



Les Amis de Marigny

Helping to make Marigny a better place to live, work and play

November Letter from the President

Introduction to a New President

By Allen Johnson



Allen Johnson

On October 5th, I was elected to a one-year term as the new President of the FMIA. I moved to the New Orleans area when I was transferred here for work in 1997. I lived in Kenner, on the lake, until I finally took the plunge and moved down here in February, 2013. I had long desired to live downtown and when I started looking around, I was

pleasantly surprised by what I found in the Marigny. The diversity of architectural styles seemed to work together to form a unique neighborhood, with proximity to the French Quarter, Downtown and the Bywater. It was just what I was looking for. I knew I wanted to live in a place where I could walk to restaurants, clubs, and stores, but I had no idea how much that would mean to me until I actually put down roots here. I truly value the uniqueness and authenticity of our neighborhood, and the businesses we have here. I feel that for the longest time, the Marigny was an unappreciated gem in New Orleans. But not anymore.

I truly value the uniqueness and authenticity of our neighborhood, and the businesses we have here.

I've been a member of the FMIA for over 2 ½ years (and a Board Member and Vice-President for 1 ½). In that time I've learned quite a bit about Zoning, Master Plans, City Planning, HDLC, Conditional Use and other things that I'd always read about, but never dealt with. Now it seems that this is all that we do. The all important vote was held by the City Council on October 20th regarding Short Term Rentals. After many years, the City Council voted for a proposal that was given to them by The Mayor's Office three days before the vote. Needless to say, it was quite

All Saints Day

We will gather again this year on All Saints Day (November 1) in Saint Louis Cemetery Number One to honor the memory of

**Bernard Xavier
Philippe de Marigny
de Mandeville.**

All are welcome to attend and dress in whatever manner you deem appropriate.



a disappointment, but we will continue to fight to assure that necessary regulations are put in place to protect our neighborhoods. It will then be up to the citizens to hold the city's feet to the fire and make them enforce laws already on the books, which the city has not shown a willingness to do.

It seems we spend almost all of our time reacting to actions by the City Government. While this is important (undoubtedly), I feel that it is important that we not forget what makes a neighborhood association truly

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What's Inside this edition of
Les Amis de Marigny
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Summer/Fall Report on Public Safety
Marigny Green
Speaking Volumes
. . . and More!

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great: its members and what the people want from their neighborhood. That is why we as an organization must find positive, proactive ways to impact and celebrate our neighborhood. Our first step in this direction was the 1st Annual Frenchmen Street Festival on October 22nd.

The purpose of this event was try to something new and see what the response from the greater community would be. Serving as the pre-party for the Krewe de Boo we had very little time to put it together. Brian Kern and Board Member Jeff Bromberger quickly assembled the necessary permits and bands. It was quickly evident that there is great potential for this event. Perfect late October weather, and a crowd (many in costumes) awaiting the parade, showed the great potential for this event. I am excited about the potential for next year.

An additional event was held at our General Meeting on October 17. We hosted the NPP for the proposed Hampton Inn to be built at 501 Elysian Fields. Hosting events like this, where a developer can present a proposal to the neighbors and get their feedback, with the hope



that our concerns and suggestions are implemented, is the essential function of a neighborhood association. Many neighbors showed up, and while many had strong opinions about the project, everyone was respectful while voicing their opinions. The opinions were well thought out and informed, showing how truly engaged and informed our neighbors are. The developers plan to make some changes before they submit their plans to HDLC, and have promised to send their new proposal to us so that we can post it to our FaceBook page (facebook.com/thefmia). Please go there to look at the plans and feel free to make constructive comments. We hope to use these comments of the neighborhood to form the official letter from the FMIA to the HDLC reflecting our position on the project. It is essential that we reflect the opinion of the neighborhood, and we ask for your help with this.

I hope to see you at future events, including our Meet the Neighbors event at the Hi-Ho Lounge on November 9th from 6:30 to 8:30 PM and at our General Meeting at St. Paul's Lutheran Church on November 21st.

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	Full Page	1/2 Page	1/4 Page	Business Card
FMIA Member	\$110	\$55	\$40	\$25
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All advertising must be received by the 15th of each month for publication in the next month's issue. For information regarding advertising, contact us at secretary@faubourgmarigny.org.

