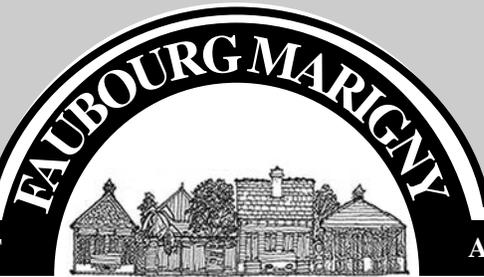


Next Board Meeting

May 3, 7 pm,
2509 Burgundy St.

Next General Meeting

May 15
6:30 Potluck, 7:15 Meeting
St. Paul Lutheran Church,
2624 Burgundy Street



IMPROVEMENT

ASSOCIATION

Volume 46, No 4

Les Amis de Marigny

May 2017

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

Home Tour Features Famous Author

By Lisa Suarez, FMIA Vice President

In 1974, the same year Faubourg Marigny received its Federally designated Historic District status, volume four of *New Orleans Architecture, The Creole Faubourgs*, (by Samuel Wilson, Jr., Roulhac Toledano, Sally Kittredge Evans, and Mary Louise Christovich) was first published by Pelican. Often called “the bible” of New Orleans architecture, we could never have described the buildings of Marigny for all the previous 44 Home Tours without it.

Here’s a short excerpt introducing this year’s Tour:

“Marigny was particularly attractive to [free persons of color] because the lots there were of appropriate size to the small homeowner (about twelve to a square) and could be purchased for three or four hundred dollars each. Bernard [de] Marigny had ordained this when faced with competition from Faubourg Ste. Marie where large packages were being sold to wealthy speculators.

Without the influxes of cash accruing from bulky deals and big promotions, the resilient Bernard had turned to volume sales and the small investor. By 1807 he was appearing almost weekly before notary Narcisse Broutin for conveyances of real estate to free persons of color.”



Renovated. Roof changes at 1027 Touro? Can you tell what year it is by the cars?



Marting Brothers at St. Claude & Touro, 1931 before renovation.

This is one of the proud traditions we celebrate in this year’s Faubourg Marigny Improvement Association’ 45th Annual Spring Home and Garden Tour.

Historian Keith Weldon Medley, who grew up during the modern Civil Rights Movement during the 50’s and 60’s in his parent’s home on Burgundy Street, where he still lives, will be having a book signing during the event, featuring *Black Life in Old New Orleans*, (Pelican, 2014), and *We As Freeman: Plessy v. Ferguson The Fight Against Legal Segregation* (Pelican, 2003).



Keith Medley

Continued on page 2

More about the Home Tour on page 7!

Home Tour continued from page 1

Here's a quote from Keith:

"Without the history and the neighborhoods, the culture has no context. Without the culture, the neighborhoods have no spirit."



Louis Keyes & Troy Gant at Second Vine Wine, 1027 Touro

The book-signing will take place at Second Vine Wine, an African-American owned business at 1027 Touro, connected to another facet of our culture, the Po-Boy, who some say was invented by the Martin Brothers, or at least the ones that were fed to the striking streetcar men in 1929, while they were still located in the French Market. Martin Brothers moved to 2000 St. Claude, corner of Touro in 1931, closing in 1972. In Marigny, as most of New Orleans, we tend to go with the legend, as the bread was produced by the Gendusa Bakery, also on Touro, now on Mirabeau.

See Troy Gant's interview about why he joined FMIA, and about Second Vine Wine, owned with his business partner, Louis Keyes .

Commercial Advertising				
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Non-Member	\$93	\$48	\$33	\$21

Ads should be photo ready, or in jpg, tif or pdf format.

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.

Contents of Les Amis de Marigny are copyrighted. Permission to reprint any of the newsletter, including photographs and original artwork, must be obtained from the editor and/or byline columnist.

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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May 2017 Letter from the President

By Allen Johnson

Home Tour Time

Springtime means many things (crawfish, French Quarter Fest, Jazz Fest, etc.) and for the FMIA it means ... HOME TOUR!!!! This year's Home Tour will be held on **May 21st**, and will feature homes in the Triangle. Lisa Suarez is the Chairwoman of the Home Tour Committee, and there is no doubt that this year's Tour will live up to the success of last year's. This year will provide everyone the special opportunity to visit Gene Cizek's home on Burgundy, as well as James Michalopoulos' home on Chartres. If you haven't yet seen these two indescribable gems, you owe it to yourself to attend this year's tour. Come enjoy a walk around your neighborhood, find neighborhood gems that you haven't noticed before (or peek into some that you've been dying to get a look at for years), and meet neighbors that you haven't met before. And, as always, the proceeds benefit a good cause ... FMIA!!

City Planning Commission and RiverFront Overlay

On March 23, 2017, residents of the Marigny and Bywater, as well as other interested citizens and Neighborhood Groups, met at Holy Angels on St. Claude to discuss the city's most recent attempt to allow buildings up to 85 feet in height along the Mississippi river from Elysian Fields to Poland Avenue, the RiverFront Overlay. The City Planning Commission, led by Executive Director Bob Rivers, asked for citizen input on the RiverFront Overlay, stretching from Elysian Fields in the Marigny to Poland Avenue in the Bywater.

