

The Weekly Press

SERVING BAKER, CENTRAL, AND ZACHARY

THURSDAY, MARCH 9-15, 2023

A PEOPLE'S PUBLICATION

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Louisiana now has a prominent Democratic candidate in the governor's race: Shawn Wilson

Wilson is the former Louisiana transportation secretary for Gov. John Bel Edwards



Louisiana now has a prominent Democrat in the governor's race, former state Transportation Secretary Shawn Wilson.

BY: JULIE O'DONOGHUE
Courtsey Louisiana Illuminator

Former Louisiana Transportation Secretary Shawn Wilson became the only major Democratic candidate to enter the governor's race Monday, emphasizing his record of working in a bipartisan manner to build roads and bridges across the state.

"We will always face obstacles. To overcome them requires leaders that will work with everyone, at all levels of government, regardless of party or ideology," Wilson said in a campaign video released Monday. "From fighting crime in our cities to flooding in our homes and businesses."

Before retiring Friday, Wilson worked for the state government for 25 years and spent the past seven as head of Louisiana's Department of Transportation and Development and a member of Gov. John Bel Edwards' cabinet.

In that position, Wilson supervised a once-in-a-generation investment of state and federal funding into Louisiana infrastructure. He presided over the agency that manages the state's roads, bridges and port projects at a time when there was more money on hand for building projects than there had been in decades. Much of that funding came in during the COVID-19 pandemic, when the federal government tried to shore up the economy with a surge in spending.

But while Wilson has extensive experience in state government, he has never held elected office and has only launched a campaign once previously. He lost a race for Lafayette City Council in 2007 and hasn't run for election since then.

Nevertheless, as the only prominent Democratic candidate in the field, Wilson stands a good chance of making

See WILSON, on page 5



Each year, Black Press Week provides an opportunity for journalists and media professionals to connect and discuss issues facing the Black Press.

BLACK PRESS WEEK

Celebrates and Empowers African American Journalism

Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire

Washington D.C. — The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) will host the annual Black Press Week from March 16-17, 2023, with events and activities aimed at promoting and empowering African

American journalism.

The two-day event kicks off on Thursday, March 16, with the NNPA's daily news show, Let It Be Known, hosting a mixer and broadcast from the Let It Be Known studios inside the NNPA's national headquarters in the historic Thurgood Marshall Trust Center, located in

Washington's historic Shaw District.

Each year, Black Press Week provides an opportunity for journalists and media professionals to connect and discuss issues facing the Black Press.

See BLACK PRESS, on page 2

Black Justice's Seat on Louisiana Court Challenged in Court Battle

The ongoing legal battle over voting rights in Louisiana has intensified, with Democratic Governor John Bel Edwards and former state Chief Justice Bernette Johnson opposing the state's attorney general's attempt to dissolve a federal court agreement. This agreement settled a lawsuit that argued Black voting strength was diluted under the old system, with only two of the five justices being elected from a district that included majority-Black New Orleans and surrounding mostly white parishes. The settlement created a new Supreme Court district, solely comprised of majority-Black New Orleans, and ensured no sitting justice was removed.



Chief Justice Bernette Johnson

However, the state's attorney general, who is running for governor, is seeking the dissolution of the agreement, arguing that it is no longer necessary. This move has been met with opposition from Edwards and Johnson, who argue that the agreement is vital to maintaining equal representation for Black voters in Louisiana. Attorneys for the original plaintiffs and the US Justice Department also disagree with the attorney general's position, stating that the state has presented no evidence to show it would not revert to old voting patterns that denied Black voters representation on the state's highest court.

If the federal court agreement is dissolved, Louisiana's Supreme Court could revert to a system that divides New Orleans and dilutes Black voting power. This outcome would have

far-reaching consequences for Black representation in Louisiana, potentially resulting in the denial of equal justice for many individuals and communities.

The case has drawn national attention as it highlights the ongoing struggle for voting rights and racial justice in America. The state's attorney general's attempt to dissolve the federal court agreement has been seen as a step backward in the fight for equal representation and voting rights for all Americans.

Legal experts are watching this case closely, as it could ultimately end up at the US Supreme Court. The outcome of this case could have a significant impact on the future of voting rights and equal representation in Louisiana and across the country.