Classifieds Now Available

The newsletter is now accepting classified ads. Personals, however, are not being accepted. Contact ads@faubourgmarigny.org. Classified Rates: \$5.00 per each 25 words.

About the Newsletter

Les Amis de Marigny is the newsletter of the Faubourg Marigny Improvement Association, a 501(c) non-profit, all-volunteer organization committed to the preservation of the unique architectural and cultural heritage of our historic district, and to improving the quality of life in our diverse community.

Contents, editorials and opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the official views of the FMIA, its Board or its members. The FMIA does not warrant the legality of any business advertised in its newsletter.

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Manuscripts, photographs and articles dealing with topics of interest to the Marigny neighborhood are encouraged. The editor reserves the right to reject submissions including editorial and advertising content.

Submissions must be received by the 7th of the month for inclusion in the next month's issue. Send contributions to:

FMIA Newsletter
2401 Burgundy St., Box 10
NOLA 70117

or editor@faubourgmarigny.org.

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Summer/Fall Report on Public Safety

By Lisa Suarez, FMIA Vice-President

Most residents know Faubourg Marigny has two sections, a Triangle which shares a zip code with the French Quarter, and the Rectangle. Until the 2010 census, the Triangle also shared NOPD's 8th District with "da Quarters," and those on the downriver side of Elysian Fields were assigned to the 5th District. Re-districting moved the dividing line even further downriver, pushing the Marigny section of the 5th District between Franklin Avenue and Press Street.

**Note: the accompanying graphic refers to the 8th District, but 311 for Quality of Life calls is your best bet, get an Item Case Number, refers to ALL districts.*

So while most of us are in the 8th District, it's important to comprehend that both Districts are incredibly valuable to all Marigny in fighting crime. FMIA encourages community members to attend NONPACC (New Orleans Neighbors & Police Anti-Crime Council) meetings in both Districts. The Consent Decree makes clear in NOPD policies on Community Engagement, that building relationships with residents is one of the keys to successful professional and constitutional policing.

While FMIA General Meetings are consistently recorded as one of the most well-attended opportunities for police officers to communicate with citizens, NONPACCs are not consistent due to either emergencies, mostly in the 5th District, and Events in the 8th (E.G.:

Sugar Bowl, Mardi Gras, etc.) , which put extra strain on staffing levels. 8th District also had to deal with the loss of two veteran officers, a personal blow to many.

NOPD has been adding communication technology to turn around negative perceptions. They have joined the

NextDoor online forums, where they read comments from citizens as well as posting messages for us to read. Most recently they have re-tailored the weekly COMSTAT (where reports are made while looking at the projected map of the District) online as MAX, which gives more precise views of crime in real time online, as well as difficulties Consent Decree Monitors track, such as overuse of force. However, none of these efforts take the place of Face-to-Face meetings where New Orleans' Finest see your face, get to know you, and you get to know them.

Board Member Simone Cifuentes, Triangle Resident Sue Hall, Retired Police Detective Ronnie Brinks, and myself, have been attempting to attend the monthly NONPACC

meetings in both Districts, as well as some COMSTAT meetings, held weekly, in which specific statistics are discussed in more detail.

August 10th, 5th District NONPACC, Commander Young gave statistics relative to Day watch, 2nd Watch, and Night watch, which included Thefts, auto and residence, Break-ins, Robberies, Aggravated Robberies (with a weapon), as well as Drugs and/or Alcohol violations at a number of locations in Marigny Bywater, and plenty of other locations in the 5th District, the second largest in New Orleans.

August 30th, COMSTAT now MAX, (NONPACC was cancelled) in the 8th District we heard about efforts to deal with Aggressive Panhandling, the 40 hour Supervisor Training Class, improved productivity, Night Watch made 40 arrests, cooperation with the State

Police, Mounted Police and Sheriffs.

September 7th was BLUE DAY, where NOPD was celebrated. There will be more participation next year, as more accomplishments are accumulated and recognized.