Most of the questions from the audience were regarding "process" as we as an organization are well versed on the issues, as we've been working to protect the neighborhood from inappropriate development for years. There are multiple opportunities to have your voice heard to the CPC and City Council before this issue is decided. The first opportunity will be on May 9, 2017 at the City Planning Commission Meeting in the City Council Chambers. Written comments can be accepted via email, and are due by May 1, and can be submitted via cpcinfo@nola.gov.

And, now, Air Rights

On Friday, March 17, leaders of various neighborhood and preservation organizations met for a committee hearing in City Council Chambers to discuss the policy known as "Air Rights." The city is trying to tax citizens for any encroachment on to city sidewalks. While some people might think only balcony owners are affected, that is far from the truth. Any balcony, eave, overhang or stoop that encroaches on a city sidewalk is open to be taxed by a new city policy.

The administration is alleging that they are allowed to charge for these "Air Rights" under a city policy adopted in December, 2005, but never previously acted upon. The

city has not been able to assess this new tax all at once (due to staffing issues), so they opted to assess this new tax as property owners applied for work permits for their buildings. Over the past few years, there has been enough of a concern that the City Council has decided to address it.

At the Committee Hearing, Council Members Guidry, Head and Ramsey all expressed their displeasure with the policy (as well as Williams and Cantrell, who came in as the hearing was under way) and got the Mayor's department heads in attendance to agree to a 30 day moratorium of charging air rights fees to citizens when they applied for work permits. They also agreed that the Administration would come back to the Council with a permanent fix to the current situation. Please stay tuned to the FMIA FaceBook page for further updates and "calls to action."

New Committees

At the March 20 General Meeting, Committee Chairpersons introduced their committees, and asked for people to join. For those of you who weren't there, and would like to join a committee, please contact the following people: Zoning and Land Use- Joel Ross (Chairman); Short Term Rental- Allen Johnson (Chairman); Public Safety and Graffiti- Lisa Suarez (Chairwoman); Special Events & Fundraising- Jeff Bromberger (Chairman); Newsletter- Donna Wakeman (Chairwoman); Membership- Allen Johnson (Chairman) and, Home Tour- Lisa Suarez (Chairwoman).

This is a great opportunity for members to learn more about the issues and learn how knowledgeable your fellow citizens are. Additionally, it is a great way to help your neighborhood and learn all that the FMIA does.

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AND
MEMORIAL DAY!!



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SCRATCH THAT!

An Editorial

For those of you who've been asleep for the last long while, the Riverfront Overlay District is back front and center. In a nutshell, it is the riverfront land from Elysian Fields to Poland Avenue that the City Council zoned for 85 foot high buildings in 2015 in a last minute maneuver when approving the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance, despite overwhelming opposition by residents. A lawsuit successfully brought by the FMIA found the process used by the Council failed to follow state and city laws. Now the City is, per Robert Rivers, Executive Director of the

City Planning Commission, "starting from scratch." What follows are notes from the one and only public meeting on the subject to be held before the Commission reviews the staff recommendation targeted for May 9, 2017. If you care about the future of our neighborhood, get involved in this issue.

See below the notes from the FMIA/City Planning Commission Public Meeting on Riverfront Overlay and comments from the meeting.

FMIA / CPC Public Meeting on Riverfront Overlay — Notes From March 23, 2017

By Ray G. Kern (Proprietor of the Den of Muses)

Robert Rivers Speaks

- Master Plan did not address Riverfront directly.
- City Planning Commission (CPC) was tasked to do study. They will review all regulations and underlying presumptions to see if they are still valid.
- City Planning Staff will go back to Riverfront Vision 2005 study & reframe conversation based on current data. (There may have been a hint the original data might not be used.) Riverfront Vision 2005 plan emphasized access to Riverfront.
- Leveraging development to leverage public opportunities. Is Riverfront access still needed to leverage development and density to make it happen? Looking at affordable housing aspect.
- Looking at all sources and Historical aspect. Taking advantage of empty property on high ground. Looking at historical data — maps, photos, etc.
- Everything is open, including not having an overlay or bonuses at all. No recommendation as yet.
- Process: Study. CPC review. City Council. City Council could change anything.
- City Council passed Interim Zoning District (IZD) in effect for one year. Can extend six or more months (to another year?). This means we are allowed to submit request for deferral.
- Study targets April 25 (now May 9) CPC meeting. Rivers may extend deadline if not ready. Neighborhood groups can suggest more time is needed.
- Get thoughts on existing and future regulations: what don't you want and what do you want. (FMIA is doing that now.)
- Working with Mayor's office to present conceptual renderings of height/density - what the Riverfront would look like, i.e. get a visual.
- Comment period open now, and ends May 1. City Council motion included getting public feedback. Rule requires no release study until eight days before CPC presentation May 9.
- What is public value?
- To City Council if motion is adopted May 9, and then goes back to CPC for 60 days to craft legislation.