Congressional Dysfunction Raises Risk of Debt Default, Economist Warns

WASHINGTON — As the United States approaches its debt limit, Republicans have rejected calls for bipartisanship on the issue from Democrats during the Biden administration. The Treasury Department has been using extraordinary measures to pay all of the nation's bills in full and on time, but these measures are expected to expire between late June and September. Economists are warning of the negative impact that failing to address the issue could have on federal programs, the global economy, and long-term financial prospects.



U.S. Senator John Kennedy, R-Louisiana. (U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee livestream screen capture)

Louisiana Republican Sen. John Kennedy, the ranking member on the panel, has pledged not to vote for a default on the debt but did not specify whether he would vote to raise or suspend the debt limit. In December, Kennedy voted against legislation that raised the debt limit, a stance shared by all other Senate Republicans and all but one House Republican.

Kennedy suggested that some Republicans, including House Republicans, may use the debt limit issue to address the rate of growth and debt accumulation.

Democrats introduced a bill in December to raise the debt

See DEFAULT, on page 5

WEATHER	
 MON. 03/13 Mostly Cloudy High 61°.	 WED. 03/15 Partly Cloudy High 75°.
 TUE. 03/14 Mostly Cloudy High 65°.	 THUR. 03/16 Mostly Cloudy High 82°.

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LOCAL & STATE

Louisiana Christian University to host spring Career Fair

The Center for Calling & Career at Louisiana Christian University will host a job fair Thursday, March 16 for students seeking future employment. This event allows interested students to apply for jobs in various fields according to their academic disciplines.

Students will be able to submit resumes and applications while visiting with representatives of the different employers looking for assistance in various roles.

A photographer will be in the lobby of the Student Center to take complimentary professional headshots of students.

"Our goal is hosting a Career Fair each semester on campus," said Vice President for Student Life Meredith Renner. "The Center for Calling and Career is preparing graduates by creating these networking opportunities for students to meet with employers throughout the state. We work with students throughout the academic year in hosting various workshops that include resume writing, interview skills, dining etiquette and LinkedIn 101 all in preparation for preparing for life after graduation."

Each employer will have a table set up advertising the dif-

ferent positions with applications available for interested students. The fair will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Granberry Conference Center, and 36 employers are expected to attend, representing their companies.

- Employers include :
- Caddo Parish Public Schools
 - AFCO Industries, Inc.
 - Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University
 - Dallas Police Recruiting Department
 - Share Care USA
 - Lifeline Children's Services
 - Rapides Parish Police Jury
 - CHRISTUS St. Frances Cabrini Hospital
 - Med Express Ambulance Service
 - Ugly Mug Marketing
 - Crest Industries
 - US Army Professional Recruiting/ Medical Recruiting
 - Office of Juvenile Justice
 - Pinecrest Supports and Services Center
 - St Landry Parish School Board
 - Louisiana Department of

See **FAIR**, on page 3

BLACK PRESS from page 1

The primary event, which takes place on Friday, March 17, will include the NNPA Board of Directors Meeting, held at the National Press Club's Zenger Meeting Room, from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm.

In celebration of the 196th anniversary of the Black Press, NNPA will host "The State of the Black Press Luncheon," at the National Press Club's Ballroom on the 13th floor from 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm.

The State of the Black Press Luncheon features a keynote speech from Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., NNPA President and CEO, who will speak about the

importance of the Black Press in promoting social justice and democracy.

Dr. Chavis plans to highlight the role of Black newspapers in shaping public opinion and advocating for civil rights, and a call for continued support for Black media outlets.

Dr. Benjamin Talton, Director of the Moorland-Spingarn Research Center at Howard University, will also speak at the luncheon, discussing the Black Press Archive Digitization Project at Howard University.

The project aims to digitize and preserve historical Black newspapers, making them acces-

See **PRESS**, on page 3

Louisiana lawmakers to debate medical marijuana expansion



Louisiana legislators are preparing to discuss two bills during the 2023 state legislative session, which would broaden marijuana availability throughout the state.

Louisiana lawmakers are gearing up for the 2023 state legislative session, during which they will consider two bills that would broaden marijuana access throughout the state. While the medical marijuana market in Metairie is growing, State Representative Candace Newell is proposing two bills that would expand the use, production, and sale of recreational marijuana (HB 17) and decriminalize possession

and distribution while establishing a sales tax (HB 24). However, some analysts predict that Louisiana, a predominantly conservative state, may not be ready for full recreational legalization.