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- Code Violations
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- Noise or Sound Check
- Traffic Signals and Signs Repaired
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NOPD 8th District Information: 504-658-6080
8th District, 334 Royal Street nopd8thdistrict@nola.gov
Follow on Facebook: NOPD Dist

8th District MAX Meetings (Formerly Comstat)
Held each Tuesday at 2 PM, Public Invited to Attend, 8th Dist. Station

8th District Monthly NONPAC Meetings:
4th Tuesday of the month at 5:30PM, at the 8th District Station
Confirm meeting dates/times and locations at: nola.gov/nopd/calendar

Security Camera Registration: Safecamnola.com
NOPD Homeless Assistance Unit: 504-940-7325

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Summer/Fall Report continued from page 3

September 13th, 8th District COMSTAT, basically the same drill, but it's important to check in with the folks we know, and we hadn't seen Sgt. Luster for awhile, as Officer Shereese Harper has been taking his place at FMIA. We did hear about an armed robbery at 500 Mandeville that had a lookout, and juvenile car thefts that netted fingerprints.

90% of victims of crimes after midnight are intoxicated, and walking around looking at their cell phones.

September 14th, 5th District NONPACC, we learned of a raid that happened on St. Claude Avenue, where a house was shut down, and many people who had been causing problems for a very extended period of time are now required to seek shelter elsewhere. The building is being renovated.

October 6, 8th District NONPACC, 90% of victims of crimes after midnight are intoxicated, and walking around looking at their cell phones. For \$3.00 you can register your bicycle, you do need to bring it to the Station House, which could make it easier to find, if stolen. New website: NOPDNews.com/ and you can leave comments. Also facebook.com/nopdnews; twitter.com/nopdnews; and youtube.com/nopdnews.

Rather than attending the October 12, 5th District NONPACC we chose to go to the NOPD's first-ever "Community Engagement Night Out." Some of us went to the 8th District at North Rampart Community Center, 1130 N Rampart Street, and some went to the 5th District meeting at the St. Roch Community Church.

The 8th District meeting was sparsely attended by about 10 people, and our attendees felt disappointed by French Quarter residents' main concerns, which seemed to focus mainly on noise by street entertainers at the corner of Royal and St. Peter Streets, and vagrants or homeless, which some have a difficult time discerning which is which.

Attending NONPACC will not make these concerns go away, and there aren't very many who would want the day time live music on Royal Street to disappear. In every district it is essential that NOPD concentrate on real crime where damage to people and property is the priority.

Quality of Life enforcement has been re-structured to hopefully use City Hall resources (see the list), however, the Department is not against stopping in at nuisance bars (noise/possible drug issues), and other blatant ongoing issues, such as illegal food vendors (Food Trucks with permits from the Health Dept. legal, but not on residential streets. Trailers cooking/serving any food NOT legal), AS LONG AS you , or your neighborhood association, have made the effort to get an Item Number from 311, so call it in folks!

For ALL crime stats, go to <http://www.crimemapping.com/map/la/neworleans/> and you can see crimes committed in New Orleans for at least the past year. It's not hard to enter location and dates, just follow the directions.



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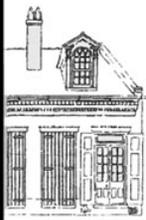
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Calendar of Events

November 2016

Board Meeting

November 2, 7 pm,
 2509 Burgundy St.

Meet the Neighbors

November 9, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
 Hi Ho Lounge, 2239 St Claude Ave

General Meeting

November 21, 6:30 Pot Luck, 7:15 Meeting
 St. Paul Lutheran Church, 2624 Burgundy Street

December 2016

Board Meeting

December 7, 7 pm,
 2509 Burgundy St.

Meet the Neighbors

December 14, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
 Arts Estuary, 1024 Elysian Fields Avenue

General Meeting

No General Meeting for December

Caroling at Washington Square Park

December 11, 6:30 pm

NONPACC MEETINGS

5th District — 2nd Wednesday, 6 pm,
 3900 N. Claiborne

8th District — 4th Tuesday 6 pm,
 location varies between 334 Royal
 and the Healing Center

*If you have an event for the calendar
 please send it to
 editor@faubourgmarigny.org*

FMIA Dues

Not sure when your FMIA dues were paid? The date you paid is conveniently located on the mailing label of your newsletter. Just one more service from your friendly neighborhood association.

Interview with Mr. David Mutter from Doerr Furniture

By Madison Louviere, FMIA Newsletter Intern, Class of 2018, Nicholls State

Q Please tell me about Doerr Furniture's history in the Faubourg Marigny.

