

Eastern New Orleans Newsletter

June 15, 2009

Retail center financing backed Lake Forest Plaza would get help

Times-Picayune
Saturday, June 13, 2009
By Kate Morgan

Lake Forest Plaza moved a step closer to revival on Friday, when a public agency agreed to use sales tax collections to help redevelop the eastern New Orleans shopping center, located in an area largely bereft of retail since Hurricane Katrina.

Cesar Burgos, a local attorney and prominent supporter of Mayor Ray Nagin whom minority owner Ashton Ryan chose as the developer of the property, told the Lake Forest Plaza District board that the shopping center would remain idle if not for the dedicated sales tax.

Burgos is trying to lure Wal-Mart, in addition to higher-end outlet stores that would attract shoppers from across the region. The mall would be renamed the Markeplace at Pointe Maree. The matter will still be brought before the City Council. Full story:
<http://www.nola.com/business/top/index.ssf?/base/money-2/1244871058294220.xml&coll=1>

RESIDENTS IN NEW ORLEANS EAST EXPERIENCE SMOOTHER ROADWAYS

City, State and Federal Funds Continue to Rehabilitate Damaged Roadways
Mayor's Press Office
June 10, 2009

NEW ORLEANS, LA - Residents of New Orleans East are beginning to see a transformation of their neighborhood streets with the completion of multiple reconstruction projects over the past year. Heavily damaged following Hurricane Katrina, many federal, state and city dollars have gone toward the replacement of roadways, sidewalks and streetscape enhancements in the large New Orleans community. With the recent completion of Redwood Street and Sandalwood Street, as well as the completion of reconstructed streets such as Adele Street, Fulton Street, Cardenas Drive and Papania Drive, the City is working to restore neighborhoods throughout New Orleans East.

"Many of these projects were approved by the voters as part of the 2000 general obligation bond funds and we knew it was important to get them restarted," said Robert Mendoza, Director of Public Works. "Now that the reconstruction of these roadways is complete, we can focus more attention on finalizing the design phase for other reconstruction projects in New Orleans East and throughout the City."

Since 2007, nearly \$18.7 million in City bond funds has gone to New Orleans East to repair Adele Street, Fulton Street, Cardenas Drive, Papania Drive, Redwood Street, Sandalwood Street and the Michoud Boulevard Bridge over Maxent Canal.

See Roadways, continued on page 7

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2** Calendar of Events
- 3** Job Opportunities
- 4** The Making of a City
- 8** Neighborhood of the Week

Calendar of Events

Monday, June 8, 2009 – Friday, July 17, 2009. 7:30 am – 3:30 pm daily. Operation S.O.W. Summer Camp. 9869 East Wheaton Circle in New Orleans East. \$60 per week. After care 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm, \$15 per day. Operated by Mrs. “Bess” Bynum-Vaughn. Activities include culinary arts, multicultural activities, field trips, basketball swimming, bingo, singing, dancing, and much more. For more information, call (504) 245-4100 or (504) 259-4398.

Monday, June 8, 2009 – Friday, July 17, 2009. Resurrection of Our Lord School Learn and Play Summer Camp. Call (504) 243-2257 for more information.

Monday, June 15, 2009. Home Depot Building Healthy Communities Grant Program deadline. The grant provides support to nonprofit organizations, public schools, and public service agencies using the power of volunteers to improve the physical health of their communities. Grants of up to \$2,500 are made in the form of Home Depot gift cards for the purchase of tools or materials. Other Deadlines: Sept 15 & Dec 15. More information:

<http://corporate.homedepot.com/wps/portal/Grants>

Tuesday, June 16, 2009. School Rebuild Meeting. Osborne Elementary School. Input on preliminary schematic design is needed from neighbors, teachers and students. Visit www.rsdl.net for more information.

Wednesday, June 17, 2009 6:30 pm. NOPD 7th District New Orleans Neighborhood and Police Anti-Crime Council (NONPACC) meeting. 10555 Lake Forest Blvd. NONPACC meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

New! Wednesday, June 17, 2009 2:00 p.m. New Orleans Recovery Committee Meeting. First floor of City Hall in the City Council Chamber located at 1300 Perdido Street. Councilmember Cynthia Willard-Lewis, Co-Chair

Thursday, June 18, 2009. School Rebuild Meeting. Osborne Elementary School. Input on preliminary schematic design is needed from neighbors, teachers and students. Visit www.rsdl.net for more information.

