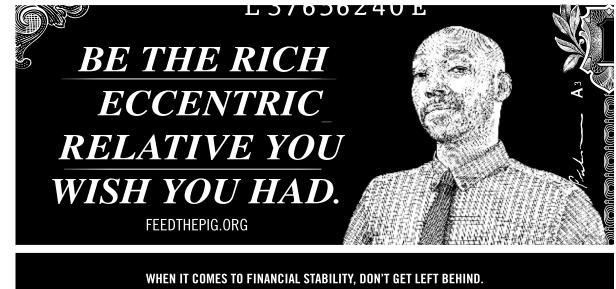
Protests Take Place Around the Nation Surrounding Police Shooting Death of Unarmed Black Men and the Search for Solutions

I Can't Breathe: Being a Black Man in America Searching for Justice.

The recent grand jury decisions not to indict the officers in the police shooting deaths of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri and Eric Garner in Staten Island, New York; these cases of police shooting unarmed men have sparked protests around the country. People from different backgrounds from around the nation are crying foul and are staging mass protest to bring voice to the issues of police practices when dealing with African-American men.

The police brutalizing and terrorizing Black men is not a new phenomenon. It has a long and sad history with similar results. It is sad today that a new generation of young people in a nation that is moving towards being its most racially diverse in its history is still wrestling with the historic scourge of racial injustice. With police officers even when caught on tape not being indicted and people feeling frustrated causing civil unrest. As a historic backdrop we as a nation looked in shock, horror and outrage as we heard the Rodney King verdict in 1992 when a jury after seeing a videotape in which officers surrounded him and hit him 56 times in 81 seconds still did not convict the officers who were charged.





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Data News Weekly Data Zone

Shoot Ya Best Shot

Shelita and Johnette's Birthday Bash

Photos by Glenn Summers

Everyone came to celebrate Shelita and Johnette's birthdays at Bertha's Place Hosted City Wholesale Liquor. Friends and family of both "Birthday Girls" enjoyed the music and fun while wishing them both a wonderful year to come. And of course, Data was there!





















Data News Weekly is Hiring

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

Editor/Reporters

About the Job

Journalists — tired of reading of layoffs, closings, the dire straights of the profession? Recent college graduates — think your job prospects are bleak? Not with us!

At Columbia-Greene Media, we are expanding! This includes starting a print newspaper/digital endeavor in one of the most dynamic and exciting cities, New Orleans.

If you want to be an integral part of your community, tell stories in a multi-media environment — look no further

If interested, send your resume, cover letter and at least three clips of your work to Terry Jones Publisher, Data News Weekly, 3501 Napoleon Ave, New Orleans, LA 70125, or via email to terrybjones@bellsouth.net. or call (504) 821-7421.

Sales Manager/Retail Ad Manager

About the Job

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

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

Responsibilities include but not limited to:

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

Our ideal candidate will possess the following education,

skills and experience:

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

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

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

State & Local News

First NBC Bank Holding Company to Acquire **State Investors Bancorp**

First NBC Bank Holding Company ("First NBC") (Nasdaq:NBCB), ing company for First NBC Bank, and State Investors Bancorp, Inc. ("State Investors") (Nasdaq:SIBC), the holding company of State-Investors Bank, jointly announced today the signing of a definitive agreement for First NBC to acquire State Investors by means of a merger.

"This transaction enables us to further expand our presence within the New Orleans metropolitan area, our primary market," stated President and Chief Executive Officer Ashton J. Ryan, Jr. "We believe that our strong record for serving the small and mid-sized businesses and individuals in our market area will resonate with the customers served by State-Investors Bank. We look forward to providing the

bank's customers with the high level of customer service for which we are known, in addition to a broader range of products and services than are currently available to them. We also believe that the significant cost savings expected to result from the merger will enhance shareholder value."

Tony Sciortino, President and Chief Executive Officer of State Investors and State-Investors Bank, said, "We are very pleased to be joining our organization with First NBC, a premier banking franchise in the New Orleans metropolitan area and Mississippi Gulf Coast. We are excited about the expanded products and services that this combination will bring to our customers and the communities we serve."