Comments From the Audience

(a sampling I was able to hear, and not in order)

- Gene Cizek spoke on the history of Marigny zoning, which did not include vertical intrusion into a horizontal plane, until the Christopher Inn. Mentioned passing of Harold Katner last week, a former CPC director who played a significant role in historic preservation.
- Ray Kern asked who wrote the Mayor's Riverfront Overlay amendment MJL-6. (MJL-6 is the last minute amendment made when City Council approved the CZO, which prompted the FMIA lawsuit.) Rivers could not remember the name of the person. When asked if the CPC staff contributed or were consulted by the Mayor's office in the drafting of MJL-6, Rivers responded yes. Rivers stated that MJL-6 was simply a combination of prior amendments consolidated into one, with nothing new was added. Kern countered that previous CZO drafts had isolated gateway bonus provisions in the Marigny/Bywater Riverfront, which never included the entire Riverfront. Also, it was always to be conditional use and not a matter of right.
- A new resident of Bywater, who lives on Chartres, was opposed to having an 80 foot wall across the street from his home. Moved here because of its historic setting.
- Brian Lockett, of Neighbors first for Bywater, lamented that a previous proposal he submitted, (also collaborated with and submitted by the FMIA,) for Riverfront development during the CZO process was never considered.
- Lisa Suarez commented on how the CPC had used the heights of the Rice Mill and New Orleans Center for the Creative Arts (NOCCA) as justification for the height bonuses, and how that was unwarranted as they were exceptions. In particular, the theater fly at NOCCA was placed at a point on the Riverfront which projects out from the river's bank. Gretchen Bomboy

Comments continued on page 6

Where has your Les Amis de Marigny gone?

Are you traveling soon to exotic places? Take your copy of Les Amis de Marigny with you, take a photo, and send it to editor@faubourgmarigny.org.

**We'll see how far this newsletter
is willing to go!**



Donna Wakeman (Newsletter Editor),
outside the airport at Guanajuato, Mexico

A Service of Thanksgiving for St. Paul Lutheran School



St. Paul Lutheran Church and School to Celebrate 177 Years of Educational Ministry

St. Paul Lutheran Church and School invites the public to a Service of Thanksgiving to God for 177 years of educational ministry at 2624 Burgundy Street in the Faubourg Marigny of New Orleans on

Sunday, May 7, 2017, at 10:30 a.m.

We invite all students, families, graduates, teachers, and friends of St. Paul Lutheran Church and School to attend this service of thanksgiving and praise.

For more information, please contact St. Paul Lutheran Church office manager, Linda Helmer at 504-945-3741 or St. Paul Lutheran School administrator, Lynne Riemer at 504-947-1773.

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.

Calendar of Events

May 2017

Board Meeting

May 3, 7 pm,
2509 Burgundy St.

Meet the Neighbors

May 10, 6:30 – 8:00 pm
Cutters' Bar, 706 Franklin St.

General Meeting

May 15, 6:30 Potluck, 7:15 Meeting
St. Paul Lutheran Church, 2624 Burgundy Street

June 2017

Board Meeting

June 7, 7 pm,
2509 Burgundy St.

Meet the Neighbors

June 14, 6:30 – 8:00 pm
Spotted Cat Food and Spirits (the new one),
2372 St Claude Ave.

General Meeting

June 19, 6:30 Potluck, 7:15 Meeting
St. Paul Lutheran Church, 2624 Burgundy St.

NONPACC MEETINGS

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

8th District — 4th Tuesday 6 pm, 334 Royal

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

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Comments from the Audience continued from page 6

supported the project, and accommodated the need for the theater fly height, because of the placement along the aberration in the river bank, and that it was not residential.

- Mary Ann Hammet of the Bywater neighborhood association (BNA) commented that the text description of the Riverfront Overlay was confusing. Bob Freilich of BNA commented on the reduction of population density, and the need to bring it back to historical levels.
- Carol Gniady of the Louisiana Landmarks Society (LLS) commented on how 98% of residents in the area were opposed to the height bonuses, and incredulous that such opposition was ignored.

historic preservation was the most important aspect of growth and that the high-ground development/massing aspect was either at 12-14% or was ranked 12th in importance.

- The numerical results of the actual survey data summary of the Master Plan don't seem to be still available, but here's what we've got from 4.2 | plan for the 21st century: New Orleans 2030, adopted August 2010:
- "The results of public input via the website are summarized below.
 - Public comments received on the website have mirrored community concerns expressed in previous plans. The majority of comments



Post-meeting conversation with CPC staff:

- I approached the three CPC staffers present and introduced myself to explain the anger and frustration of the audience (passionate about historic preservation, and not having a say in the legislation) and to get a better understanding of their task in this matter.
- They mentioned they wanted to know what to do with vacant land (perhaps including warehouses). I suggested that green space was always a popular public desire. Also suggested an extension of NOCCA (or other educational use) using public/private funds for development of the Riverfront into a creative, educational area. This could include private, low-impact, light industrial usage devoted to the arts and education.
- I mentioned that I am willing to submit my research on the 98% opposition number we've maintained during the draft CZO hearings. This would be in the form of a spreadsheet compiled from draft CZO public comments that would include names and addresses.
- To the notion that the Master Plan encouraged increased massing and density on higher ground, while although true, it was not the highest priority in public surveys when the Master Plan was being crafted. I cited that 80% of survey respondents believed that

received on the website have centered on preserving neighborhood character, including: preventing or mitigating unwanted land uses, preserving the historic character of neighborhoods and the historic assets throughout the city, preventing demolition of historic buildings and increasing the capacity of code enforcement mechanisms, and improving the overall appearance and condition of neighborhoods (i.e., infrastructure repairs and streetscaping improvements). Increasing opportunities for mixed-use development and higher densities where appropriate were issues that were also brought up a number of times. A large number of comments also centered on improving parks and recreational opportunities for all residents." <http://www.nola.gov/getattachment/fb33fa07-796e-46b9-bae3-9a534cccfa/b/Vol-3-Ch-4-Community-Speaks-and-Shapes-the-Plan/>

- To the CPC concept to increase population density, I stated that the CPC shot themselves in the foot on this matter when they made their Short Term Rental recommendations later adopted by the City Council.