A We've been a part of the Faubourg Marigny for 78 years. When my grandfather, Charles Doerr, started in 1938, it was more like a warehouse-wholesale operation. He had five retail stores scattered around Louisiana and Mississippi. The goods would come here and then be sent out to the other locations. Now this is our only location. We're known for having better quality furniture at affordable prices. My Dad worked here as a teenager before he married my mom, Marilyn Doerr, who became Marilyn Mutter.

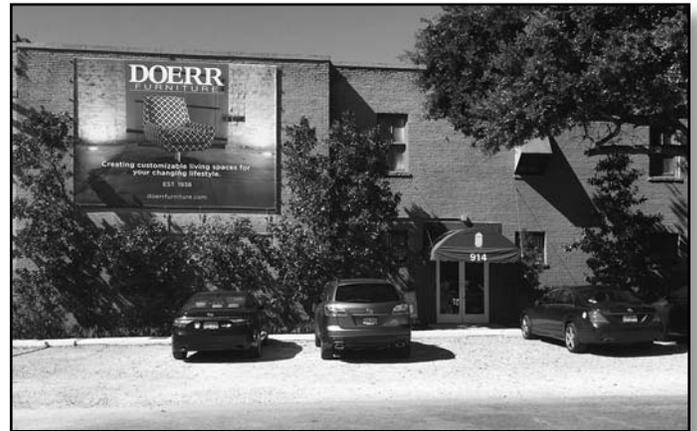
Q A real family business?

A Yes, we're going into our fourth generation.

Q Was it hard after Katrina?

A Well, like the rest of the city, as shown by the statistics, we lost a lot of population. Maybe about half the population was gone, but now it's maybe three-quarters of what we used to be. Right after Katrina, when we were able to open after six weeks, we were waiting on the phones and electricity, just to

see the people lined up at the door waiting for us to



open so they could start rebuilding their lives. Some of them would have tears in their eyes. They said that it was so nice to see us reopen, and that we were here and didn't get wiped out. Thank the Lord. It gave them a sense of stability. They would just come and pick out furniture, and we would deliver within a week. We were so thankful we could help with some sense of normalcy.

Q. Would you say business has boomed since then?

A. Well, it really boomed after New Orleans was able to get back on its feet, there was so much rebuilding and refurnishing. Now, the economy in the rest of the country is just kind of fair, or so-so, but we're very thankful and blessed. We get our fair share. A lot of people know of Doerr Furniture and the Mutter family. They know what we stand for and how we treat our customers. After Katrina, when people were able to start getting in their homes and start rebuilding, we had a major boom. Now it's leveled off, but things are fairly good. The main thing is, we are very thankful.

Q. Besides Marigny, where else do your customers come from?

A. They come from all over. Generally, we sell within 100 miles. Across the lake, to Covington, Mandeville, Baton Rouge, we go to the Gulf Coast, and to the mouth of the river. Basically, we deliver within 100 miles. If it happens to be further, we'll put a little extra mileage fee on it.

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Continued on page 7

Q *Please tell us more about the furniture business and being in this neighborhood?*

A The good part is that we stay up on the trends, we go to the furniture market, we are attuned to our customers, we have the most well-trained sales staff and everybody works together. They know what we stand for: the best in value and service. Sometimes I wish more people who come for all the Festivals would stop by.

Q *Who is your competition?*

A No one, really. In fact, sometimes we wake up and realize that we are really the only major furniture store left in New Orleans. There are some smaller stores, but as far as major quality, better furniture, we rack up all the way to New Orleans East and the river, we've had a few out-of-towners come in the last year or so, but we are the only locally-owned major furniture store in New Orleans.

Q *You have been instrumental in getting the Bishop Perry Community Center (1941 Dauphine St., in the Triangle) off the ground after Father Maestri's retirement. How is it going?*

A It's going very well. Father Maestri retired last winter, but the Center is being carried on in affiliation with St. Jude, another Catholic Community Center. Sister Beth is in charge of St. Jude, and Barbara Holsworth is in charge of Bishop Perry. The Center helps a lot of people in the community. We have a food pantry, a clothing pantry, GED classes, a library, and we're going to have mass reinstated. We would also like to reinstate Project Hope, helping homeless people to get jobs and places to live, as well as helping school children with eye and dental testing.

Q *What else would you like to tell us?*

A New Orleans is definitely a very vibrant city, more than ever now, I think. It just seems the number of people moving in, especially the younger people, I guess under 40, coming in. A lot of the houses that are sitting from Katrina are being revitalized, reworked, and you see young families moving in. New Orleans is a good place to be right now. It always was, but I think it's even better now.