New! Thursday, June 18, 2009. Jazz City Java Coffeehouse. Chess Club every Thursday evening beginning on, June 18th. Game Time is at 5:00 pm (or as soon as you arrive). We’ll keep the doors open until 8:00 pm so you’ll have time to Get Your Game On!! So, bring your boards and your game!!! Come be a part of the chess community in New Orleans East. All ages and skill levels are invited. 5555 Bullard Ave, NOLA, 70128 504-245-8282 JAZZ CITY JAVA COFFEEHOUSE

Saturday, June 20, 2009 6:00 pm. Rev. Barbara Murray’s Piano Class Recital. Cornerstone United Methodist Church. 5276 Bullard Ave.

New! Tuesday, June 23, 2009 1:30 pm. City Planning Commission Meeting. City Hall Chambers.

Friday, June 26, 2009 10:30 am. Civil District Court, Division K. The blighted La Provence Apartments at 8181 Lake Forest Blvd., will be addressed.

Friday, June 26 – Sunday, June 28, 2009. Fourth Weekend. Support our New Orleans East businesses by shopping exclusively in the East! **KEEP THE MONEY IN THE FAMILY!**

New! Saturday, June 27, 2009. 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm. Renaissance Market Place monthly arts/crafts/food market offering fresh produce, fine arts and crafts, cuisine from area restaurants, and live music. Occurs on the fourth Saturday of every month.

New! Sunday, June 28, 2009. 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm. Women’s Tea. Jazz City Java Coffeehouse. Fashion show, inspirational speaker. Tickets on sale June 15, 2009 -- \$8 in advance; \$10 at the door.

New! Tuesday, June 30, 2009 6:00 p.m. ENONAC Commissioners Advisory Board (CAB) Meeting for neighborhood association presidents. St. Maria Goretti, Rooms 3 and 4. Each neighborhood should be represented. CAB meetings occur on the last Tuesday of each month.

New! Friday, July 3, 2009 10 am – 3 pm (registration at 8:30 am). Behrman Stadium, 2529 General Meyer Ave, New Orleans, LA. Robert Royal (Cleveland Browns) & Ryan Clark’s (Superbowl Champion Pittsburgh Steelers) T.E.A.M. Camp (Together Each Achieves More). For additional information, please contact T.E.A.M. Camp coordinator Katrina Leonce at profilesgroup@yahoo.com

New! Monday, July 13 – July 17, 2009. 6 pm - 8:30 pm. Cornerstone United Methodist Church Vacation Bible School. 5276 Bullard Ave. 5 years & up.

New! Tuesday, July 14, 2009 6:00 pm. Eastern New Orleans Neighborhood Advisory Commission monthly meeting. St. Maria Goretti Church. ENONAC meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

New! Wednesday, July 15, 2009 6:30 pm. NOPD 7th District New Orleans Neighborhood and Police Anti-Crime Council (NONPACC) meeting. 10555 Lake Forest Blvd. NONPACC meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Job Opportunities

Various Employment opportunities at **McDonald's restaurants**. Visit www.mcstate.com or call 504-569-0120

Auditor (Contract Audit), Department Of Defense, Defense Contract Audit Agency, New Orleans, LA, \$38,117 - \$49,553. Closes Friday, August 28, 2009. Progressively challenging assignments that involve the systematic examination and appraisal of financial records, reports, management controls, policies, & practices affecting or reflecting the financial condition & operation of DOD & other Federal agency contractors. Will be in front of top level decision makers—from CEO's of Fortune 500 companies to high-level military & civilian government personnel. Gain broad-based professional experience. Work often performed on-site at major defense & other contractor installations in inclusive environment which fosters teamwork, open communication, trust, & mutual respect. More information: <http://jobsearch.usajobs.gov/getjob.asp?JobID=75202192&AVSDM=2009%2D02%2D13+07%3A26%3A53&Logo=0&sort=rv&vw=d&brd=3876&ss=0&customapplicant=15513,15514,15515,15669,15523,15512,15516,45575&q=contract+auditor>

US Census positions available. Good pay, flexible hours, paid training. Field employee selection aid test every Tuesday and Thursday. 9 AM and 1 PM. St Bernard Parish Government Building Room 213, every Friday 10 AM Nunez Community College, Classroom J-4. No appointment necessary. Bring I.D. and social security card or birth certificate.