*Faubourg Marigny
Improvement Association*

45th Annual Home Tour

*Sunday, May 21
12 to 4 p.m.*

Home Tour tickets are \$25 each,
\$20.00 for members,
and FREE for those
who volunteer to be a docent at
one of the Homes for a two hour shift.

For more information
call 504-947-0918
or email
vicepresident@faubourgmarigny.org

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Development	Membership	Web Site
Frenchmen	Neighborhood	Zoning
Fundraising	Special Projects	

For comments — email info@faubourgmarigny.org

Meet the Neighbors

March MTN was held at
Second Vine Wine on
Touro in the triangle.



We enjoyed the beautiful event room in the back while
sipping wine. Our City Councilperson Nadine Ramsey even
attended.

Many thanks to
hosts Troy Gant
and Louis Keyes.



Next Meet the Neighbors:
May 10, 6:30 - 8:00 pm. at
Cutters' Bar, 706 Franklin

**If you have a suggestion for a future
Meet the Neighbors venue, email
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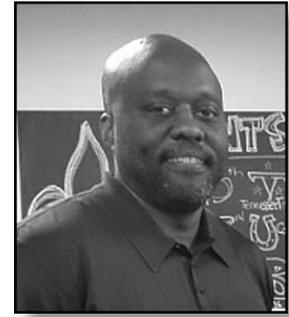
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Interview with Troy Gant, Second Vine Wine

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



Troy Gant

- Q *Where did you grow up?*
 A I grew up in New Orleans uptown in the Broadmoor, and went to Catholic school for a long time. Elementary school was St. Matthias, and I graduated from Del La Salle high school, and was given a swim scholarship to Howard University in Washington, D. C.
- Q *What brought you to Marigny?*
 A I've been a resident of the French Quarter for about 14 years and have worked in the spirit and wine industry most of those years, until I decided it was time for me to break away from the corporate structure to work in my own business. Basically, I was just tired of making billionaires richer.
- Q *How'd you get together with Louis Keyes?*
 A Louis' nephew and I are best friends from college.
- Q *Originally when you were looking for a suitable business location, you chose a site on Burgundy, but after consulting with the FMIA you chose the current location. Has your location worked out for the best and was that what convinced you to be a volunteer on the FMIA Board of Directors?*
 A After getting a second location through the FMIA's help, I definitely wanted to become

a part of the organization by bringing on winsome diversity to what I thought was more of homogenous setting. Bringing new blood to the table makes everything more interesting and exciting for me. Plus, knowing some of the people that had previously been on the board, I wanted an opportunity to work with them, and help the association move forward the best I could, with more outreach and not just Marigny. The leadership of the FMIA has been in the forefront of a number of surrounding communities. There's so much controversy in the areas of Marigny, Tremé, St. Roch, Bywater, and the French Quarter, which I consider the real hub of New Orleans, but they don't have monthly meetings for residents. By being part of an organization and having some political inroads with the other communities, we will all become bigger, better, stronger and be able to advocate more effectively for ourselves.

Q *Did you realize that we were really an activist organization at that point?*
 A Well, activists but community driven to bring people together, not just being out there for the fight, being out there for the right fight is my focus.

Q *Could you speak of the importance of Historic Districts?*
 A The building we are in now is a historical landmark for the Po-boy sandwich, invented by the Martin Brothers who had a grocery at 2000 St. Claude. The building attached to that address is 1027 Touro, which acted as an annex to the grocery store. It was more of a deli-butcher shop. When the streetcar conductors union was on strike, the Martin brothers fed the union members for no charge. The employees of the grocery store would identify the union workers as "here comes another poor boy." That coined the name of the sandwich, and its part in New Orleans culture.

Historical Districts are a major component of New Orleans history and culture. We are approaching our 300th year and there is so much change coming about in New Orleans and her culture. We want to keep these historical places historical and meaningful because if not, we could become the "new New Orleans" and there's no such thing as that. We want to be New Orleans from its establishment before it was even part of the United States, through the present, and into the future.

- Q *Were there African-American union members at that time?*
 A Maybe, however the strike happened in 1929, and the city was still very much segregated.
- Q *The board has talked about appealing to more members or more membership for the last year; do you have any suggestions for that?*
 A Yes, I think we have to reach out to more people because there are a lot of people interested in taking part. You can see the excitement of some of the new board members, they're really gung-ho to make a change in the perception of how the association would just make things difficult for individuals wanting to alter the rules that apply to buildings in the Historic District.
- Q *Since opening Second Vine Wine in 2013, you seem to have become a neighborhood hub especially in welcoming all people and embracing a diverse and respected clientele; diverse in culture and socio-economic status, respectful to each other and the neighbors. People*



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- *MEETING SPACE RENTAL*

Continued on page 9

say that has a lot to do with your and Louis's personalities. What do you think?