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Newsletter: editor@faubourgmarigny.org

Caroling	Education	Volunteer
Community Outreach	Home Tour	Walking Tour
Crime Prevention	Hospitality	Washington Square Park
Development	Membership	Web Site
Frenchmen	Neighborhood	Zoning
Fundraising	Special Projects	

For comments — email info@faubourgmarigny.org



Did you ever wonder who these people are? ↑

Find out at the next Meet your Neighbors!

And if you have a favorite place in the neighborhood that you think would be interested in hosting an upcoming event, let us know by emailing secretary@faubourgmarigny.org.

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Meet the Neighbors

September MTN was held at **C. J. Nero Art, Cultural Gifts & Event Planning**. Our Host Craig Nero welcomed guests to peruse his gift shop, and provided food and drink in the beautiful courtyard that opens on to Spain Street. Thanks to Craig and Tish for hosting!



Next Meet the Neighbors: Hi Ho Lounge,
2239 St Claude Avenue
on November 9, 6:30 - 8:30 pm.

The **Hi Ho Lounge** is a neighborhood bar and live music venue on St. Claude — one of the original venues on the street. Hi Ho has been at the forefront of the underground alternative music and arts scene for many years, and features a wide range of local and national live music acts as well as; burlesque and other performances and film screenings.



If you have a suggestion for a future Meet the Neighbors venue, email us at secretary@faubourgmarigny.org.



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The Neighborhood Leaders Roundtable on Code Enforcement

Organized by the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Engagement

By Madison Louviere, Newsletter Intern

Held on September 17, 2016, Allen Johnson and Newsletter Intern Madison Louviere attended the quarterly event, this time in the 7th Ward at the Corpus Christi Epiphany Community Center.

Standard with City-sponsored Leadership events, there were a bevy of tables set up in the lobby area representing a variety of City Departments, offering problem-solving skills, most often with Quality of Life issues, the Police may no longer address. Sewerage and Water Board, NOLA-311, the New Orleans Recreation Development Commission (NORD-C), and the Mosquito, Termite and Rodent Control Board, all offered one-on-one counsel before the main part of the presentations began.

Once people were in their seats, Eric Songy began the program with a presentation about the communication tool, (computer and phone list-serve type app) NextDoor. (Board Member Mark Malouse gave us a primer on how to use the service in last month's newsletter, and FMIA has embarked on joining as a group. Read his article here:faubourgmarigny.org/pdf/newsletter/2016_10.pdf.)

Deputy Mayor Cedric Grant

Also the Executive Director of the New Orleans Sewerage and Water Board (SWBNO), Cedric Grant pitched a renewal of the Property Tax Millage, which will be on the December 10th ballot. SWBNO gets funding partly from three, six, and nine-mil property taxes. The reasoning for continuing all three millages is that, even though we are only in the fourth year of a ten percent increase every year for ten years of our water bills, it is not enough to finance all of SWBNO's responsibilities. Mr. Grant said the average rain fall is about 63 inches a year. With four months of 2016 left, he also noted that we are already at about 55 inches. SWBNO covers 160 miles of covered canals. Between the canals and the pumping stations, they need employees that are trained and have experience. There is financing to create 26,000 new construction jobs, which also pays for the in-house program to teach workers.

Flight Blight with Code Enforcement.

Chad Dyer, the Director of Code Enforcement, laid out the process for the appreciative audience:

1. Intake and input: this is when a complaint is filed and/or the Department is made aware of code violations.

2. Inspection: Taking photos of the residence or business to catalog violations, from the exterior of the building.
3. Research: Ownership of the property, clear title, is often the most complicated part.
4. Notice: Citation of Code Violation(s) is sent to the property owner, and posted on the building.
5. Hearing: Property owner must attend the hearing in order to discuss violations in detail. Neighbors and Neighborhood Associations may attend to supply additional details.
6. Judgment: made on the state of the property.
7. Demolition, Sheriff Sale, compliance, or lot clearing: Based on the hearing, a property owner may have to comply with any of the listed solutions, which can include fines.

Most of the problems and delays occur during the Research and Notice stages, due to Compliance with the United States Constitution, in which property owners have a right to privacy.



CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

Mr. Dyer went on to describe two types of demolition. The first is Imminent Danger and Collapse, (IDC). If this is the judgment, based upon inspection, a shortcut is allowed, and the property goes straight to demolition. The second is Strategic Demolition, which must go through

a long process including The Department of Safety and Permits, where the Director recommends demolition to the City Council member representing the District of the city where the property is located. Should the property be in a Historic District, the process must also include the City Planning and Historic Districts Landmarks Commission.

At the end of Mr. Dyer's presentation, there was a little "test" consisting of eleven questions on the reasons why a house might have multiple case numbers addressing the variety of violations.

Next was the General Information Systems Manager Mr. Gregory Hymel, who reviewed Online Tools: Blight and Property Survey Updates, available at nola.gov. Photos used in the survey were taken by cameras attached with suction cups to the windows of Department trucks, while driving around neighborhoods.

The end of the meeting was a twenty-minute Q&A, where attendees peppered Mr. Dyer with questions, mostly about blighted buildings in neighborhoods all over the city, and how to get help with buildings on their blocks.

Marigny Green

By Deborah Oppenheim



In June 2016, Congress passed legislation to update and regulate the way chemicals are being used in cleaners and industrial products. The new law does not apply to food and cosmetics because they are regulated by the Food and Drug Administration. This means that companies are not regulated

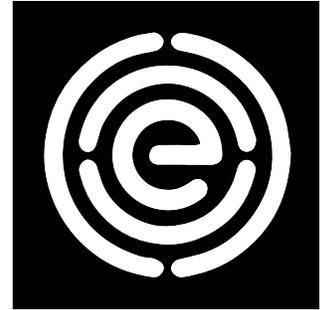
for shampoos, personal care products, lotions and make-up. So what can a consumer do to avoid dangerous chemicals in food and cosmetics and protect one's health and the environment?

There is an organization composed of scientists, policy experts, lawyers, programmers and communication experts that has been doing groundbreaking research to stand up for our health. This organization is called Environmental Working Group or EWG. EWG is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that is committed in protecting health and the environment. EWG, through research educates the consumer, helps the consumer make smart choices and

have more safe and healthy products from food to personal care products that are on the market.

EWG verifies products that have met a rigorous standard. Companies that have the EWG VERIFIED™ mark must submit any products problems to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and to EWG. EWG's criteria are based on stringent standards. They must agree to random testing by EWG to meet the EWG's Criteria; they must understand the unacceptable and restricted lists of ingredients (meaning with health, Eco toxicity and/or contamination concerns) and manufacturing processes.

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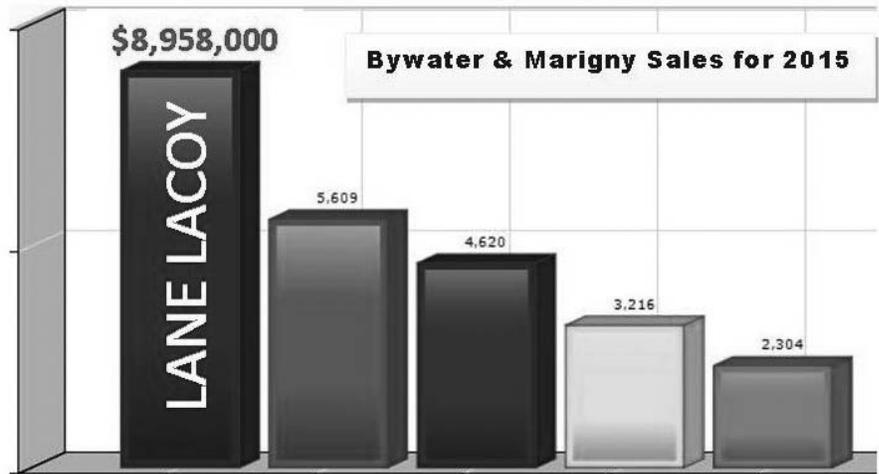


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If your property is currently listed with a Realtor or broker, please disregard this offer as it is not our intention to solicit the offerings of other realtors or brokers. 2/2016

Speaking Volumes

By Sara Jacobelli, Assistant Branch Manager, Alvar Library

As of **October 19**, **Story Time** will now be in the evenings to better accommodate our patrons. Check out our **Night Owl Story Time and Craft at 5:00 pm on Wednesday evenings**. We will continue to have our **Toddler Story Time every Tuesday at 11:00 am**.