New! Accounting Technician, GS-0525-05/07, National Finance Center, eastern New Orleans. \$30,772 - \$49,553. Closes Tuesday, June 16, 2009. <http://jobview.usajobs.gov/getjob.aspx?JobID=81292752&lid=17707&sort=rv%2c-dtex&jbf522=0525&vw=d&re=134&FedEmp=N&FedPub=Y&caller=series.aspx&AVSDM=2009-06-10+00%3a03%3a00&rc=3&TabNum=1>

PLEASE PROVIDE JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM YOUR WORKPLACE TO POST HERE

New Orleans East Business Association (NOEBA) seeking new Members

NOEBA, located at 5690 Eastover Drive, was founded in 1974 by a group of business owners and citizens to promote economic and successful growth in New Orleans East. The organization's general membership meets monthly to discuss issues that affect New Orleans East and network.

Annual dues are \$75. For more information, call 504.458.5809 or visit www.noeba.biz.

Six Flags declares bankruptcy N.O. to file claim to protect its interests

By Thomas Heath, The Washington Post
As reported in the Times-Picayune
Sunday, June 14, 2009

Theme park operator Six Flags Inc. declared bankruptcy Saturday after failing to reach a deal with lenders on \$2.4 billion in debt.

It was not clear Saturday how a Six Flags reorganization might affect negotiations between the company and City Hall over the shuttered Six Flags amusement park in eastern New Orleans.

(See letter from Southern Star Amusement regarding Six Flags on page 11)

Loaned labor program launched Space firm trumpets win-win concept

By Allison Good
Times-Picayune
Sunday, June 14, 2009

Lockheed Martin Space Systems' New Orleans facility will implement a loaned labor program to keep workers employed as NASA begins to shut down its space shuttle program.

Lockheed Martin, which has just over 2,000 employees at its eastern New Orleans facility, has built external fuel tanks for the space shuttles for 36 years, but will halt production of the tanks completely when the shuttle program ends in 2010. By loaning its employees out as the space shuttle program winds down, Lockheed Martin hopes to hang on to its highly trained workers until they are needed again when work on future space projects ramps up.

Full story: http://blog.nola.com/tpmoney/2009/06/lockheed_martin_is_implementin.html

Valuable resource for the East

Salaries at the USDA's National Finance Center in eastern New Orleans average \$20,000 more per year than the average salary in New Orleans.

The Making of a City Part I

Prior to Hurricane Katrina, residents of eastern New Orleans kicked around the idea of incorporating the area into a city, separate from New Orleans.

Frustration with the city's perceived lack of interest in issues that affected the area, such as oversaturation of multi-family housing, and poorly maintained apartment complexes led residents to begin thinking, "What if..?"

After Katrina, it seemed that, again, issues of eastern New Orleans were not being addressed, as other areas of the city experienced economic development that the East was not a part of. As a result, the idea of incorporating the area got its second wind.

What seemed like an unlikely possibility has gained the interest of local and state leaders. We certainly wouldn't be the only area to try this. The June 9, 2009 edition of NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams featured a story on Miami Gardens, FL, an area which became a city after experiencing some of the same problems that eastern New Orleans faces today, and an area which shares similar demographics.

An area of approximately 110,000 residents with high crime and blighted neighborhoods, Miami Gardens is now thriving, and has in six years become Florida's largest predominantly African-American city, while hosting the Jazz in the Gardens festival this year. Next year the city will host the Super Bowl.

How did they do it? Although there was doubt that there was enough money to support city services, the residents voted to more than double their property taxes, started their own police department with over 200 officers, cleaned up trash and improved housing codes.

Lessons learned from the citizens of Miami Gardens are that it may take huge sacrifices and certainly, a great deal of commitment to establish a city.

To view the NBC Nightly News story:
<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/3032619/#31193895>

Next week: Prince George's County, MD – Another success story.

Fort Pike reopens again after storm repairs **Historic site hugs shore in eastern New Orleans**

By Kia Hall Hayes
Times-Picayune
Friday, June 12, 2009

Historic Fort Pike, the 182-year-old fortification, built to withstand invasions from land or sea, sits on New Orleans' eastern shore near the Rigolets, and has been closed for more than two years after storm surge from Hurricane Katrina submerged the 14-foot-high structure and left significant structural damage to the site, which had already fallen into disrepair due to decades of neglect.

The site was reopened on Friday at 1 p.m. in a ribbon-cutting ceremony with Lt. Gov. Mitch Landrieu.