A I think that is basically what it comes down to. It has to become a kind of connection with the community and initially that was one of my major concerns because at first I was coming at a lot of animosity, adversity, and people just saying no. My goal at that point was to show the neighborhood who we really were, who I was and that my whole entire platform was about bringing people together. I knew in the African-American market as well as the Latin-American market, and Asian market, there's still room to grow wine business. Particularly in the African-American market. We didn't set out to be pretentious. We wanted people to come in, maybe not knowing a thing about wine, and then leaving having learned something. That was our goal and continues to be our business model. To make people feel comfortable.

Q *What's your favorite part of the business?*

A People. I love the interaction of people. Straight, sober, drunk, halfway drunk, you always get a mass amount of people crossing the threshold with different opinions, beliefs, religions, etc. It's a collage of enjoyment for me. I always take something away that I may not have known before. How people feel about things may broaden my views, and it's definitely reflected in this growing business.

Q *The streetcar line is done. What's that like?*

A It's beautiful that we are able to get a lot of new customers just due to the streets being repaired and drivable. That was one of the biggest concerns, their cars.

Q *Any further expectations?*

A Yes, we are only some months with the new streetcar line now, and we've had and will continue to have a lot of events in 2017. We are really looking forward to New Orleans' 300th anniversary year, because we are working with the French Consulate, hoping to bring a new brand to the US that represents both France and the US.

Q *And what about the Home Tour?*

A During the Home Tour Second Vine Wine is sponsoring Keith Weldon Medley's signing of his books *Black Life in Old New Orleans*, and *We As Freeman: Plessy v. Ferguson*. Those books are amazing! If you really want to know the true history of New Orleans, these books are for you. Of course we'll also be having some refreshment specials I know folks will enjoy.

One more thing — the FMIA Home Tour is our only fundraiser of the year, so it's a crucial time for the organization to get support from residents, businesses and visitors, to help continue the great work we do, protecting the integrity of our Historic District, and demonstrating the true meaning of "Tout Ensemble," working all together.

Marigny Green

By Deborah Oppenheim



As New Orleanians we have been so fortunate to have incredible weather this spring and great for biking. However, there has been an increase of bike thefts. Locking your bike correctly is important. It is wise to use a heavy-duty u-lock and cable. Lock your frame, back wheel and front wheel with the tightest fit possible to make your bicycle secure. Tug on the lock to make sure it can't be easily removed. It is wise to secure and lock your bike in the shed, backyard or garage.

I was recently talking to a Marigny resident who had her bike stolen. She told me that she registered her bike with **Stolen Bikes NOLA** and in one month they found and returned her bike. I thought this



was a good idea to register my bike. It was so easy and free. I went to Stolen Bikes Nola website www.stolenbikesnola.com and followed the prompts. Stolen Bikes Nola started in May 2014 as a Facebook group. Now, Stolen Bikes Nola is a non-profit and has recovered and returned over

700 bikes. Stolen Bike Nola has partnered with Bike Index, a national database and bike registry. Once you report your bike stolen through Stolen Bikes Nola/Bike Index, an instant alert is sent through Twitter, Instagram and Facebook with the bike's information to help recover the stolen bike.

Stolen Bikes Nola's mission is:

1. To legally, and without the use of violence, recover bikes which have been identified as stolen.
2. To reunite recovered bikes to their owners, at no cost to the victim.
3. To increase awareness about known and identified area bicycle thieves.
4. To store recovered bikes for distribution.
5. To assist local bike shops and reuse shops in identifying stolen bikes.
6. To cooperate and collaborate with municipal governments, NOPD, neighborhood organizations, residents, schools & colleges.
7. To educate and encourage the NOLA community to the proper ways to secure and store their bikes.
8. To advocate for lawful safe cycling, including but not limited to the use of lights at night, and adequate U- Locks.
9. To expand the experience of cycling in the greater New Orleans area.

To support Stolen Bikes Nola's mission go to <https://www.gofundme.com/kxcyv-stolen-bikes-nola-funding?d=154834688>. Stolen Bikes Nola needs funding for advertising, gas to search and transport bikes, bolt cutters and grinders to bring back bikes to their owners.

Keep cycling, Marigny Green

More Than an Obit

By Leonard Earl Johnson

Sister Marcy Romine, 67, died on Valentine's Day, February 14 at her apartment in New Orleans. She was a member of the Franciscan Sisters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help for 47 years.

Born in Saint Louis, Missouri, she entered the Franciscan Sisters Order in 1968 and professed perpetual vows in 1974. She received a bachelor's degree from the University of Missouri-Saint Louis and a master's degree from Loyola University in New Orleans.

Sister Marcy taught at Saint Adalbert, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Saint Francis of Assisi and Saint Casimir Schools in the Archdiocese of Saint Louis, Missouri. She also taught at Little Flower Academy in Monroe, Louisiana, and Holy Trinity School in Bucyrus, Ohio. Following teaching, she became the Director of Volunteers for Project Lazarus in New Orleans, and then responded to a call from her community to serve as vacation minister in Saint Louis, Missouri.

She returned to New Orleans about five years ago to become director of special projects at the NO/AIDS Task Force. "My temporal spiritual home," was Sister Marcy's sweet riff on the philosophical note raised high by fellow Saint Louis immigrant to New Orleans, Tennessee Williams.

Soon after her return to Big Swamp City we met for lunch at Cake Café and Bakery, on Spain and Chartres Streets. We were old friends from Lazarus House days, happy to see each other again.