Regular Programs at Alvar:

Toddler Story Time: Tuesdays, 11:00 am
Night Owl Story Time and Craft: Wednesday evenings, 5:00 pm
Computer Tutoring: Thursdays, 11:00 am-1:00 pm

Special Events at Alvar:

Every Child Ready to Read, (for toddlers/preschoolers)
Tuesday, November 15, 11:00 am

All Ages Self-Defense Class, Saturday, November 19, 1:00 pm

In the Garden Writers' Workshop: Writers of all levels of experience and all genres are welcome, including Poetry, Fiction and Nonfiction Prose, and Plays. Local and visiting authors will periodically stop by to read their work and offer advice and encouragement. Participants will read their work at a public reading once or twice a year, either at Alvar Library or at a local venue. We will meet the second Saturday of every month from 2:00-3:30 pm, from September through May. The third workshop will meet Saturday, November 12th and will focus on Memoir Writing. You may sign up at the Circulation Desk, or just come to any session.

Would you like to learn about your family's history? Check out these Genealogy Resources at the Louisiana Division/City Archives:

- Louisiana Biography/Obituary Index
- Index to the Justices of the Peace Marriage Records, 1846-1880
- Guide to Genealogical Materials
- New Orleans Newspaper Marriage Index, 1837-1857
- New Orleans City Directories

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- NOVA Transcriptions of City Archives Records
- Passenger Arrivals at the Port of New Orleans
- Naturalization Records in New Orleans
- Birth Records for New Orleans
- Hints on Using the 1850 Census
- Hints on Using the 1860-1920 Censuses

We also have Ancestry.com for our library patrons at www.nolalibrary.org/

Select Research. Select Databases. Select Ancestry Library Edition. You can create your own account with your library card number and your password.

NOPL Closings:

All locations close at 5pm - November 23, 2016

Thanksgiving Day - November 24, 2016

Veteran's Day - November 25, 2016

Happy Thanksgiving!



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Items Not Eligible For Curbside Recycling

Even though some of these items may have a recycling logo, they are not accepted by the City of New Orleans' residential recycling program.

- Glass
- Styrofoam
- Pizza boxes
- Food-contaminated containers
- Plastic bags
- Bubble wrap
- Plastic film
- Plastic wrap
- 6-pack rings
- Household garbage
- Yard trimmings
- Woody waste
- Building materials
- Household waste
- Clothes hangers
- Hazardous waste (electronics, batteries, paint, chemicals, oil or oil filters)
- Soiled papers (diapers, tissues, paper towels, paper plates, napkins, pizza boxes)
- Chemical containers
- Packing materials

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RTA Provides Special Streetcar Service to the Who Dat Nation for Saints Home Games

Starting Sunday, October 16, the Regional Transit Authority in New Orleans (RTA) will be adding special streetcar service between Union Passenger Terminal (UPT) and Harrah's Casino during Saints home games to provide our Who Dat Nation with more access to the Superdome. Service will operate every 20 minutes from 10:00 am to 6:40 pm.



Many of RTA's bus and streetcar routes provide easy, direct access to Downtown and the areas surrounding the Superdome. See the route maps and schedules, and use the tools on RTA's mobile-friendly website at www.norta.com.

For more information, please call our Customer Care Rideline at 504-248-3900, visit our website at www.norta.com or follow @NewOrleansRTA on social media.



**Don't miss the Caroling
at Washington Square Park on
December 11**

**Hopefully the weather will be
seasonally appropriate this year.**

German Flag on Unity Day *By Leonard Earl Johnson - www.LEJ.org*

"Yours Truly" is a blog by Leonard Earl Johnson, a member of our Katrina Diaspora presently residing in Lafayette and spending much time in New Orleans. He is an FMIA member and planning to return to NOLA in the near future. His venue is the figurative Great Mother Swamp including Lafayette, New Orleans and adjacent areas. His column had been published in Les Amis for several years and we are glad to have him back where he belongs.

Roberts Cove German Festival

Just a Little While to Stay Here / Topsy Chapman

Oktoberfest in Roberts Cove, Louisiana. You Laugh? It might tickle thelederhosen off a real German, but this is the best ~ albeit somewhat zany ~ German Festival in the USA that I have ever attended.