Full story: <http://www.nola.com/northshore/t-p/towncrier/index.ssf?/base/news-2/1209758427146140.xml&coll=1>

The United Way for the Greater New Orleans Area presents "At the Crossroads: Where to Turn in a Changing Economy," a program to educate and assist people who have lost their jobs. Each session will provide information on coping with job loss, the effects of stress, how to find a new job, budgeting to meet basic needs, and credit and debt management. Visit www.unitedwaynola.org/crossroads.html for information and to register. Monday, 2-4 pm at the United Way offices, 1st floor conference center, 2515 Canal St.; and June 23 6-8 pm at the same location.

Renaissance Market Place

Saturday, June 27, 2009

4:00 pm – 7:00 pm

5700 Read Blvd

504-261-5067

<http://www.renaissancemarketplace.net/>

email: renaissancemarketplace@yahoo.com

Adjacent to Lowe's Home Improvement Store

I-10 Service Rd. & Read Blvd.

Come enjoy the opening of

Eastern New Orleans' first Community Marketplace

Enjoy an eclectic mix of

Shopping, Arts and Crafts,

Cuisine from area Restaurants, and

Dance to Free Entertainment

Every 4th Saturday

Vendors are still being accepted

Eastern New Orleans Grocery Store Survey

An eastern New Orleans entrepreneur wants you to answer the following questions:

1. What type of grocery store do you want in your community?
2. What kind of service are you looking for?
3. How do you want your grocery store to look?
4. Would you want a Whole Foods type concept in your community?
5. If a brand new grocery store came to your community, would you support it even if Wal-Mart comes?

Please answer the questions so we can develop the best store for Eastern New Orleans.

Email your answers to the following address:

NewNolaPromo@gmail.com

Dear Neighbors,

There was a vote for the Master Plan to be made law once it was finished. We signed a blank check, Senate Bill 75 will give us an opportunity to review the plan and vote on it before it is made law.

I along with many others have gone to the Master Planning Meetings and the desires of the residents are not in it. This is our home, this is where we live, everyone has a right to have a good quality of life.

Yes, we want to see what we are going to have in our neighbors that will affect us for years before anything is signed into law. It is better for us to fight now in a proactive manner and let them know what we want in our area; just as people who live in areas have that right. We don't want to see multi unit housing and a lot of rental units. We are not the North, we do not want to be piled on top each other, we like our front porches and back yards. We are not just property owners, we sleep, raise our children, play and worship here. If we had businesses and hospitals we would also work here.

My friends and neighbors we must take a stand and send a message under one voice for the passage of Senate Bill 75. Please call all the City Council Members, State Representatives, and Senators and let them know you want them to support Senate Bill 75. We only have Friday, Monday, and Tuesday, from what I have been told they will vote on Wednesday.

Please do not let them put any plan into "LAW" until we approve it. Remember this ""Plan will not only affect us but, generations to come and we owe our children and grandchildren a wonderful place to live and work.

VOTE YES SENATE BILL 75

Thank You,

Maddie Trepagnier

(You can get the addresses and phone number for the Legislators at www.legis.state.la.us/. See City Council contact information on page 10. Senate Bill 75 requires voter approval of any master plan which has the force of law in Orleans Parish.)

Roadways, continued from page 1

"New Orleans East is showing great progress in the redevelopment of its neighborhoods, and the City is a key partner providing safer, more viable streets for drivers spearheading more development which ultimately brings more people into the community," said Cynthia Sylvain - Lear, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer.

Currently, the City and FEMA are working to repair roadway and sidewalk damage caused by the debris removal process that followed Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. To date over 1,200 repairs to individual patching sites have been completed in the Read Boulevard East, Little Woods, Viavant and Lake Catherine neighborhoods. Similar repairs will begin soon in the Pines Village, Plum Orchard, West Lake Forest, Read Boulevard West and Village de Lest neighborhoods. The current total estimated value of these repairs in New Orleans East is \$5.6 million for over 3,000 repairs.

In the coming years, the City plans to invest approximately \$20 million to reconstruct streets such as Michoud Boulevard, Old Spanish Trail, Vienna Street and Wright Road.

In addition, as part of the South Louisiana Submerged Roads Program administered by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and funded by the Federal Highway Administration, Downman Road and Almonaster Boulevard will be rehabilitated in the coming year. The rehabilitation of Crowder Boulevard was completed last year at an estimated cost of \$1.1 million.