Project Lazarus is an AIDS / HIV services project. It began as Lazarus House, an AIDS hospice in the former rectory of Holy Trinity Catholic Church. [Ed. Note: Lazarus House is located in the Marigny.] I was a new volunteer the year Sister Marcy first came to Louisiana. We met for orientation, and to be given the name of a person I would visit ~ reading to ~ an agreed title ~ visiting regularly ~ as we saw fit ~ befriending ~ and, yes, sometimes sitting bedside at the last hour. I know this may sound creepy, but it was actually liberating.

"What will happen if I start to cry?" I asked, at that first meeting. (In full disclosure: I volunteered because it had been suggested by a grief counselor that I do so as a way of dealing with loss of friends.) In those early days, when President Ronald Reagan would not even speak the name, the NO/AIDS Task Force opened on Frenchmen Street. With laudable civic grace they offered free counseling for the ill and the bereaved. Sister Marcy said, "It might give them a chance to cry, too. We hope to demystify death, and it is not like they don't know. They will let you know where they are."

Post Mortem

Sister Marcy is buried ~ like Tennessee Williams ~ back in Saint Louis, Missouri. There was a huge memorial service and Second Line for her at the Marigny Opera House.



Sister Marcy Romine

Leonard Earl Johnson, a former resident of the Marigny, now resides in Lafayette and publishes a monthly blog at www.LEJ.org

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April 12, 2017, NOPD 5th District New Orleans Neighbors & Police Anti-Crime Council (NONPACC) Public Safety Report

By Lisa Suarez

Due to an emergency, Commander Frank Young was not available, so we didn't get to the hefty number of statistics he usually presents, but Lieutenant Scanlon and Sergeant Lacabe lead an admirable presentation for the eight citizens and nine officers, counting Scanlon, Lacabe and Sgt. Franklin, present.

Two members of the Hardin Playground Boosters, (Hardin Playground is in the 7th Ward,) came to complain about drug activity in the playground and connecting to the Brooks Corner Store. DEA has been observing the activity for some time.

One citizen from Holy Cross complained about drug activity, near her home.

There were gun possession arrests made at Clouet and Claiborne, Montegut and Rocheblave, Spain and N. Robertson. The Officers gave the website address for the crime maps, where you can click to see the places in Marigny where crimes have been reported to NOPD: <https://spotcrime.com/la/new+orleans/marigny>. Don't bother with the "source" button, it's always NOPD. Do bother to scroll down, and you'll see a list by date of crimes, and their locations, going back three months.

There was a short conversation about unlicensed ATVs, reviewing NOPD No Chase policy — It's too dangerous, which aligns with National Policing Best Practices.

The good news is that arrests have been made of juveniles who perpetrated an Armed Robbery near the Healing Center on March 12, and a simple robbery, caught on video in the Healing Center in February. Both were solved April 6th. The investigation determined that juveniles would leave the St. Roch playground, and then be on the prowl for opportunities closer to the river. One was thirteen.

More good news — size really does matter! If you are disturbed about over-sized camper vehicles that descend on the Marigny KOA for Jazz Fest, even more than Mardi Gras, call Parking Enforcement, 504-658-8200. If the vehicle is larger than a parking space, give or take, they could incur a Five Hundred Dollar Ticket. Of course if your friends are camping, they are also at risk. Apparently, pick-up trucks covered with tarps might not count, but 5th District NOPD said they are cruising by, and if not on their way to an emergency, might stop, probe with a flashlight, and ask the campers to be on their way.

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Speaking Volumes

By Sara Jacobelli, Assistant Branch Manager, Alvar Library

Whether you attended the Jazz and Heritage Festival in New Orleans, the Festival International de Louisiane in Lafayette, or are just biking through the neighborhood, enjoying City Park or Audubon Park and Zoo, springtime is gorgeous in Louisiana. If you are looking for something new to do with your family and friends, check out a **PARTNER PASS** for free access to art, history, and much more. Partner Passes can be checked out with your NOPL library card:

The Ogden Museum of Southern Art is home to the largest and most comprehensive collection of Southern art in the world. It is also home to the Center of Southern Craft and Design.

Ogden Museum of Southern Art Pass offers:

- **Free museum entry** for up to 2 adults & 7 children
- **Free entry** to special Ogden programs such as Ogden After Hours

Longue Vue House and Gardens is a multifaceted historic estate featuring a world-class house museum and eight acres of stunning gardens as well as an interactive Discovery Garden for children of all ages.

Longue Vue house & Gardens Partner Pass offers:

- **Free museum entry** for up to 2 adults & 4 children
- **Free entry** to special Longue Vue programs such as Longue Vue After Hours
- **A 10% discount** on select items in The Shops at Longue Vue

In the Garden Writers' Workshop Spring Reading: Saturday, May 13th, 2:00-4:00 pm

Our last workshop of the 2016-2017 season will be a public reading. Any of our participants are welcome to read poetry or prose for five minutes. Come visit in the garden and read your work! Invite your family and friends. Light refreshments will be served.