There is beer, singing, Alpine horns (Alphorn), yodeling, white marble graves of original settlers decorated with bright German flags, and hot spicy (normally mild veal with a hint of nutmeg) Bratwurst sausages. These had Tabasco Sauce added.

Technically it was a Germanfest, not an Oktoberfest. Oktoberfest is the German harvest festival in September and ending the first weekend of October.

German immigrants were few to French Louisiana, but those who came left their mark. Notably there were the Germans lured over by the Scotsman, John Law. They are said to have fed the early indolent folk of New Orleans from their productive farms along the Côte des Allemands (French for German Coast) around present day Bayou des Allemands (Bayou of the Germans).

Hurricanes, floods and the collapse of John Law's Mississippi Company ~ and monetary schemes (he invented paper money) ~ scattered this settlement. And New Orleanians took further to eating seafood, sugar, rice, and game.

Some of Law's Germans resettled near Lafayette, Louisiana at today's prosperous rice-growing town of Roberts Cove.

Crossing Bayou des Allemands aboard Amtrak out of New Orleans we saw des Allemands boys moon ole Train #1, The Sunset Limited.

From the bayou's bank two white and one black butt shined up at us as we sipped our morning coffee and zipped across an old rusty iron bridge.

Continued on page 14

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Swamp continued from page 13

"Some things change, some things don't," L. A. Norma said. "Boys mooning trains is still with us, but now its integrated. Rosa Parks would be proud."

Further, back down the road.

My Illinois-German Grandmother spoke English and German. Her Daughters spoke only English. It was a time when immigrants were bent towards assimilation in all things including language.

It is sad my Mother and her Sisters never talked with their Grandparents.

We all lived in our turn in a village named Ullin, after early settlers or, as my Father erroneously argued, the daughter of the Polish Count Casimir Pulaski. Pulaski perished in the Battle of Savannah during the American Revolution ~ young and childless.

My Father's nickname was "Porky." He was vaguely defined as Danish/Norwegian and he did not like the idea of his village being named for Germans. Besides, descendants of the Ullins still lived there and he did not much like them.

"Germans are pig-headed," he would moan. "I should know, I married one!"

My Father and Mother owned a roadside nightclub where he expounded frequently on this and issues such as F. D. R.'s New Deal (he stood helplessly against it, too). My Mother, who grew up in Ullin and liked the Ulins "Just fine," would shrug.

My Father must have won the Ullin argument because the resident family named Ullin dropped one "l" from their spelling, and took to pronouncing it as though an umlaut had sprouted above the Ü.

"Out of fear Porky was making people think them Polish," my Grandmother used to laugh.

My antecedents had been citizens of Bönningheim, near Stuttgart in the German state of Swabia. Theirs was the land of Black Forests, German industry and people who liked to sing and yodel.

My people arrived three years after Mark Twain captained river boats to New Orleans, fled West to avoid the Civil War, and moved to Hartford, Connecticut to write.

Twain came from Hannibal, Missouri, two hundred miles upriver from Ullin. Growing up, my siblings and I read his books and thought ourselves the better for it.

The German brother/uncle to first seed our New World became my Great Uncle, though he never lived long enough to know it. I don't know if he read Mark Twain. His name was Wilhelm Staudacher. When he first arrived

in Ullin he secured land along the Cache River, on the opposite bank of a sawmill. The new century saw the mill's offices become a roadhouse called Porky's owned by my Father, "Porky" and Mother, "Mac the German."

When Wilhelm returned to Germany he gathered his extended family and led them back to the Promised Land of Ullin, America.

Swabia was a good land full of "Jovial people who liked clocks," my Grandmother told us. It sounded like Texas and Arkansas to me, with a dash of Detroit from the days before Detroit became America's first fallen star.

"Do you speak German?" asked a lady with a heavy Cajun accent. She was descendant from original Roberts Cove Germans, she said. Her accent came from the fact the French-Canadian Cajuns had taught these later arrivals how to speak English. We were in the Songfest Tent, yodeling and listening to Alpine horns.

"Bisschen Deutsch," I said. She understood the "Deutsch," but not the "Bisschen."

"A Little," I explained.

We raised our bier and joined in the Rucksack Song. Her husband wore nice lederhosen and sang with gusto. I would bet my last Deutsch Mark he sang those same songs when a boy.

The man said, "Down the road."

"Is your name German?" I asked.

"No," he said, "further down the road."



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