Furthermore, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development is continuing to invest in New Orleans East to maintain the interstates. Previously, the State repaved all of the I-510 and re-landscaped the I-10 median

from I-510 to Michoud Boulevard. Currently, the State is rehabilitating I-10 past Michoud Boulevard and, coming later this year, the State will solicit bids for the landscaping of I-10 up to Michoud Boulevard and the High Rise.

"New Orleans East residents are very excited to see the recovery of our city underway in their neighborhoods and projects that include major and minor street repair certainly prove that the East is not forgotten," said Council member Cynthia Willard - Lewis, District E. "The Department of Public Works continues to show their commitment to allocating dollars from Capital Bonds voted on by our citizens to make our streets safe."

Beyond street reconstruction projects, the City is using Community Development Block Grant funds to revitalize some of the commercial corridors in New Orleans East. Approximately \$3.5 million will be used for streetscape enhancements on Read, Lake Forest, Crowder and Alcee Fortier boulevards. Currently in the design phase, these improvements are expected to begin construction in early 2010.

"These streetscape enhancement projects go beyond reconstructing a street to revitalize multiple commercial corridors in New Orleans East," said Mendoza. "Based on input received at two community meetings, these projects will include pedestrian lighting enhancements, spaces for public art, addition of trees, and pedestrian and bicycle improvements, to name a few."

For more information, visit www.cityofno.com or contact Lesley Eugene, (504) 416-7694 leugene@mayorofno.com or Ceeon Quiett, (504) 473-0776 cquiett@mayorofno.com

Neighborhood of the Week

Lake Barrington

There are approximately 40 neighborhoods in eastern New Orleans. Neighborhoods featured in past editions are Venetian Isles, Kingswood, Lake Willow, Lakewood East, and Chimney Wood.

The Lake Barrington Subdivision is composed of middle class citizens surrounded by a man-made lake. Many residents have boats that are used to tour the lake. All homes have docks for entertainment and to store their boats. This subdivision has a solid association that meets monthly.

Each year the association participates in the annual "Night Out Against Crime". The residents also have a Christmas yard decorating contest. In a few months, the beautiful Lake Barrington sign will go up and the lake home owner lot will be gated.

There are over 250 beautiful homes in Lake Barrington, which is bounded by the 1-10 Service Road, Wright Road, and Morrison Road.

The Lake Barrington mission statement is: *The mission of the Lake Barrington Neighborhood Association is a coalition of residents and property owners who are interested in promoting a healthy and stable neighborhood through positive community interactions, strong neighborhood networks, education about neighborhood problems and opportunities and positive action of the neighbors and our neighborhood environment.*

The association has been in existence for over twenty years.

The officers are: President, Ann Mitchell; Vice President, Dr. Lindsey Moore; Treasurer, Ida Bouttee; and Secretary, Monique Hicks-Cook.

The web site is: www.lakebarringtonno.org.

The mailing address is 7441 Lake Barrington Drive, New Orleans, Louisiana 70128.

The association phone number is 504-554-5240.

The subdivision is surrounded by a beautiful lake. All homes are custom built homes. Therefore, they

are all unique and have their own character.

Lake Barrington provides an ideal environment for growing families. Secure, limited access manned gated entrances will be implemented soon. Lake Barrington also offers a wide variety of activities for children of all age groups. Getting to school and work is easy, as the subdivision is located near the interstate and major streets. The subdivision is surrounded by beautiful trees.

Lake Barrington includes all types of well-appointed homes with private pools and spas. Owners of luxury homes in Lake Barrington are far away from the hustle and bustle of the city and all residents enjoy the peace and quiet of the outlying subdivision.

Future plans for Lake Barrington are: 1) A gated subdivision manned by a guard, 2) A lighted sign to be posted at the main entrances, 3) The implementation of a neighborhood crime watch program, 4) To board up the few blighted homes, 5) To place speed bumps on all streets in the subdivision, 6) To improve the lake association lot by placing benches and a locked gate, and 7) To put temporary gates around all blighted properties.

There are a few beautiful homes for sale in this exclusive subdivision. Here is your chance as a consumer to take a peak at luxury homes you would normally only be able to drive by and imagine the inside.

About 90 % of homeowners are back in Lake Barrington, and only a small percentage of residents are new.

Lake Barrington is a family-oriented subdivision where all homeowners take pride in their property. Each night, as the spectacular sunsets diminish, the lights around the Lake come alive and reveal a jewel box effect that is phenomenal.