State Investors operates four full service banking offices, all of which are located in the New Orleans met-

JEFFERSON PARISH

Elmwood Office

504-671-3510

504-671-3540

504-671-3570

504-671-3530

504-671-3425

504-671-3550

504-252-4315

504-252-4360

Cleary Office

Kenner Office

Lapalco Office

Veterans Office

Terrytown Office

Manhattan Office

Transcontinental Office

ropolitan area. As of September 30, 2014, State Investors, on a consolidated basis, reported total assets of \$269 million, total loans of \$213 million and total deposits of \$158

- Entry into new section of the New Orleans metropolitan area with very strong demographic
- Attractive opportunity to acquire 120 year old bank with deep community roots, a strong and proven credit history and a similar commitment toward customer service
- Provides liquidity to allow First NBC to fund loan growth inherent in \$890 million loan pipeline
- Acquisition adds approximately \$158 million in deposits in the New Orleans MSA
- Allows First NBC to effectively deploy capital
- Accretive to First NBC's EPS in 2015, 2.3% and 2016, 4.4%, IRR

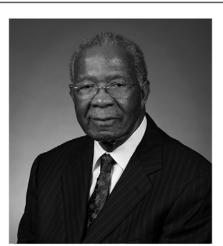
greater than 17% Under the terms of the merger

agreement, shareholders of State Investors will receive \$21.25 in cash for each share of State Investors stock owned by them at the effective time of the merger. Based on 2,308,019 shares of common stock issued and outstanding as of December 30, 2014, the aggregate cash consideration payable to shareholders of State Investors is expected to equate to approximately \$49.0 million. The merger agreement also provides that holders of stock options to purchase shares of State Investors common stock will receive, in exchange for their stock options, cash consideration equal to the difference between \$21.25 and the exercise price of the option. Based on 221,626 stock options outstanding as of December 30, 2014 with a weighted average exercise price of \$12.20 per share, First NBC expects to pay approximately \$2.0 million in consideration for the outstanding stock options.

First NBC currently estimates annual pre-tax expense reductions associated with the transaction will be approximately 55% of the annual operating expenses of State Investors. The expense savings are estimated to be fully achieved on an after-tax basis during the first full year of operations following the merger. Acquisition and conversion related costs are estimated to be ap-

> First NBC, Continued on next page.





First NBC Bank Vice Chairman Dr. Charles C. Teamer

First NBC Bank recognizes that a community based financial institution grows when it has professional and caring employees. We strive every day to supply the best banking services to each of our customers.

Majority local ownership allows us to cut through red tape and make decisions quickly when responding to our customers' financial needs. The Bank's flexible organizational structure affords our clients access to highly skilled and empowered bankers who are valued as trusted financial partners. And because we believe in open communication with customers, we will always encourage you to discuss your financial objectives and look for ways to implement them. First NBC Bank never stopped lending even during days of market instability. We're recognized as one of the top lending and service related banks throughout the Crescent City and the Metropolitan Area. So, if you want to work with a bank that makes client services its primary concern, you know who you can turn to-First NBC Bank.

www.firstnbcbank.com

504-566-8000

ORLEANS PARISH

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Carondelet Office

504-671-3560

DeGaulle Office

504-252-4300

Lakeview Office

504-671-3520

LENDER

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Commentary

The Way Forward for Black Students



Homorable Peter C.Groff Data News Contributor

For good reasons many African Americans have wonderful memories of their time in public schools. Among those recollections are the family and community legacies, the favorite teacher and the lifelong friends that were made. Even for those, particularly in the south in the 1950's and 1960's, who have mixed feelings about their public school experiences they also remember the solid foundation that public education provided for college and a career. The system, even with its flaws, was good enough for our parents and, in some cases, for us.

However, that nostalgic era must come to an end and African Americans need to remake public education for our kids.