Despite this, State Rep. Kyle Green, a Democrat representing Jefferson Parish, supports Newell's bills and anticipates that if they reach the House floor, they will open a conversation about further expanding the market. The passage

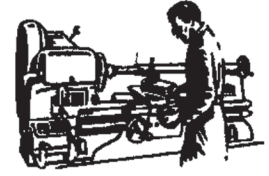
of these bills could also result in an increase in licenses and growers of marijuana to meet the growing demand.

While Louisiana is currently categorized as a state that only permits medical marijuana use, the state's movement towards even that category is considered progressive by some. However, Governor John Bel Edwards and most lawmakers have opposed efforts to legalize recreational marijuana.

Additionally, the legislature is likely to discuss THC products sold as Delta-8 and Delta-9 during the upcoming legislative session. Governor Edwards has indicated that there will be a clampdown on these products, which may have been legalized unintentionally

See **EXPANION**, on page 3

READER INFORMATION



How to Reach Us
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The office is open 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday and located at 4910 Montecello Blvd. Baton Rouge, LA 70814

Correction Policy
The Baton Rouge Weekly Press strives to be fair and accurate. The newspaper corrects any significant errors of fact brought to the attention of the editor. If you think an error has been made, call 225-775-200

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Rep. Carter Praises \$26 Million to Address Emerging Contaminants in Louisiana's Drinking Water

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, Congressman Troy A. Carter, Sr. (D-La.) announced that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will grant \$26,300,000 from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to address emerging contaminants like Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in Louisiana's drinking water. This investment will be made available through EPA's Emerging Contaminants in Small or Disadvantaged Communities (EC-SDC) Grant Program and will promote access to safe and clean water in small, rural, and disadvantaged communities.



Grant Program and will promote access to safe and clean water in small, rural, and disadvantaged communities.

PRESS from page 2

sible to researchers and the public.

The event also promises to provide an opportunity for attendees to network and engage with Black media professionals from across the country, including publishers, editors, and journalists.

Tickets are required for entry to the event, and attendees can reserve their seating at www.nnpa-events.com.

Black Press Week remains a vital event for the NNPA, providing a platform to celebrate and promote the achievements of Black journalists and media professionals, and to discuss the challenges facing the industry.

The event aims to empower and inspire the next generation of Black journalists, and to support the continued growth and success of the Black Press.

EXPANSION from page 2

through hemp-related laws.

The 2023 Regular Legislative Session is scheduled to begin on Mon., April 10. In the meantime, H&W Drug Store in Metairie is seeing increased demand for its regulated medical marijuana products, especially for individuals suffering from autism, pain, PTSD, or anxiety.

"The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is bringing critical investments in our water systems, roads, bridges, and broadband," said Rep. Carter. "Too many Louisianians are being harmed by exposure to PFAS and other dangerous contaminants in their drinking water. The funding announced today will provide millions of dollars to strengthen our state's water infrastructure while protecting people's health and boosting local economies."

Congressman Carter advo-

cated and voted for the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law which invests \$5 billion over five years to help communities that are on the frontlines of PFAS contamination reduce PFAS in drinking water. EPA announced the funds as part of an allotment of \$2 billion to states and territories that can be used to prioritize infrastructure and source water treatment for pollutants, like PFAS and other emerging contaminants, and to conduct water quality testing.

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- Corrections
- Save the Children
- United Way of Central Louisiana
- Central Louisiana AHEC
- Rehabilitation Services of CenLA
- Connect Ministries
- Cleco
- Grant Parish School System
- Camp Uskichitto
- RoyOMartin
- Onelife Church
- workforce Solutions
- WNTZ Fox 48TV Nexstar Media

- Rapides Parish School Board Office
- Rapides Regional Medical Center
- Department of Health
- Heart of Hospice

"Local employers continue to demonstrate their trust in the students who complete their college undergraduate education with Louisiana Christian University by joining us for this annual event," said LCU President Dr. Rick Brewer. "Employers realize students who are products of the University's Mission and Vision are ready to lead, learn and serve in the workplace."



CITY OF BAKER NEWS

City Hall Gets a New Coat of Paint




Workers are on site now painting City Hall as the building undergoes various improvements. Seen here is the beautiful new coat of paint on the Municipal Center Building!



Work continues on the installation of new gas lines on Lavey Lane

Pictured here is a tractor pulling the new four (4) inch line through the underground conduit. The second picture is of the coiled line in its staging area prior to installation.