Lake Barrington is the best kept secret in New Orleans.

(Contributed by Monique Hicks-Cook)

Would you like to provide information about your subdivision? Email lakebullard@aol.com.

Budget Earmarks

According to the Saturday, June 13, 2009 edition of the Times-Picayune, included in the \$28 million budget bill sent to Gov. Bobby Jindal on Thursday was a request for \$300,000 for the District 2 Community Enhancement Corp.

As shown on the The District 2 Community Enhancement Corp. web site (www.district2cec.org), the organization is a non-profit organization founded in 2004 to enhance the quality of life of New Orleans East and Low Ninth Ward residents through advocacy, programming and organized community action. To achieve its mission, the corporation conducts programs and activities that focus on environmental quality, economic development and social capital and community cohesion. Its program objectives are:

Environmental Quality: Remove and/or abate dangerous abandoned properties, clean vacant lots, provide enhanced and improved street lighting, ensure proper street signage and infrastructure, promote enhanced basic services (i.e. trash pickup, street cleaning and maintenance of medians), provide beautification and landscaping, provide beautification and

landscaping, and support development and maintenance of parks and playgrounds.

Economic Development: Support Individual Development Account programs, organize the business community, and promote corporate citizenship and public/private partnerships.

Social Capital and Community Cohesion: Provide financial literacy education for youth, broaden educational experiences through promotion of arts and culture, support community programs and events, and offer activities that motivate youth and build their self-confidence.

Businesses in the East

Big Easy Palms

“Your Landscaping Specialist”
I-10 & Bullard
(504) 241-8786

Mary Kay

Jean Deruise-Chester
Independent Beauty Consultant
(504) 430-1141
jderuise@marykay.com
www.marykay.com/jderuise

Lake Bullard

Neighborhood Improvement District

P.O. Box 870092

New Orleans, LA 70187-0092

Web Site: www.lakebullard.org

e-mail: lakebullard@aol.com

Phone: (504) 352-0227

Lisa Stafford, Editor

Past issues of the Eastern New Orleans Newsletter can be found at www.enonac.org.

New Orleans City Council Members

Arnie Fielkow

President

City Hall, Room 2W40
1300 Perdido Street
New Orleans, LA 70112
Phone: (504) 658-1060
Fax: (504) 658-1068
Email: AFielkow@cityofno.com

Jacquelyn Brechtel Clarkson

Vice President

City Hall, Room 2W50
1300 Perdido Street
New Orleans, LA 70112
Phone: (504) 658-1060
Fax: (504) 658-1077
jbclarkson@cityofno.com

Ms. Cynthia Willard-Lewis

District E Councilmember

City Hall, Room 2W60
1300 Perdido Street
New Orleans, LA 70112
Phone: (504) 658-1050
Fax: (504) 658-1058
CWLewis@cityofno.com

Cynthia Hedge-Morrell

District D Councilmember

City Hall, Room 2W20
1300 Perdido Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70112
Phone: (504) 658-1040
Fax: (504) 658-1048
CHMorrell@cityofno.com

Shelley Midura

District A Councilmember

City Hall, Room 2W80
1300 Perdido Street
New Orleans, LA 70112
Phone: (504) 658-1010
Fax: (504) 658-1016
Email: SMidura@cityofno.com

Stacy S. Head

District B Councilmember

City Hall, Room 2W10
1300 Perdido Street
New Orleans, LA 70112
Phone: (504) 658-1020
Fax: (504) 658-1025
Email: SHead@cityofno.com

James Carter

District C Councilmember

City Hall, Room 2W70
1300 Perdido Street
New Orleans, LA 70112
Phone: (504) 658-1030
Fax: (504) 658-1037
Email: JCarter@cityofno.com

Businesses in the East

Mel's Glass Bouquet

"Let us prepare your special day"
Wedding Consultant
Florist
10715 Chef Menteur Hwy.
New Orleans, LA 70127
(504) 241-0466
(877) 933-5387
www.melsglassbouquet.com

Businesses in the East

Creative Jewelry by Bridgeja', LLC

Phone (504) 458-2028
Fax (504) 245-4329
Email Bak697@aol.com
www.creativejewelrybybridgeja.com

From Southern Star Amusement:

Hello,

I wanted to take the opportunity to introduce our company as we have a project that we are working on in your area. As I am sure you are more than aware, the Six Flags park in New Orleans East has sat dormant since Katrina. As Six Flags has repeatedly said that they will not be returning, SOMETHING has to be done so that locals residents do not have to put up with this eyesore. With the existing infrastructure, buildings and equipment, re-opening the facility as an amusement park makes the most sense. Southern Star Amusement would like to do just that. This will also generate the most new jobs, versus other options being considered.