A Life of Creativity

Saturday, May 20th, 2:00-4:00 pm

Phyllis Parun will lead a workshop on the Creative Life. Explore your life path through art, philosophy and writing, presented by exhibited visual artist, degreed philosopher, and published writer Phyllis Parun. Phyllis is a native New Orleanian-poet-artist who has spent her life in creative pursuits and developing community. Attendees will achieve insight while exploring how words, creativity and questioning enhance their personal life's meaning. Light refreshments will be served.

Thursday, May 25th, 6:00-7:00 pm: ACLU Know Your Rights - For almost 100 years, the ACLU has worked to defend and preserve the individual rights and liberties guaranteed by the Constitution and laws of the United States. A representative from the ACLU will be at the library to explain these rights, and answer any questions you might have.

Regular Programs at Alvar:

Toddler Story Time: Tuesdays, 11:00 am-12:00 pm

Computer Tutoring: Thursdays, 11:00 am-1:00 pm

Alvar Book Club: Please stop by the Circulation Desk to find out the title of the next book and when the next meeting is.

**All NOPL locations will be closed
on May 29th for Memorial Day**

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FMIA General Meeting Minutes: March 21, 2017

Allen Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:18 PM.

Greetings and Announcements

Topic 1 – Greetings and Announcements –

Allen Johnson

Hampton Inn

Mr. Alecha will be presenting back to the ARC on 3/28/17

Air Rights

Air rights include any projection over the public right of way (sidewalks)

This is an annual charge

3 City Council Members (Ramsey, Guidry, and Head) are in support of lessening these fees

There will be a 60 day research period

Washington Square Park –

Semi-weekly Concerts from 3-7pm

Mall Dillon is the concert promoter

All the permitting has happened at City Hall, there has not been much community outreach thus far
website is washingtonsquareparknola.com

Short Term Rentals (STRs)

Permitting will start on April 1, 2017

FMIA would like to put together an FAQ and distribute it

The city must meet with us regarding STR

Riverfront Overlay District

We will be discussing the automatic height bonus' of the Riverfront Overlay District

This Thursday 7pm, doors will be opening at 6pm

Holy Angels Church, March 23rd

The City's proposal is online

Topic 2 - Crime Committee Report – Lisa Suarez

On Mardi Gras day, FMIA is fed the Police Officers that are on the beat. Made 52 sandwiches in an hour. Thanks to all who participated.

March 8th Non-PAC meeting summary. These events are held at 3900 N. Claiborne

There were only ten participants

We no longer have officers that are strictly Quality of Life officer. Troop Level is 88-89 officers

Topic 3 – Home Tour Announcements –

Lisa Suarez

We need additional homes on the tour. Right now, we only have 5 houses. We need at least 3 more.

The tour will take place on May 21st, 2017

Topic 4 – Judicial Candidate – Suzy Montero

Empty Seat in District B

To her, most important qualifications are experience and discretion

Election is this Saturday, March 25 polls open from 7am-8pm

Topic 5– Judge Paula Brown

Running because she is experienced and it is normal to continue to progress up to higher courts

She works fast and is a public servant

Topic 6 – The Art Garage Zoning Request –

Kate Gaar

She started the Frenchman Art Market a few year's back

Frenchman Street Art Market will be phased out at some point in the future

St. Claude Art Market in the former Tete's Auto Garage
Roughly 34 People present at Meeting

Applying for a conditional use to have the ability to hold private events that can sell liquor

There is a residential house that is owned by the owner of Siberia

There is support of all the adjacent neighbors except for one

Hours would be Saturday 8pm-1am

Wedding Receptions could be held there

There will be security required for events

An NPP will be head on Tuesday the 28th of March, It will be held at 6pm

She has a 5-year lease with a 5-year option

This will be a reception hall, not a bar

Topic 7 – Introduction of Committee Chairs –

Allen Johnson

We need support! Please consider joining a committee!

Zoning – Joel Ross

Crime and Graffiti – Lisa Suarez

Membership Committee – Allen Johnson

Special Events Committee – Jeff Bromberger

Newsletter – Donna Wakeman

Home Tour – Lisa Suarez

Short Term Rental Committee – Allen Johnson

Marigny Green –Debra – gives information every month (marking sewers for do not dump) (provides information on biking)

There is an issue with a very large light recently installed near 2600 Chartres Street. This has caused a lot of distress from the immediate neighbors.

This will be on the agenda of the next Board Meeting.

There are several bike share meetings. Handouts were distributed.

Send Valerie information about extra trash cans

April 12 – Meet the neighbors at Second Vine

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 PM.



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FMIA Board Meeting Minutes: April 4, 2017

Members in Attendance

Allen Johnson, Gretchen Bomboy, Joel Ross, Matt Del Vecchio, Lisa Suarez,(by phone), Troy Gant, Simone Cifuentes, Jeff Bromberger

Late Are: Mark Malouse, Absent are:

Meeting called to order at 7:05

Topic 0 – We have a quorum

Topic 1 – Hampton Inn

Modified plan by creating a U-shaped plan

Project was deferred by the HDLC ARC again, but owner has a clear direction for massing approval next week

We are going to save the full FMIA lobbying effort for the full HDLC commission meeting

Topic 2 – 2100 Burgundy

The project has now been reduced to 3 residential units, 3 commercial units

Got approval from ARC, made a few changes since the NPP on behalf of the neighbors
The developer added screens that will block visual access to the neighbor

Topic 3 – Membership Drive

We like the FSRIA postcard mailer

Lisa suggests sending a mailer to boost membership

Lisa will brainstorm ideas to boost attendance at General Meetings

Topic 4 – Washington Square Park

Matt Dillon scaled the project back quite a bit, especially in the VIP

There is a second concert on the 18th of April. Please come out and support the concert.