Too many of our kids have fallen through the cracks of the one size fits all public education system that was created in the 19th Century. According to the U.S. Department

back in 3.0 years.

First NBC, Continued from previous page.

of Education, an academic achievement gap exists has been created and is widening. Nationally, on average, African American twelfth graders read at the same level as white eighth graders, and barely more than half of African Americans graduate from high school. These numbers and other statistics like them are stunning, but when you realize that the majority of people incarcerated in the U.S. are people of color who have low educational attainment, and every person who drops out of school costs society about \$260,000 in earnings, taxes and productivity, the numbers are frightening.

If our kids are going to be competitive in the burgeoning global economy we must prepare them better. President Barack Obama outlined the challenge in February of 2009 during his first address to Congress.

"In a global economy where the most valuable skill you can sell is your knowledge, a good education is no longer just a pathway to opportunity – it is a pre-requisite.

Right now, three-quarters of the fastest-growing occupations require more than a high school diploma. And yet, just over half of our citizens have that level of education...and half of the students who begin college never finish."

So how do we create a better way forward for our kids? How do we create high quality options and opportunities for all students?

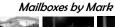
- 1. Far too often our children enter kindergarten unprepared to learn; thus, they are more likely to fall even further behind in the critical first four years of kindergarten and elementary school. Responsively, our community must demand high quality preschool programs for every four and five year old child, especially our poorest kids, and guarantee access to affordable, quality and safe child care.
- 2. Once our kids are properly prepared for K-12 education we need to ensure their learning does not stagnate or falter. We must require that our legislators and school districts give our parents high quality choice within the public school system. Innovative options like charter and online schools, homeschooling and even high performing traditional schools recognize the overwhelming body of research that shows not all children learn the same and that a one size fits all system is destined to leave countless students behind. Policymakers must deliver the K-12 choice, innovation and quality that numerous national polls show that parents are demanding, especially African American parents.
- 3. Finally, the President often reminds us that "...three-quarters

of the fastest-growing occupations require more than a high school diploma", but African American students are 45% more likely to take remedial class if they attend college, and then less than 40% graduate often because of economic pressures. The community must demand that school districts better prepare African American students for college and that legislators increase Pell grants, help families manage loan debt, slow tuition costs, and undergird community colleges. In addition, the community should clamor for high quality vocational training programs and meaningful apprenticeship opportunities for those students who elect not to attend college.

The schools of today have a unique challenge to prepare all students to compete on the world stage where critical and cutting edge thinking and knowledge are a must. For our kids' sake and for the nation's future we need to shake our nostalgic attachment to the schools of our past and demand something new. We must demand choice, innovation and quality in all our schools and for all our students.

Hon. Peter C. Groff is the former President of the Colorado Senate and a Senior Education appointee of President Barack Obama. Groff is a noted policy and political strategist and the Principal of MCG2 Consulting. Follow him on Twitter @petercgroff

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following the holding company merger, First NBC expects to merge the subsidiary banks under the charter of First NBC Bank.

First NBC was advised by Keefe Bruyette & Woods, a Stifel Company, as financial advisor, and Fenimore, Kay, Harrison & Ford, LLP, as legal counsel. State Investors was advised by Sterne Agee & Leach, Inc., as financial advisor, and Silver, Freedman, Taff & Tiernan LLP, as legal counsel.

proximately \$3.4 million on an after-tax basis. The transaction is expected to be accretive to First NBC's fully diluted earnings per share by approxi-

mately 4.4% in 2016. The proposed merger is expected to result in tangible book value dilution of approximately 2.1%, which is expected to be earned

The estimated internal rate of return for the transaction is expected to

be greater than 17%, and, therefore, in excess of First NBC's cost of capital. The merger agreement has been approved by the boards of directors

of First NBC and State Investors, and the merger is expected to close in the second quarter of 2015. Completion of the transaction is subject to customary closing conditions, including the receipt of required regulatory approvals and the approval of the shareholders of State Investors. Promptly

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