THIS MONTH

[MARCH]

@ BREC

POLKADOTS: THE COOL KIDS
MUSICAL Independence Park Theatre March 2 | 7 p.m.

ARTIST'S STUDIO: COLLAGE
Baringer Art Center March 3 | 9:30 a.m.-noon

ART UNWIND: WELCOME SPRING!
Baringer Art Center March 3 | 6:30-8:30 p.m.

COMITE RIVER RUN
Comite River Park March 4 | 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

MOVIE IN THE PARK
EGGSTRAVAGANZA Anna T. Jordan Community Park March 8 | noon-3 p.m.

THE EDGE OF NIGHT – WINTER
Highland Road Park Observatory March 10 | 5:30-7:30 p.m.

GLOW IN THE PARK: CAPTURE THE FLAG
Antioch Boulevard Park March 10 | 6-7:30 p.m.

GLOW IN THE PARK: KICKBALL
Jackson Community Park March 10 | 6-7:30 p.m.

MARDI GRAS FUN RUN 5K
Perkins Road Community Park March 11 | 10 a.m.-noon

ROCKIN' AT THE SWAMP
Bluebonnet Swamp Nature Center March 11 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

ARTSFEST@BARINGER PARK
Baringer Road Park March 11 | 5-8 p.m.

ART INTENSIVE WORKSHOP: SKETCHBOOK 101
Baringer Art Center March 13 | 9:30-11:30 a.m.

ZOO + ME MORNINGS
Baton Rouge Zoo March 14 | 9:30-11:30 a.m.

MEMBER'S NIGHT AT THE ZOO
Baton Rouge Zoo March 17 | 4-6:30 p.m.

SUNSHINE SOCIAL: GREEN-OUT PARTY
Milton J. Womack Park March 17 | 6-9 p.m.

CONTINUOUS EGG HUNT
Jackson Community Park March 18 | 1-3 p.m.
Forest Community Park March 25 | 1-3 p.m.

SUMMER CAMP

REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 4

brec.org/summertime

ATHLETICS BASKETBALL OPEN HOUSE
Sports Academy March 19 | noon-6 p.m.

CAMP-IN' Lovett Road Park
March 20 | 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.





SCOTLANDVILLE PARKWAY ARTWALK
Scotlandville Parkway March 25 | 1-5 p.m.








PLUS NIGHT: ASTEROIDS
Highland Road Park Observatory March 25 | 7-10 p.m.

ADULT FUN PICKLEBALL DOUBLES TOURNAMENT
Greenwood Community Park Tennis Center March 25 | 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

SENSORY BUNNY
Zachary Community Park March 31 | 6-8 p.m.

BREC.ORG/THISMONTH



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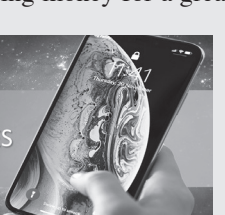
The Baker Chamber of Commerce will host its very first charity Golf Tournament this year. The Tournament is scheduled for Friday, April 21, starting at 8:00 am and will be held at the BREC Beaver Creek Golf Course located at 1100 Plains-Port Hudson Road in Zachary, Louisiana 70791.

Beyond participation as a golfer, we are also currently seeking Hole Sponsorships for the Tournament. Sponsorships are \$100.00 and will allow each sponsor to have the opportunity to advertise their business at one of the holes on the course. Proceeds from this event will benefit the City of Baker School System.

Donations are welcome through Eventbrite, and checks are payable to Baker Chamber of Commerce. We are looking forward to a great day of fun, networking, and raising money for a great local cause. Baker "Fore"ward!

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<https://cityofbakerla.com/wp/subscribe/>.

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RELIGION

What to do When You Feel Spiritually Suffocated

Spirituality is an important aspect of life, as it helps us find purpose, meaning, and fulfillment. However, sometimes we may feel spiritually suffocated, as if we are unable to connect with God or find peace and solace in our beliefs. If you're experiencing this, it can be challenging, but there are things you can do to overcome it.