Topic 5 – Light Pollution from DuPuy's

Light pollution affects several neighbor's property

This is the 2600 block of Chartres, it is a moving company

There is lighting in the Alley between the warehouse and the neighboring property

The neighbors will write a letter first and CC FMIA, if a week goes by, then FMIA will follow up.

Joel made a motion, unanimous motion

Topic 6 – RPP for Rectangle

Residential Parking Permits for the Rectangle

Gretchen would like to expand the RPP parking to the rectangle

Donna from the Parking committee will make a presentation to the General Meeting in May.

The general neighborhood has to weigh in

Topic 7 – Home Tour Update

We have five homes so far, but still need more

Allen is reaching to his friend, Joel will reach out his friend. Second Vine is in.

We are making a bigger advertising push.

If building owner's buy a full-page ad, they get a year of full ownership. Existing Owner's get one free ticket.

Topic 8 – Planning for RiverFront Alliance Letter

We are going to meet on Friday to discuss what to present.

Topic 10 – Michalopoulos Studio - NPP

We will await the drawings from the design consultant. If the drawings are represented as is, we will oppose.

Topic 11 – Adjourn

Meeting adjourned 8:39 pm

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FMIA General Meeting Minutes:

April 17, 2017

Lisa Suarez called the meeting to order, 7:17

Greetings and Announcements

Topic 1 – Greetings and Announcements
– Lisa Suarez

Public Safety

Two Juveniles apprehended involved with separate Healing Center robberies.

Meet the Neighbors

Next Wednesday at 6:30pm at Cutters

Early Voting starting Saturday

Early voting starting on Saturday at City Hall

Last voting was very low at 10%

Valerie Bouldin, Neighborhood Engagement Liaison brought paperwork regarding the Port, including a survey.

Lower 9th Ward / Industrial Canal Lock Project

There is a march to stop the Lock project on Saturday, April 29th, 2017 in the Lower 9th Ward

The comment period is over.

Home Tour

We are looking for docents for the open homes. Please sign up on the board showing photos of each property. We need two people per shift, one person is to welcome people at the door, the other is to walk people through the door. Both shifts are 2 hours. Noon until 2pm or 2pm until 4pm. Volunteers receive free tours.

Suzy Montero – Judge Vote –

Saturday April 29th, 2017

Suzy pleads for support to come out and vote on Saturday, April 29th. This is a tough day for voting on account of Jazz Fest and Zurich Classic. Please vote regardless of candidates. Polls open at 7pm.

Marigny Riverfront Overlay – Lisa Suarez

Riverfront Overlay& the CZO

Robert Rivers Presentation – claimed to be starting from scratch

CZO – main item that was submitted in 2015 under collaboration with NFB (Neighbors First Bywater)

Overlay goes from Poland to Elysian Fields

The area we are most focused on is between Press and Elysian Fields.

Anything in the overlay, including anything adjacent to the overlay, could be entitled to overlay zoning and bonuses.

Claims are made that [zoning must be maintained to keep a sense of place- This was the name of the collaboration submitted in 2015.] Overlay could be used protectively to strengthen Historic District.

Using photos of the current built environment in the formerly Iberville and St. Thomas housing projects as precedents, Lisa showed many affordable housing projects, and commented on the scale.

These included:

- Bienville Basin
- River Garden
- Muses apartment at Baronne and Felicity.

Deadline for comments to the CPC is May 2nd.

Questions from the crowd regarding the overlay...

Why do want an overlay? NFB does not want an overlay. Do we want an overlay?

The overlay could destroy some of our own zoning. There are no special giveaways for our board?

Pontalba buildings are a great precedent

Row houses can work

55' foot height limit can work, we need to look at historic precedent

Compatible design needs to be further fleshed out. We need to decide what is compatible.

Looks like they are trying to turn this into an ant hill.

Basics of the overlay are to establish heights along the riverfront.

Design is extremely important.

The idea is that this issue should be pushed into the future. Who will be the new district C council person?

Our neighborhood is being assaulted!

Is the CPC still talking about the “nodes?”

How will building new housing units (increasing supply) make the long-term rental market more affordable (decreasing demand)?

Fix our streets!

If we build new buildings, will the infrastructure of the entire neighborhood be replaced?

We need to think of FAR!

NFB is interested in supporting Marigny, although they are establishing separate comments for Bywater.

Maybe we don't want an overlay at all.

If you have comments, don't stop communicating.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM.

Join the FMIA!

JOIN THE FMIA

MEMBERSHIP STATUS:

New

Renewal

RESIDENT MEMBERSHIPS:

Individual: \$20.00

Household (2 votes): \$30.00

Senior Individual: \$5.00

Senior Household (2 votes): \$10.00

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Name #2 _____ Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

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Homeowner: yes no Landlord Name: _____

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Phone: _____ E-MAIL: _____

OR

NON-RESIDENT PROPERTY OWNER: One Individual with voting privilege \$20.00

Name of VOTING Property Owner: _____

Property in Marigny Address _____ ZIP _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP _____

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OR

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Meet the Neighbors: May 10
General Meeting: May 15



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