Southern Star Amusement has plans to not only re-open the facility, but to improve it dramatically from what it once was. In addition to repairing what is already there, we plan on adding water park rides and attractions, shade structures, improved landscaping, new live shows and other amenities that area families will appreciate. Even the food will be an upgrade, as residents deserve food worthy of New Orleans instead of the typical, overpriced carnival food. We want to turn this park into a facility that you will be proud to have as a neighbor. We will be working with local businesses and vendors as much as possible as well.

Councilman Arnie Fielkow has discussed the possibility of having a sports complex at the site. The most cost effective way of doing that is to build the facility on vacant land. The cost of demolishing everything there now would be far more than what the sport facility would cost to build. We have said that we will build one if additional land becomes available. If we can get additional land, we would also like to build a hotel, as well as retail and dining venues. We believe that these are facilities that could really be used in this area.

At this time, we are in need of public support. As such, we are contacting members of area Home Owner Associations and civic groups, such as yourself. This park belongs to YOU. Everything there, as per the lease agreement, belongs to the City of New Orleans. As you may know, there is currently a restraining order in place against Six Flags. This was necessary as they have been scavaging from the park, removing millions of dollars worth of equipment to be used in their other parks.

Southern Star Amusement would like to have the facility re-opened for 2010. We can only do that if we can get control of the property soon. We urge all those that would like to see that the site be re-opened please call or write your elected officials and let them know. Tell them to STOP Six Flags, and to let Southern Star Amusement begin the rebuilding process.

If you have any suggestions or ideas as to what you would like to see in the park when it re-opens, or if you have any questions about our plans, please let us know. I can be contacted at this email address, or company contact information is available at our website: www.southernstaramusement.com. Please visit our site often to keep up with our progress.

Sincerely,
Tonya Pope, CFO
Southern Star Amusement

**Message from Andrew Holbein,
Office of Code Enforcement
Tuesday, June 9, 2009**

As all citizens know, abandoned pools are a serious health threat to the community - especially to the children of New Orleans.

The City's enforcement agencies have been prosecuting abandoned pools since Hurricane Katrina. However, for the first time Code Enforcement is initiating a comprehensive campaign to address all abandoned pools in the City.

By working with the Mosquito Control Board, Code Enforcement has inspected 1,205 pools and identified 277 in violation. They have been scheduled for hearings under Chapter 28 of the City Code, which can lead to fines of \$100 to \$500 a day if violations are not corrected. Code Enforcement has been using its recently adopted advanced people search software to try and locate these property owners.

We ask residents to assist in two ways:

1. Visit the Code Enforcement webpage at <http://www.cityofno.com/pg-147-1-code-enforcement-home.aspx> to view the list of upcoming pool hearings and learn how to submit the addresses of additional abandoned pools. Residents are able to observe and offer testimony at all Code Enforcement hearings.
2. If you know an owner of one of the pools, contact them and warn them of the health threat and potential for significant fines.

DESIGN BUILD IN ACTION

**Mayor's Office of Communications
June 11, 2009**

The City of New Orleans hosted oral presentations for its five library Design-Build contract on Tuesday, June 9, 2009, at the New Orleans Main Public Library. The "Five Libraries" Design-Build project includes Nora Navra Neighborhood Library, Robert E. Smith Community Library, Norman Mayer (Gentilly) District Library, New Orleans East Regional Library, and Algiers Regional Library. First, a selection committee convened in a work session to score proposals. It then listened to oral presentations of technical proposals by three firms, Broadmoor, LLC, Gibbs Construction, LLC, and Satterfield & Pontikes Construction Group, LLC, which were shortlisted based on Request for Qualifications.

Design-Build is a non-traditional alternative to the current Design-Bid-Build delivery method used in public construction projects. It offers many advantages, including single source responsibility, quality control, cost control, and rapid delivery. The State of Louisiana implemented legislation in 2006 to authorize state and local entities to utilize the Design-Build delivery method to rebuild storm-damaged parishes and municipalities. In July 2008, the City of New Orleans passed an ordinance that authorized Design-Build for a select group of projects included in the Recovery Program.