Here are some steps you can take when you feel spiritually suffocated:

1. Pray: The Bible encourages us to pray, and it's a powerful way to connect with God. When you feel spiritually suffocated, take some time to pray and ask God for guidance, strength, and wisdom. Philippians 4:6-7 says, "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

2. Read the Bible: Reading the Bible can be an excellent way to find spiritual nourishment and clarity. You can start with the Psalms, Proverbs, or the Gospels to find words of encouragement and wisdom. Hebrews 4:12 says, "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any



twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

3. Find a spiritual community: Being part of a spiritual community can provide support, encouragement, and accountability. You can join a church, attend Bible studies or prayer groups, or connect with other believers online. Hebrews 10:25 says, "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the

day approaching."

4. Practice gratitude: Sometimes, when we feel spiritually suffocated, we may focus on what we don't have or what we're struggling with. Practicing gratitude can help shift our focus and remind us of the blessings we have. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 says, "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

5. Serve others: Serving others can be a way to connect with God and find fulfillment. You can volunteer at a local charity, help a neighbor in need, or simply reach

out to a friend who's going through a tough time. Matthew 25:40 says, "And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

In conclusion, feeling spiritually suffocated can be challenging, but there are things you can do to overcome it. Pray, read the Bible, find a spiritual community, practice gratitude, and serve others. These steps can help you reconnect with God, find purpose, and experience the peace that surpasses all understanding.

Speak It Into Existence

by Creflo Dollar

Many people want to see good things happen in their lives, but they feel powerless to make them happen. Some may believe that the ability to attract positivity is out of their control, and that good luck randomly descends on a chosen few. However, luck has nothing to do with it. By exercising faith, we can bring things into existence by speaking the Word.

In the beginning, God brought creation into existence by the power of His spoken Word (Genesis 1:3-29). He commanded, and literally created something out of nothing. We have the same power, as God gave it to His Son (Matthew 28:18), and it is available to us when we become born again. "Behold! I have given you authority and power to trample upon serpents and scorpions, and [physical and mental strength and ability] over all the power that the enemy [possesses]; and nothing shall in any way harm you" (Luke 10:19, AMPC).

Believers have the same ability to get results as God. When Jesus walked the earth, He commanded healing and brought the dead back to life. We have been given the same authority. "...Even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were" (Ro-

mans 4:17).

The ability to speak things into existence is a spiritual law that comes into play by faith. Jesus demonstrated this power with the centurion who asked Jesus to heal his servant. The man simply asked for verbal confirmation of that healing and believed it before he saw it. The result was supernatural.

The power of our speech applies to all areas of our life, whether it's concerning our families, our relationships, our finances, or our jobs. We have the right to command into existence peace in our marriages, happiness in our children, tranquility in our households, and stability in our finances. However, we must be careful because this power works for evil as well as for good. "A wholesome tongue is a tree of life: but perverseness therein is a breach in the spirit" (Proverbs 15:4). Whatever we experience in the physical realm is first born in the spiritual realm.

Our words can either be a blessing or a curse, and what we



Creflo Dollar

See **SPEAK**, on page 5

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WILSON from page 1

the gubernatorial runoff between the top two candidates in November. In October's primary, he will likely have the 30% to 40% of the state's voting population that identifies as Democratic to himself, while the Republican vote splits among several candidates.

Four GOP candidates – state Sen. Sharon Hewitt, Attorney General Jeff Landry, state Rep. Richard Nelson and Treasurer John Schroder – have entered the governor's race. Congressman Garret Graves and Louisiana House Speaker Clay Schexnayder are also considering campaigns.

Political independent Hunter Lundy, a wealthy attorney and Christian preacher, is also running and raising more campaign money than some of his GOP contenders.

Still, Democrats have struggled to win statewide elections in Louisiana over the past decade. Only Edwards, who won governor's races in 2015 and 2019, has managed to get elected as a Democrat statewide since 2014.

A longtime resident of Lafayette, Wilson holds an undergraduate degree in urban and regional planning from the University of Louisiana Lafayette and a doctorate in public policy from Southern University.

DEFAULT from page 1

limit by \$2.5 trillion, but the federal government reached its \$31.4 trillion limit in mid-January. Despite Democrats' calls for bipartisanship, Republicans have rejected the idea, potentially setting up a showdown in Congress.

Democrats are warning that failure to address the issue could lead to catastrophic consequences for the economy, while Republicans are using the issue to talk about the rate of growth and spending. As the deadline for action approaches, it remains to be seen whether the two parties will be able to find common ground on the issue.

SPEAKE from page 4

repeatedly declare can manifest in us as well as in others. We should be mindful of what we speak into our own lives and into the lives of others. Ignorance of the authority of

the spoken word can bring pain and suffering. "Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof" (Proverbs 18:21). It's our choice whether we bring to life something evil or something good; we must speak life.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

REVOLUTIONIZING HEALTHCARE

CareSouth Medical and Dental Leads the Charge in Baton Rouge and Beyond



BATON ROUGE La. — CareSouth Medical and Dental is a healthcare facility that is transforming the healthcare landscape in Baton Rouge, Donaldsonville, and Plaquemine under the innovative leadership of CEO Matthew Valliere. With his impressive credentials, Valliere is bringing an extraordinary wealth of knowledge and expertise to the table to spearhead a healthcare revolution.



CEO Matthew Valliere

Under his leadership, CareSouth has undergone a comprehensive rebranding effort to infuse the healthcare center with a fresh, inclusive identity. This has enabled CareSouth to reintroduce itself to the community and showcase its vast range of quality services, such as adult medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, podiatry, oral

Center that provides a comprehensive range of community-based medical, dental, and behavioral health services. The facility is guided by a consumer-majority volunteer board of directors whose mission is to provide comprehensive, affordable, high-quality healthcare with compassion and respect for all.

The experienced team at CareSouth provides a broad range of medical, dental, and behavioral health services at their main location in Baton Rouge and in satellite clinics located in Donaldsonville, Plaquemine, and Zachary, Louisiana. CareSouth also provides onsite behavioral services in two Charter USA Foundation schools.

CareSouth is recognized by the National Committee for

Quality Assurance (NCQA) as a Level 2 Patient-Centered Medical Home, which is a testament to the facility's commitment to providing patient-centered care. Originally launched in 1997 as Capitol City Family Health Center (CCFHC), CareSouth changed its name in April 2016 to be more inclusive of the communities they serve.

In summary, CareSouth Medical and Dental is a healthcare facility that is at the forefront of a healthcare revolution, providing comprehensive, affordable, high-quality healthcare with compassion and respect for all. With their focus on patient-centered care and community outreach, CareSouth is committed to improving healthcare access and outcomes for underserved populations.

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C. Denise Marcelle

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • DISTRICT 61

C. DENISE MARCELLE is an impressive individual who has overcome incredible odds to become a political powerhouse in Louisiana. As a single teen mother, and a survivor of domestic violence and drug abuse, Marcelle's journey to the Louisiana House of Representatives has been nothing short of remarkable.

During her time as a Baton Rouge Metro Council member from 2008 to 2015, Marcelle was a fearless leader who tackled some of the most pressing issues in her community. Her work focused on criminal justice reform, economic inequality, and domestic

violence. Her bold and fearless leadership has made her a beacon of hope for the marginalized and the oppressed.

Marcelle is a passionate advocate for social justice causes and has earned numerous awards and recognitions for her work. She has been recognized for her tireless efforts to improve education and healthcare in Louisiana, making her a powerful voice for change. Marcelle's bold and daring spirit has made her a force to be reckoned with, and her ability to take risks and stand up for what she believes in has inspired many.

In 2016, Marcelle made national headlines when she ran for mayor-president of Baton Rouge and East Baton Rouge Parish, demonstrating her

fearless approach to politics and her commitment to making a difference. Although she did not win the election, Marcelle's impact on the political landscape of Louisiana has been undeniable.

Today, Marcelle serves as a fierce Democratic member of the Louisiana House of Representatives, where she continues to fight for social justice causes and work tirelessly to improve the lives of her constituents. Her passion for public service and unwavering dedication to her community have made her a force to be reckoned with in East Baton Rouge Parish, and her impact on Louisiana's political landscape is nothing less than awe-inspiring. C. Denise Marcelle is a true champion of the people and a beacon of hope for a better future.



BATON ROUGE BLACK HISTORY MAKERS 365

Celebrating the accomplishments of History Makers, both past and present, is an important way to recognize their contributions to society and inspire others to pursue greatness. By acknowledging their achievements, we honor the hard work, dedication, and perseverance that have helped shape our world. Celebrating History Makers also allows us to reflect on the progress we have made as a society, and to recognize the ongoing struggles that continue to shape our collective future. Whether we look to our community leaders, historical figures, or everyday people who have made a difference in the world, celebrating History Makers helps us appreciate the power of human potential and the importance of making a positive impact on the world around us.




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Judge Tiffany Foxworth-Roberts
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